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Talon Talk

Foothill High School Newsletter

John Dwyer, principal

December 15, 2010
Office Phone 461-6600
Attendance Line 461-6686

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Friday Forum for Parents

End the year on a positive note by attending the always fun Friday Forum for parents.

Attendance at this year's forums has been incredible. More people are attending, so more people are sharing their awesome ideas.

This month's forum this [Friday, Dec. 17](#) at 9 a.m. in room C-6 will include talk about Character Week, plus discussion about campus recycling efforts.

Our special guest speaker will be Assistant Superintendent Cindy Galbo, who will discuss the school district budget and a possible parcel tax.

The [AABC](#) will provide holiday treats and coffee.

Come join the fun and share your great ideas.

Greenbacks
* Senior News
* E-Waste Recycling
* College Info Workshop
* Open Enrollment
Alumni Soccer Games
Celebrate for Education

*New "In This Issue" items
(above) are marked with
asterisks.*

Quick Calendar

Dec. 17 -- Friday
Forum for parents, 9
a.m., C-6

Dec. 17 -- **Minimum
day**. School ends at
12:30 p.m.

Dec. 20-31 -- **No
school**. Winter break.

Jan. 3 -- School
resumes.

Jan. 4 -- Grad Night
& senior events
meeting, 7 p.m.,
library

Jan. 5 -- School site
council meeting, 3:30
p.m., C-6

Jan. 5 -- Band
boosters meeting, 7
p.m., C-6

Jan. 10 -- Spring
sports meeting, 7
p.m., large gym

Jan. 10 -- Sports
boosters meeting, 8
p.m., C-6

Jan. 12 -- Senior
class picture, 7:30
a.m., outdoor quad

Jan. 16 -- E-waste
recycling for
wrestling, 10 a.m. to
4 p.m., front parking

Friday is a Minimum Day

Don't forget that Foothill students will be going to school for a half day only this [Friday, Dec. 17](#).

School starts at the regular time, but classes will end at 12:30 p.m. Each class period will last 40 minutes.

The Friday minimum day was added by the school district just a couple of weeks ago to keep schedules consistent for students in all grades.

Sports Rebates: Pick Up Checks by Friday

If you student signed up for a sport and then quit playing, stop by the front office before the end of school [Friday, Dec. 17](#) to pick up your fair share contribution check.

Checks must be picked up before winter break. Please see Colleen McDonough to get your check.

Bucks for Books

Foothill's librarian has taken his quest for up-to-date literature to the masses through the innovative Donors Choose website.

The website allows teachers from all across the country to post specific projects that they would like to have funded. The idea is that several people donating just a few bucks adds up, quickly funding the project.

Librarian Daniel Bradford is asking for a mere \$380 to buy multiple copies of three [California Young Reader Medal](#) nominees.

Click [here to go directly to the Foothill library page](#) at donorschoose.org.

If you shopped at Borders the first weekend in December and got a Donors Choose voucher, you may redeem it online to support the Foothill library program. You have until Jan. 30 to redeem vouchers.

Thank you for your support!

lot

Jan. 17 -- No school.
Martin Luther King,
Jr. holiday.

Jan. 19, 20 & 21 --
Finals.

Jan. 21 -- Friday
Forum for parents, 9
a.m., C-6

Jan. 24 -- No school.
Teacher work day.

Quick Links

[Foothill High web
site:](#)

[Bulletin Board
Events Calendar](#)

[-
Bell Schedule](#)

[Foothill Athletics](#)

[Foothill Band](#)

[District Calendar](#)

[-
District Newsletter](#)

[Career Center](#)

[Community Events](#)

[InFlight School
Newspaper](#)

[Sports Physical
Release Form](#)

Spring Sports Meeting

Don't let the chilly, drab winter weather deceive you. Spring sports will be here before you know it, so plan ahead to make sure all your paperwork is in order.

The spring sports informational meeting for parents and athletes will be held [Monday, January 10](#) at 7 p.m. in the large gym. This meeting is mandatory for all students who plan to take part in sports and their parents.

Athletes cannot take part in any sport, including practice, until all of their paperwork is completed and turned in.

Click [here for the entire sports packet](#).

Schedule your athlete for a physical exam, which is required before any student is allowed to play sports. Click [here for the sports physical release form](#) that must be signed by a physician. (Chiropractors are not acceptable for these physicals.)

