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Talon Talk

Foothill High School Newsletter

John Dwyer, principal

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

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Friday Forums Start This Week

One of the most fun and productive ways to get involved at Foothill is to attend the principal's Friday Forums every month. The forum festivities for the new school year kick off this week on [Sept. 17](#) at 9 a.m. in room C-6. That's the big meeting room just east of the library.

Friday Forums are a great, informal way to hear what's going on at Foothill. Parents get ample opportunity to share their thoughts and ideas about how to improve our school.

The forums are hosted by Principal John Dwyer and the three vice principals. The morning get-togethers start with a brief update from Mr. Dwyer before the floor is opened for parent feedback.

We'll kick off the year by discussing back-to-school night, the latest budget news, scheduling and fundraising.

Thank you to the [AABC school booster club](#) for providing light snacks and coffee.

- * Homecoming
- * Save Big Bucks
- * College Fair
- * Wine & Dine for Education

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

Quick Calendar

Sept. 15 -- Senior picnic, Waterworld, Concord. Breakfast at 7:15 a.m. Buses leave Foothill at 8:15 a.m. and return at 3:15 p.m.

Sept. 16 -- Fall drama info meeting, 3 p.m., D-4

Sept. 17 -- Friday Forum, 9 a.m., room C-6

Sept. 20 -- Sweet Tomatoes fundraiser, 5-8 p.m. Click [here for flier](#).

Sept. 22 -- Back-to-school night. 5:30 p.m. BBQ 6:15 p.m. rally, large gym 7-9 p.m. classroom visits

Sept. 23 -- Private & out-of-state college workshop, lunch, MPR

Sept. 24 -- Make-up school photos, 7:15 a.m. to 1 p.m., MPR

Sept. 30 -- Deadline to get senior photos in yearbook

Oct. 2 -- Athletic boosters' fall meat

Back-to-School Night & BBQ

One of the most important nights of the school year is coming up next week with back-to-school night on [Wednesday, Sept. 22](#). This is a fantastic opportunity to meet your child's teachers and get back in touch with other parents. You'll also get a feel for what your students will learn in each class this year.

The fourth annual **barbecue for parents** starts at 5:30 p.m. at the outdoor lunch quad. Enjoy your meal, and then dash over to the parent rally at 6:15 p.m. in the large gym. Classroom visits run from 7 p.m. to 9 p.m. Start at your child's first period and follow his/her class schedule.

You will follow your child's schedule throughout the evening, so be sure to write down the class periods, teachers and room numbers. Click [here for a campus map](#).

Tickets for the barbecue are a mere \$6. This bargain price gets you a hamburger or veggie burger, soda, chips and a cookie. It's the best dinner deal in town.

Don't be left out. Click [here to order your meals](#) before they're all sold out. The deadline to order meals is [Friday, Sept. 17](#).

Back-to-school night is for parents only. Please leave your kids at home to do their homework and a few chores.

Back-to-school night runs on an extremely tight schedule. You'll have only a few minutes in each class. Wear comfortable shoes for sprinting between classrooms. This is not a time to discuss particular issues or concerns with teachers. You may [contact teachers by e-mail](#) to set up appointments to discuss your student.

Support Foothill with New Fundraiser

Foothill has an entirely new fundraiser targeted at maintaining and restoring programs hit hard by years of massive budget cuts.

Click [here for more info about this campaign](#) from Principal John Dwyer and a letter with more details about the new fundraising effort.

sale, 10 a.m. to 5 p.m., Foothill parking lot

Oct. 4-8 -- Sign up in counseling for Oct. 16 PSAT. Price is \$25.

Oct. 5 -- Booster club (AABC) meeting, 7 p.m., library

Oct. 6 -- School site council meeting, 3:30 p.m., room C-6

Oct. 6 -- Band boosters meeting, 7 p.m., room C-6

Oct. 11 -- Athletic boosters meeting, 7 p.m., room C-6

Oct. 11 -- Homecoming skits for parents, 7 p.m., large gym

Oct. 13 -- Homecoming skits for students, 7 p.m., large gym

Oct. 16 -- Homecoming dance, 7:30-10:30 p.m., MPR

Quick Links

[Foothill High web site:](#)
[Bulletin Board](#)
[Events Calendar](#)

Fall Drama Production: Info & Auditions

If drama is your thing, then mark your calendar for [Thursday, Sept. 16](#) at 3 p.m. to learn how you can be part of Foothill's fall drama production.

Students who are even remotely interested in being in the play or helping with the many aspects of production should attend the information meeting Thursday in room D-4. Interested students must sign a production contract to be considered for the cast or crew. Prospective cast and crew members must meet all deadlines and rehearsals.

This year's fall play will be a female version of Neil Simon's *The Odd Couple*.

