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Talon Talk

Foothill High School Newsletter

John Dwyer, principal

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

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

Friday Forum for Parents

The school district's impending \$8 million in budget cuts will be at the top of the discussion list for this month's Friday Forum for parents. Next year's class schedules and other topics will also be discussed.

Friday Forums are a great, informal way to hear what's going on at Foothill while you also share your 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.

This month's Friday Forum will be [Feb. 19](#) at 9 a.m. in room C-6, just east of the library. Forums last about an hour.

Thank you to the [AABC parent group](#) for providing light snacks and coffee.

Live Out Loud Charity Talent Show

Come enjoy the *Live Out Loud* charity talent show on

Quick Calendar

Feb. 15 -- No school.
Presidents Day.

Feb. 16 -- Freshman honors English exam, 3:45 p.m., meet at front office

Feb. 19 -- Friday Forum for parents, 9 a.m., room C-6

Feb. 22 -- No school.

Feb. 24 -- Senior '10 photo, 8 a.m., outdoor quad

March 1 -- Grad Night & senior events meeting, 7 p.m., library

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

March 4 -- Mr. Foothill contest, 7 p.m., MPR

March 5 -- Sadie Hawkins dance, 7 p.m., large gym

Quick Links

[Foothill High web](#)

[site:](#)

[Bulletin Board](#)
[Events Calendar](#)

[Bell Schedule](#)

[Tuesday, Feb. 16](#) at 7:30 p.m. in the multipurpose room. All proceeds will be donated to the American Red Cross relief fund to help victims of the Haiti earthquake.

Tickets for the talent show are \$5 in advance or \$6 at the door.

The *Live Out Loud* charity talent show is hosted by Foothill's DECA club. The event is designed to put DECA students' business and marketing skills into action to increase awareness of the club and to promote civic responsibility.

The evening talent show will feature a silent auction, concession stand and door prizes. Businesses that would like to make tax-deductible donations of products, services or financial support may contact teacher Tami Raaker at traaker@pleasanton.k12.ca.us.

Incoming Freshman Honors English Testing

Current 8th-graders who want to challenge themselves in freshman English can take a test to see if they qualify for the academically rigorous freshman honors English.

Foothill will hold freshman honors English testing on [Tuesday, Feb. 16](#) from 3:45 p.m. to 4:30 p.m. at Foothill High School. The makeup exam will be given [Feb. 24](#) at 3:45 p.m. at Foothill in room C-6.

Students should check in outside the front office for their testing location. Bring a No. 2 pencil.

Latin Students Carpe Diem

All 40 of Foothill's Latin students will take the National Latin Exam in March. More than 150,000 Latin students worldwide take the prestigious exam.

[Den Schedule](#)

[Foothill Athletics](#)

[Foothill Band](#)

[District Calendar](#)

[District Newsletter](#)

[Career Center](#)

[Community Events](#)

[Sports Physical
Release Form](#)

[Volunteer Clearance
Form](#)

[MyNutriKids Lunch
Program](#)

[Scholarships](#)

[Senior Activities](#)

[SAT Test Dates](#)

[ACT Test Dates](#)

Student Spotlight

Foothill's *We the People* team came in fourth at the state competition.

Click [here to read the full article](#) on the Foothill web site.

Students in the Latin program are proud of the excellent scores they have achieved year after year. The exam has been given annually since 1977. This year, students in all 50 states and 13 foreign countries will take part.

Students take part in the national exam to achieve recognition for Foothill's Latin program and as an intellectual challenge.

Students may win gold, silver or bronze awards based on their scores. Last year, Foothill had nine gold medalists. One outstanding student, Farhan Sareshwala, is attempting to get his third gold medal.

Good luck to all of Foothill's Latin students!

*"Vir doctus in se semper divitias habet."
A learned man always has riches in himself. --Phaedrus*

Sadie Hawkins Dance

Get ready for the one time a year when the gender tables are turned and ladies are in charge of inviting dates to a school dance.