Peer Tutoring

Finals are right around the corner, so don't delay if your student needs tutoring help to nudge grades up high enough for graduation or college entrance.

Foothill offers a **free** peer tutoring program that matches students skilled in particular subjects with students who are struggling in those subjects.

Getting a peer tutor is as easy as asking. Just let us now in which subject you need help, your e-mail address, your phone number and if you prefer a male or female tutor (or have no preference).

[Volunteer Clearance Form](#)

[MyNutriKids Lunch Program](#)

[Scholarships](#)

[Senior Activities](#)

[SAT Test Dates](#)

[ACT Test Dates](#)

PSAT Scores

Students who took the PSAT earlier this month may pick up their scores in the counseling office.

Students should drop by the counseling office before/after school or during lunch to get their scores.

Character Week

Foothill celebrated Character Week last week with an inspirational speaker and several activities.

Click [here for an article](#) about the week's keynote speaker.

In keeping with the week's theme to help the community and

Tutoring sessions are available during lunch and after school. Click [here for tutoring schedules](#).

Bear in mind that students must have at least a D- for a class to count toward graduation. Students who plan to attend college must have a C- or better for classes to count toward college admission.

Please send your peer tutoring requests to fhstutoring@gmail.com.

Holiday Shopping at Foothill

Avoid the crowds at the mall by doing your holiday shopping at the Falcon Wing student store on the Foothill campus.

The latest Falcon gear, perfect as gifts or stocking stuffers, includes sweatpants, argyle socks and a knit beanie cap. Click [here for a photo of the latest gear](#).

The Falcon Wing student store, located in room A-14 near the front office, sells many more Foothill spirit items offered by various school clubs and groups. Drop by to see the full line of Foothill spirit wear. You're bound to find something to fulfill everyone's holiday wishes.

Get Involved with Sports Boosters

There's going to be a lot of leadership change with the Foothill Athletic Boosters at the end of this school year. That means we'll be looking for lots of fresh faces and enthusiastic folks to take on leadership roles.

The athletic boosters will need a new president, secretary, first vice president, second vice president and merchandise coordinator for the 2011-12 school year. Some other jobs may be open, but the list has not been finalized.

There is always plenty of opportunity to help the athletic boosters. You're bound to find a volunteer gig that fits your particular skills and schedule. Some jobs require scant amount of time, while others require a bit more dedication.

Please contact Jan Hope at jmhope@msn.com to discuss how you can get involved with the athletic boosters.

world, students voted for the entire school to rally behind the [Me to We](#) charity.

Student Spotlight

Ten students are honored as November Students of the Month.

Click [here for the full list](#) on the Foothill website.

The Perfect Gift: Foothill Earrings

Wear your school spirit for the world to see with fashionable Foothill earrings.

These stylish earrings are back by popular demand, but quantities are limited. Earrings make great gifts or stocking stuffers.

Click [here for details](#), including photos and pricing, on the Foothill website.

Turn Groceries into Greenbacks

Helping Foothill's many sports programs is as easy as shopping at Gene's Fine Foods and turning in your receipts.

The Foothill Athletic Boosters club has signed up for a deal that could earn the sports program up to \$1,000, depending on how many receipts are turned in by the [May 15](#) deadline.

The school give-back offer is a bit of a competition among any Pleasanton schools or school groups that have signed up for the offer. The school or group that collects the highest dollar total of receipts dated between Dec. 1 and May 15 will get:

- 1st place -- \$1,000
- 2nd place -- \$500
- 3rd place -- \$250

Receipts may be turned in at Gene's as soon as you've made your purchase. Please look for a form at checkout stand or ask the cashier for help.

Senior News

There's a lot to keep up with senior year, so parents and students are encouraged to check out the Foothill website regularly for the latest senior news and events. Go to the [Foothill website](#) and click on "Senior Information" to find out what's going on and coming up.

Senior Class Picture

All seniors need to show up to school early on [Wednesday, Jan. 12](#) for the senior class picture.

Seniors must report to the outdoor quad no later than 7:30 a.m. Students will be arranged in the shape of the numbers "2011" for the class photo.

Grad Night Tickets Make Great Gifts

We have the perfect gift idea for that hard-to-buy-for senior on your holiday list -- Grad Night tickets.

Grad Night tickets are the perfect gift for parents, grandparents, aunts, uncles and friends to get that Foothill senior in their lives.

Get your tickets now at the low introductory rate of \$170 per ticket. The price includes bus transportation to/from Grad Night, plus an evening chockfull of fun and friendship.

