



Fountain Hills  
High School

## COUNSELOR DEPARTMENT NEWSLETTER FALL 2016

The Fountain Hills High School Counseling Department is implementing the American School Counseling Association (ASCA) National Model. We focus on the 3 domains: Academic, Career, and Social/Emotional Development.

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The counseling department will strive to keep you posted on pertinent information for you and your students throughout the school year. In this newsletter, we will provide info to all but will mark if it pertains to one grade level. We will also group areas of information:

- Testing
- College Information
- Upcoming Events/Lessons

### TESTING

Remember to log onto the [www.collegeboard.org](http://www.collegeboard.org) site for support as you prepare for the PSAT, SAT, SAT Subject Tests, and AP exams. Khan Academy offers free tutorials and has partnered with College Board.

#### PSAT (Practice SAT)

**WHEN:** Wednesday, October 19, 2016. Deadline to register is Sept 22, 2016, in the counseling office.

**WHERE:** FHHS

**WHO:** All sophomores are signed up to participate but any college-bound student may take the PSAT. Only juniors will be considered for National Merit Semi-Finalists.

**COST:** Free for 10<sup>th</sup> graders and \$20 for any 11<sup>th</sup> grader

**College Board** offers a wealth of information and personalized tools to help students with the college admissions process. Selected students, based on their performance on the PSAT will receive mailings on: A personalized college starter list, college applications, financial aid, and scholarships, college application fee waivers, one-on-one virtual advising, and more about access to opportunity.

**Register for the SAT on [www.collegeboard.org](http://www.collegeboard.org) and the ACT on [www.actstudent.org](http://www.actstudent.org).** Registration for these tests should be completed at least two months before the test date to reserve the testing site you prefer. Dates: ACT- 9/10, 10/22 and SAT- 10/1, 11/5. Our school code is 030-124

**Test prep:** Princeton Review [www.PrincetonReview.com](http://www.PrincetonReview.com), Kaplan [kaptest.com/psatcram](http://kaptest.com/psatcram), [www.collegeboard.org](http://www.collegeboard.org), and Khan Academy all offering test prep. Khan Academy has partnered with College Board and offers free, high quality test prep. **Students can even link their PSAT scores with Kahn Academy to have a personalized SAT study plan based upon strengths and weaknesses.** Make sure you prepare for

these tests! Scores on these tests and your GPA in your college prep courses are the top two factors college admissions reps consider.

Arizona's participation in the **Western Interstate Commission for Higher Education (WICHE) Western Undergraduate Exchange (WUE)** provides the opportunity for students to attend a public college, at the undergraduate level outside of Arizona, at a reduced level of tuition (150% of the host institution's resident tuition.) The WICHE member states are: Alaska, Arizona, California, Colorado, Commonwealth of Northern Mariana Islands, Hawaii, Idaho, Montana, Nevada, New Mexico, North Dakota, Oregon, South Dakota, Utah, Washington and Wyoming. Interested applicants should check the WICHE website at: <http://www.wiche.edu/wue> to search participating institutions by program of study.

Applications to **Barrett, The Honors College** are currently being accepted. Prospective students are strongly encouraged to have complete ASU application on file by November 1 and a complete Barrett application on file by November 15. Students interested in Barrett must first apply to ASU and then may begin the free, separate Barrett application. The priority deadline for applying to Barrett is Nov. 15, 2015. Students will need 2 letters of recommendation for the Barrett application.

**College Visits:**

- Sept 7<sup>th</sup> PVCC (lunch)
- Sept 13<sup>th</sup> University of Arizona (lunch)
- Sept 15<sup>th</sup> Northern Arizona University (lunch)
- Sept 16<sup>th</sup> Arizona State University (lunch)
- Sept 19<sup>th</sup> SCC (lunch)
- Sept 22<sup>nd</sup> Grand Canyon University (lunch)