This year's Sadie Hawkins dance is just around the corner on [Friday, March 5](#) from 7:30 p.m. to 10:30 p.m. in the large gym. The theme is *Decades*. Students are encouraged to dress in clothes from their favorite decade, like poodle skirts from the '50s or groovy tie-dye from the '60s.

[Sadie Hawkins](#) was a homely comic strip character who finally got her chance to catch a beau when a special Sadie Hawkins Day was declared in her honor. The chance for gals to chase guys became a cultural phenomenon beyond the comic pages.

Tickets are \$5 with an ASB sticker and \$10 without the sticker. Tickets will be sold at school the week of the dance. The regular [school dress code](#) applies, so be sure your outfits are appropriate.

Foothill's Report Card

The annual school accountability report cards are out, with the latest info gathered during the 2008-09 school year.

The report cards provides info on at least 17 aspects of the school. It also includes info about school resources, successes and areas that need improvement.

Click [here to view Foothill's report card](#).

New Date

The dates for the Athletic Boosters' spring meat sale have been changed. The new dates are [May 1 & 2](#).

More details to come!

Seussical the Musical

The annual spring musical presented by Foothill and Amador Valley students is coming in March.

Click [here for all the details](#) on the Foothill web site.

Junior Prom: Volunteers Needed

Parent volunteers are needed to help make this year's junior prom a success. While the junior class is seeking a "Prom Mom Committee," dads are more than welcome -- and encouraged -- to lend a helping hand.

This year's junior prom will be held [April 17](#) at the Castlewood Country Club. The prom theme is *Night in Venice*.

Parents are needed to help with several aspects of prom night, including decorations and coat check. Please contact the junior class officers at class11officers@yahoo.com if you'd like to help.

Texas Hold 'Em

Calling all card sharks to one of the most exciting fundraisers of the entire school year -- the no-limit Texas Hold' Em tournament hosted by the Foothill Athletic Boosters.

This year's card extravaganza will be held [Saturday, March 13](#) from 6 p.m. to 11 p.m. at the Veterans Memorial Building, 301 Main St., in beautiful downtown Pleasanton.

This is the best deal in town, folks. A mere \$50 buy-in gets you dinner, drinks and a whopping \$1,000 in chips. Optional unlimited re-buys are available for \$10 and there's a one-time \$20 add-on.

All skill levels are welcome to take part in this fun event. Players will compete for Visa gift cards ranging from \$500 for first place to \$50 for fourth place.

Click [here to register online](#) or contact Theresa at tvjrose@sbcglobal.net or Carrie at cebartelt@aol.com.

The deadline to register is [March 10](#), so hurry before all the slots are taken!

Free Books for Foothill Students

Are you a teen who loves to read? Or a teen who hates to read? Either way, we have books you are going to love!

Keep reading, please ...

The Foothill library is participating in the statewide California Young Reader Medal voting. Students can vote if they have read all three of the nominated young adult books: *The Absolutely True Diary of a Part-Time Indian* by Sherman Alexie, *Story of a Girl* by Sara Zarr and *Saint Iggy* by K.L. Going. Books must be read before the [March 31](#) voting deadline.

Foothill students can check out these books through their English teachers or at the Foothill library. On April 1, we'll draw the names of 20 students who voted, and they'll each receive three free books (no fooling). All three CYRM nominees for this year are real page-turners. But don't take our word for it. Come check them out today!

--Daniel Bradford, Foothill librarian

Pizza & Coupons

Round Table Fundraiser

Enjoy a family pizza night to help raise money for Foothill on [Thursday, March 4](#) from 11 a.m. to 10 p.m. at the downtown Round Table, 530 Main St.

The AABC will get 15 percent of all purchases accompanied by the Foothill flier. Click [here to print the flier](#).

Coupon Books

Save big bucks 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
- Mahalo Grille -- \$20 off a dinner
- 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.*

Senior News

Senior '10 Photo

The entire senior class of 2010 will meet at the outdoor quad on **Wednesday, Feb. 24** at 8 a.m. sharp for the '10 senior class yearbook photo.

Mid-Year Reports

Seniors who need mid-year reports, typically requested by private and out-of-state colleges, should see Mrs. Willy in the counseling office as soon as possible. Bring a stamped, self-addressed envelope for each college and \$2 per request.