Auditions will be held [Tuesday, Sept. 21](#) from 3 p.m. to 6 p.m. Another opportunity for first-round auditions will be [Wednesday, Sept. 22](#) from 6 p.m. to 9 p.m. Call-back auditions will be Thursday, Sept. 23 from 3 p.m. to 6 p.m. Auditions and call-backs will be in the multipurpose room.

The list of the final cast and crew will be posted Friday, Sept. 24 at 3 p.m. on the window of D-4. Rehearsals start Monday, Sept. 27 at 6 p.m. in D-4.

Questions? Contact drama teacher Janet Gebet at jgebet@pleasanton.k12.ca.us.

Foothill News Online

Foothill's student newspaper, *InFlight*, is joining the journalism trend of posting the latest news and views online.

Students and parents can keep up with the latest school news at *InFlight*'s online website -- www.fhsinflight.com.

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[Bell Schedule](#)

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[Foothill Athletics](#)

[Foothill Band](#)

[District Calendar](#)

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[Career Center](#)

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[Sports Physical
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[MyNutriKids Lunch
Program](#)

[Scholarships](#)

[Senior Activities](#)

-
[SAT Test Dates](#)

[ACT Test Dates](#)

[Student Spotlight](#)

Two Foothill golfers recently hit the big time in the golf world by taking part in prestigious events.

Click [here to read about](#) Kortnie

The newspaper's website is relatively new, so it's definitely a work in progress. Check out what's posted now, and then check back regularly as the site gets up to speed and more articles are posted.

Another way to get Foothill news is by checking out the weekly bulletin posted on the home page of the [school's website](#). Scroll down and look on the right side for the "Bulletin Board" heading to find the weekly bulletins.

Sports News

If you want news specially targeted at covering Foothill's many athletic teams and events, go to the athletic boosters' website at [foothillsports.com](#) to sign up for the Falcon Insider. Look for the yellow box on the left to enter your name and e-mail address for the most up-to-date news on Foothill sports.

Preliminary SAT -- The Real One

The school booster club is offering a practice SAT (see below), but the College Board -- the group that administers the SAT -- is the only group that offers the real preliminary SAT, also called the PSAT/NMSQT.

The [PSAT/NMSQT](#) is the Preliminary Scholastic Aptitude Test and National Merit Scholarship Qualifying Test. This year's PSAT will be given at Foothill on [Saturday, Oct. 16](#). Students may sign up in the counseling office Oct. 4-8. The fee is \$25 with checks payable to Foothill High School.

Students in any grade may take the PSAT, but the score counts toward National Merit status only when taken during a student's junior year. Sophomores often take the PSAT as a practice exam.

Practice SAT

Hone your college-prep test skills by taking a practice SAT exam and attending a follow-up session to help evaluate your scores.

Maxoutopoulos' exciting adventures at Pebble Beach.

Click [here to read about](#) Nicolo' Galletti's impressive showing at the U.S. Amateur Championship.

Senior Hannah Francis had a photo published in a magazine. Click [here for more info](#).

Congratulations to all three students!

Lucky iPod Winner

Congratulations to student Tiffany Vuong for being the lucky winner of an iPod given away by Foothill's [Activities & Academics Booster Club](#) (AABC).

Families who donated \$250 or more to the AABC were entered into a drawing for the iPod. Principal John Dwyer drew Tiffany's name during the AABC's first meeting of the school year.

Congratulations to Tiffany for her little slice of karma.

The practice [SAT](#) (Scholastic Aptitude Test) will be given at Foothill on [Saturday, Sept. 18](#) from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. Students and their parents must return to school [Thursday, Sept. 23](#) from 7 p.m. to 8 p.m. to get test results, analyze scores and learn how the SAT fits into the college admissions process.

The test fee is \$20, which includes a drink and light snacks. All fees collected will be donated to Foothill. Space is limited, so stop by the counseling office soon to reserve your spot.

The deadline to register is [Friday, Sept. 17](#).

The practice SAT is offered by Foothill's [AABC school booster group](#) and [Kaplan Test Prep](#).

Questions? Contact AABC president Gillian Holmes at giliholmes@sbcglobal.net or 462-2256.

Oh, Say Can You Sing?

If you have the pipes to belt out the National Anthem, one of the trickiest tunes for any singer, then step up to the microphone and give it your best shot at Foothill's 12th annual Homecoming National Anthem Competition.

Soloists, duets and groups are welcome to try out for the prestigious honor of singing that National Anthem at the Oct. 15 homecoming rally and game against San Ramon Valley High School.

Tryouts will be held after school in the choir room (D-1) on [Wednesday, Oct. 6](#). Students must sign up in advance starting [Monday, Oct. 4](#). A sign-up list will be posted outside the choir room. Results will be announced [Friday, Oct. 8](#).