Click [here for more details and the ticket order form](#).

Grad Night & Senior Events Meeting

It's time to get serious about planning all the spectacular events for our graduating seniors. Graduation will be here before we know it.

The first post-holiday planning meeting will be **Tuesday, Jan 4** at 7 p.m. in the library.

Everyone is invited to attend this meeting to share ideas and help brainstorm creative fundraising events. Heck, you don't even have to have a senior to join in the fun. It's always good for non-senior parents to get involved so they can start scheming for their students' senior year.

E-Waste Recycling in January

When you unwrap all of your exciting new electronic devices, don't ignore the outdated electronics that nobody ever uses.

Save all of your old and unwanted electronic devices to turn in at the e-waste recycling event on **Sunday, Jan. 16** from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. in front of the high school.

The Foothill wrestling team will earn a few bucks for every discarded electronic item you turn in. It's free to recycle televisions, monitors, laptops, flat screens and cell phones.

There is a \$5 per item charge to recycle CPUs, telephones, printers, copiers, DVD players, fax machines, VCRs, stereos and video games.

This is a one-day event that will be held rain or shine. Volunteers will be on hand to help you unload your e-waste for recycling.

Please make checks payable to Foothill High School Wrestling. Donations will also be accepted. All items are recycled by C&T Recycling in accordance with California law.

College Info Workshop

Learn all you need to know about college admission, testing and financial aid at a workshop hosted by the school booster club on [Thursday, Jan. 20](#) from 6 p.m. to 8:30 p.m. at Foothill (location TBA).

The \$5 per person admission will be donated to the [AABC](#). There will be a drawing for a free SAT prep course.

The workshop will be put on by Princeton Review, a private test preparation firm. You must register in advance and be present to win the drawing. Please [click here to register online](#).

You'll learn the best practices to boost your chance of getting into the college of your choice, how to increase college entrance exam scores and how to apply for financial aid. The workshop is targeted at sophomores and juniors and their parents who are just starting the college search process.

Open Enrollment in January

If you want to mix it up a bit by trying a different school in the district, then January is the month to make that move.

Technically, January is the month to *apply* for that move for the 2011-12 school year. Applications will be accepted starting [Jan. 3](#) through [Jan. 31](#).

You must pick up the open enrollment application form from Foothill's counseling office or the district office. The form is not available online.

Open enrollment is allowed only if there is space available. Click [here for the full set of rules](#), including which proofs of residency are required and accepted.

Completed forms may be turned in at Foothill or at the district office.

Alumni Soccer Games

Foothill soccer alumni are encouraged to take part in the 8th annual Ryan Gordon Foothill-Amador Alumni Soccer Games to benefit the soccer programs at both schools.

The games will be held [Saturday, Jan. 8](#) at Amador Valley High School. The final day to register is Jan. 6.

There will be two games featuring male and female players from the 1970s through the 2000s. Each game will be divided into periods for older players and younger players. (You know which one you are.) The event will also feature pre-game festivities with entertainment, games, raffles and food.

The gate receipts of \$7 for adults and \$4 for students and all snack bar proceeds will go directly to both schools' soccer programs.

Ryan Gordon was a 2003 Foothill graduate whose life was tragically cut short in a boating accident shortly after graduation. He played soccer at Foothill for four years and planned to continue playing at the college level.

Please contact Curt Gordon at curtgordon@comcast.net or drop by All-Star Sports to register for this fun and beneficial event.

Celebrate for Education

Ring in the New Year with friends at Stoneridge mall and the Pleasanton schools will earn a few bucks.

The New Year's Ball at the Mall event starts Dec. 31 at 9 p.m. and runs until 1 a.m. on New Year's Day. Tickets are \$75 for general admission or \$100 for VIP admission. All party goers must be at least 21 years old.

The New Year's Eve celebration is hosted by the Pleasanton North Rotary Club to benefit four charities, including [Pleasanton Partnerships in Education](#).

Click [here for more info and to order tickets online](#).

Deadlines for Talon Talk article submissions are the 10th and 22nd of each month. Please include all pertinent info -- who, what, where, when, why and, if applicable, how much does it cost.

Talon Talk is a twice monthly online publication brought to you the 1st and 15th of each month by the Foothill Activities & Academics Booster Club in cooperation with

school administration.

Go Falcons!

Zoe Francis
Talon Talk editor

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