Save the Date: Fundraisers

March 18 -- Sweet Tomatoes general fundraiser

April 14 -- Sweet Tomatoes senior parent night

May 6 -- Casa Orozco senior class celebration

All events are to raise funds for Grad Night

Grad Night Meeting

This month's Grad Night and senior events meeting will be held **Monday, March 1** at 7 p.m. in the Foothill library.

Everyone chairing a senior event *must* attend and provide an update on your event. Please include current plans for your event, any funding or fundraising you may need, plans for publicity or other issues that should be addressed.

Gift Card Donations Needed

We need lots and lots of gift cards to use as student prizes on Grad Night. We're looking for gift cards ranging from \$10 to \$25 for popular student hangouts, such as Starbucks,

Jamba Juice, In-n-Out, Target, Walmart, nail salons and more.

Gift card donations may be dropped in the Grad Night box in the front office. Be sure to write the amount on the gift card. Include your contact information if you'd like a tax receipt for your donation.

Don't let those unused gift cards go to waste. Donate them to support Foothill's safe and sober Grad Night celebration.

Scholarships

Seniors should check the Foothill web site regularly for up-to-date scholarship information. Scholarship info is posted in the counseling section of the web site. Look for the counseling link on the left side of the home page, and then click on "Scholarship Information." Click [here to go directly to the scholarship page](#).

Special thanks to parent volunteer Maureen Kyer and our counseling staff for working so diligently to make sure students have the latest scholarship news.

Grad Night Tickets On Sale Now

Get your Grad Night tickets now while prices are low!

Tickets for Grad Night '10 are \$170 each. The price includes admission to the party, all activity fees and bus transportation (required) to and from City Beach in Fremont. The ticket also covers the cost of the senior pool party and picnic at the end of the school year.

The hike in ticket prices, up to \$185, has been delayed until April 15. Scholarships are available through Mrs. Shanker in the counseling office.

Click [here for the Foothill web site page with Grad Night info and details](#). Scroll to the bottom to find the three forms that must be filled out before seniors can buy tickets.

Questions? Contact Patty Haykin at 998-0056 or phaykin@aol.com.

Foothill Academies Expand Opportunities

Foothill is pleased to present its newest opportunity for students to build an education founded on excellence. The following five Professional Career Academies are now being offered: *Arts, Media & Entertainment, Business,*

Culinary Arts, Health & Bioscience and Public & Human Services.

The academies provide students with opportunities and motivation to engage effectively in independent and collaborative work environments. Students develop professional and personal skills preparing them for higher education and future professional success.

Students may sign up for an academy as early as their freshman year and begin attending guest speaker sessions and field trips. To receive academy recognition, students will choose a series of five courses and meet additional career development criteria. Students can work with their academy advisor and counselor to map a pathway to post-secondary education that suits their interests and professional goals. Students will then have opportunities for additional career exploration, job shadowing, internships, clubs and portfolio development.

You may view further academy recognition criteria on the Foothill web site under "[Counseling](#)." Once you're on the counseling page, click on the "Scheduling Handbook & Applications" link and look for the two academy forms.

Students should turn in academy applications to their counselors as soon as possible. Mark your calendars for a special academy day event on [March 24](#). Details to come.

Questions? Please contact teacher Nancy Scotto at nscotto@pleasanton.k12.ca.us.

Falcon Wing Student Store

The Falcon Wing student store, located in room A-14, is open daily from 8 a.m. to 3 p.m. The store is run by special needs students to teach them job skills. Please be patient if class activities mean the store is temporarily closed during regular business hours.

Drop by the store for classroom needs and Foothill spirit items, such as sweatshirts and car decals. The lost-and-found is now located in the student store.

Click [here for more info](#) about the student store, including details and photos of what the shop carries.

The Falcon Wing welcomes merchandise from any Foothill organization. The store asks for a 5 percent commission on items. Please contact Gail Myers at gmyers@pleasanton.k12.ca.us if you'd like to sell your

products at the Falcon Wing.

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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