Students must be available to perform at the rally or the game on Oct. 15. Two winning singers or groups will be chosen -- one for the rally and one for the game.

Questions? Drop by JoAnn Koobatian's choir room at lunch or after school or e-mail her at jkoobatian@pleasanton.k12.ca.us.

Sweet Tomatoes Fundraiser

Take a break from the kitchen and support Foothill's water polo teams at this delicious fundraiser at Sweet Tomatoes.

The fundraiser will be held from 4 p.m. to 8 p.m. on [Monday, Sept. 20](#) at Sweet Tomatoes, 4501 Hopyard Road.

Click [here for the flier](#) you must present to make sure the water polo teams get 15 percent of your purchase.

Thank you for supporting the water polo teams!

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.

Volunteers Needed

The Grad Night and senior events committee needs a couple of more key volunteers to be in charge of senior awards night (in May) and to oversee the committee's fundraising efforts.

Please e-mail Ellie Wrenn at k.wrenn@comcast.net to let her know which job you'd like. These jobs are great to share with a friend or two to lighten the load and make the work a whole heck of a lot more fun.

Senior Parent Facebook

Another way for parents to stay on top of senior events is with our new Facebook page for Class of 2011 parents.

When you go to Facebook, search for "Foothill High School Class of 2011 Parents." Thanks to senior mom Kate Jupina for being in charge of this informational page.

Directories & Dollar-A-Day

It's not too late to get into the Foothill student directory published each year by the [Activities & Academics Booster Club](#) (AABC).

If you'd like a copy of the directory, all it takes is a \$30 AABC membership. If you'd like to donate more to support the many programs and supplies funded by the AABC, that would be fantastic. We suggest a dollar per day or about \$180 per year, but we'll take whatever amount you deem reasonable.

Click [here for the directory order and donation form](#). You can use your computer to fill out the form. Hit "print" to print the completed form. You cannot save edited forms.

Please turn in your completed forms and donations to the front office.

FABulous Meat Sale

The Foothill Athletic Boosters' wildly popular meat sale returns to campus for one day only -- **Saturday, Oct. 2** from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. in the front parking lot.

You can choose from premium quality USDA choice meats and FDA seafood -- all at warehouse prices. Selections include filet mignon, rib eye, New York steaks, top sirloin, ground beef, sausages, bacon, chicken, scallops and shrimp.

Clear your freezers and fridges in anticipation of this sale. You won't want to miss out on the best meat and seafood at the best prices in the Bay Area.

News Bits

Lots of little news items rolled in at the last minute, so we've compiled them into tasty little informational tidbits for you to mentally digest at your leisure.

Clubs: Sell Spirit Items at Falcon Wing

School clubs and booster groups with nifty Foothill branded items, such as T-shirts and car decals, can sell them at Foothill's student store, the Falcon Wing, for no charge. This is a service offered by the special education students who run the store.

Please contact teacher Gail Myers at gmyers@pleasanton.k12.ca.us if you'd like to sell your wares at the store.

Garden Donations Needed

Foothill's special education students are in need of donated garden items to help them maintain the fabulous garden on the west side of the school.

Students need tomato cages, drip systems, vegetable seeds, soil and gardening tools. Please contact teacher Gail Myers at gmyers@pleasanton.k12.ca.us if you'd like to donate items or know of a business that would like to help.

Athletics Ad Space

Get prime advertising space for your business on the only website dedicated solely to Foothill athletics -- FoothillSports.com.

The athletic boosters club is offering web buttons for the affordable price of \$495 per year, a huge discount from the usual price of \$750 per year. Or pay full price and get two full years of advertising.

Web buttons are the little advertisements on the web page that provide a direct link to your business website.

Contact David Biehle at dvdbiehle@yahoo.com to get your prime ad space now.

Foothill T-Shirts & Sweatshirts

Get a great deal on spirit wear with a closeout sale on various styles and sizes of Foothill T-shirts and sweatshirts. Each item is being sold for the bargain basement price of only \$5.

The clearance sale will be held [Tuesday, Sept. 21](#) during lunch in the junior quad. Bring your bucks for the best deal in town.

College Workshops

Students who plan to apply to private and out-of-state colleges are invited to a workshop during lunch on [Thursday, Sept. 23](#) in the multipurpose room. Another workshop will be held [Oct. 13](#) at 2:45 p.m. in the multipurpose room. Students will get info about the college application process.

Questions? Contact counselor Jennifer Friesen at jfriesen@pleasanton.k12.ca.us.

Homecoming 2010

Homecoming is a full month away, but the big game and dance are all the buzz on campus as students scheme about whom to invite or organize groups of friends to attend the fun events.

Homecoming events encompass a full week as students plan wacky skits, prepare for the big game and get all decked out for the dance.

The wild and wacky homecoming skits will be performed for parents on [Monday, Oct. 11](#) at 7 p.m. in the large gym. A second performance for students will be [Wednesday, Oct. 13](#) at 7 p.m. in the large gym.

This year's homecoming game on [Friday, Oct. 15](#) pits the Falcons against formidable contender San Ramon Valley High School. The varsity game starts at 7 p.m.

The week's festivities wrap up [Saturday, Oct. 16](#) with the homecoming dance. Students in all grades are encouraged to attend. You do not need a date to attend. Many students go on their own or with groups of friends.

This year's homecoming theme is Disneyland with the sub-themes Fantasyland, Critter Country, Adventureland and Toon Town. Students are encouraged to choose outfits that go with the theme. The dress code is semi-formal. Click [here for the dress code for dances](#).

The dance is from 7:30 p.m. to 10:30 p.m. in the multipurpose room. Ticket prices and sale dates have not been announced. Check the website or the next edition of the Talon Talk for ticket details.

Save Big Bucks

Foothill has an embarrassment of riches with two groups offering two great and very different coupon books. Each one offers a multitude of coupons that saves huge money around the entire East Bay and beyond.

Entertainment Books

Entertainment Books are the best deal around when it comes to saving big bucks on movie tickets, restaurants, retail stores, hotels, rental cars and much more.

The Grad Night 2011 is selling these bargain books for the great price of \$30. You'll easily save more than that with the many coupons that comprise this hefty little money-saving tome. The Grad Night committee, in charge of all senior events, gets to keep a cool \$12 of each book sold.

Click [here for an inside peek at the many fabulous coupons](#) you'll get in this year's Entertainment Book.

Please contact Ellie Wrenn at k.wrenn@comcast.net to reserve your Entertainment Book before they're all sold out. Checks should be made to FHS Grad Night 2011.

Gift Checks Coupon Books

Save tons of money at local restaurants and businesses with Gift Checks coupon books offered by the AABC*.

The coupon books cost a mere \$10 each and are chockful of fabulous coupons from local businesses. These books pay for themselves with only one or two purchases.

Here are some of the great offers:

Dublin Regal & Livermore Cinemas -- movie tickets for only \$7 each (cheaper than Costco)

Vic's All-Star Kitchen -- buy one menu item, get one free

Girasole Grill -- buy one meal, get one free

Gene's Fine Foods -- \$3 off a \$10 deli purchase

Casa Madrid -- \$10 off two meals

Dublin Auto Wash -- \$2 off

And much more!

There are nearly 100 coupons in this mighty little book. You'll save money while supporting the school. Foothill gets \$5 of each \$10 purchase.

For more info or to buy a book, contact Jill Thomas at jilldthomas@comcast.net or 216-6423.

* *The [Academics & Activities Booster Club](#) is a parent group that raises money to fund supplemental supplies and programs for the school.*

Tri-Valley College Fair

Check out dozens of colleges in one easy location at the Tri-Valley College Fair on [Thursday, Oct. 7](#) from 6:30 p.m. to 8:30 p.m. at Dublin High School, 8151 Village Parkway. The fair will be in the cafeteria and gym.

Representatives from the University of California and California State systems will be on hand, as well as representatives from private and out-of-state colleges. Also in attendance will be the military academies, ROTC and vocational/technical schools.

Trust us when we say that it's never too early to start looking at the many, many post-high school opportunities available to our kids.

Bon Appetit: Wine & Dine for Education

If you enjoy sampling an array of gourmet foods and sipping a selection of fine wines, then be sure to mark your calendar for [Saturday, Oct. 16](#).

The annual Bon Appetit: Toasts & Tastes of Fall fundraising event for Pleasanton Partnerships in Education is back for its sixth spectacular year. This year's event will be held from 6:30 p.m. to 10:30 p.m. at the CarrAmerica Conference Center, 4400 Rosewood Drive, in Pleasanton.

This is not your typical stuffed-shirt fundraiser. You move at your own pace through a room bursting with enough culinary delights to make Julia Child blush. Each delectable dish from Pleasanton's finest restaurants is exquisitely paired with a fine wine. There's also a martini bar, live music and silent auction.

Here's the really fun part: Each food station has a Pleasanton school principal who helps serve food and wine. You heard me right, folks. Mr. Dwyer will pour your wine!

Tickets are \$65 each for this fabulous fall fundraiser. This is an adults-only event. You must be at least 21 to attend. Click [here to reserve your tickets](#) before they sell out.

** PPIE is a nonprofit group that uses its funds to enrich programs at various schools and award grants to students and teachers.*

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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