**College Fairs:**

**10th Annual Scottsdale College Fair**, to be held at Desert Mountain High School on Saturday, October 22nd from 1:00-3:00pm in the gym. We plan on hosting 100+ colleges and universities, and it's FREE for you to attend. "Counting down to the Scottsdale College Fair on October 22nd, 1:00-3:00pm at Desert Mountain High School. Everyone is invited and it's FREE to attend. We have 84 confirmed colleges and universities, and the list is growing each week. The colleges want to see YOU there - parents & students. They are bringing along great information on admissions, scholarships and student life. Parents – you can pick up materials and learn more about the differences between the colleges. Seniors - now's your chance to make a good [Download events calendar flyer](#) impression on the colleges you're applying to, or even find a few new colleges that you'd consider applying to. Juniors/Sophomores/Freshmen - come check out what colleges you'd like to pursue - they'll note your interest based on your attending the fair. Don't forget - we have scholarships and a \$500 airline gift card for students - but you must be in attendance to qualify. Hope to see you there!"

**National College Fair** will be held at the Phoenix Convention Center on **Sunday, October 23rd**. This is a GREAT opportunity to visit with college reps from over 250 schools. They expect over 5000 in attendance. Log onto [www.gotomyncf.com](http://www.gotomyncf.com) to log in and record your info. Print the barcode and bring it to the fair so colleges can scan it. That way, you don't have to fill out their individual postcards and can instead spend more time speaking with the reps. Register today [www.nacacnet.org/fallncf](http://www.nacacnet.org/fallncf)

❖ **Financial Aid/In-State College Night: Monday October 3, 2016 in the Lecture Hall**

## College Reps will include: ASU, U of A, NAU, GCU, SCC, and PVCC

### Scholarships: (Seniors)

#### Scholarship Opportunities

- The **Flinn Scholarship** is one of most prestigious scholarships for AZ students attending an AZ university. Click here to watch the virtual presentation: <http://flinnscholars.org/news/1226>. Are you Flinn Scholar material? If you are an **outstanding senior**, you could be among 700+ applicants to receive the strictly merit-based Flinn Scholarship. More information and application is available at [www.flinnscholars.org](http://www.flinnscholars.org). Send questions to [application@flinn.org](mailto:application@flinn.org). Deadline, including submission of teacher/counselor recommendations, is Sunday, October 23, 2016.

- Go to college debt-free. Resources can be found at <http://affordablecollegesonline.org/graduating-debt-free>.

#### ➤ Law Scholarships:

- **Tuite Law DUI Accident Scholarship.** This scholarship is now available to any full time college student or high school senior nationwide.

**Deadline:** May 31, 2017

**Award Amount:** \$750

**Application:** <http://tuitelaw.com/rockford-illinois-dui-accident-lawyer/#scholarship-application>

- **Robinson & Henry Family Law Scholarship:** This scholarship is for high school seniors who plan on attending a 4-year college/university or a 2-year accredited community college Fall of 2017. Open to applicants whose parents have gone through a divorce and plan on pursuing a career in Family Law.

**Deadline:** May 31, 2017

**Award Amount:** \$1000

**Application:** <https://www.robinsonandhenry.com/denver-divorce-lawyer/#scholarship>

- **SCW DREAMers Scholarship.** This scholarship is now available to any high school senior in the United States that desires to apply. More information on DREAMers can be found on our scholarship application below:

**Deadline:** May 31, 2017

**Award Amount:** \$2,500

**Application:** <http://workinjuryaz.com/phoenix-workers-compensation-lawyers/>

- **K. Hunter Goff Bankruptcy/Consumer Rights Scholarship.** This scholarship is for a high school senior who has at least a 3.0 GPA and interested in pursuing a law-related degree.

**Deadline:** July 31, 2017

**Award Amount:** \$500

**Application:** <http://khgpa.com/#scholarship-application>

- Institutional scholarships are in the scholarship portals on college and university websites. Most colleges and universities offer the best scholarship opportunities when you apply early. Don't wait! Apply now!



## Core Counseling Lessons

- **Grade 9:**
  - September lesson- high school credits, diploma types, and started 4-year plan
  - November lesson- career interest assessments through Naviance
- **Grade 10:**
  - November-Career Exploration through Naviance. Students take a personality assessment, connect that to Career Exploration resources, and write a compare/contrast essay on two careers.
- **Grade 11:**
  - September lesson- students were given a copy of their updated transcript, and were given the act/sat tests dates for this year
  - November lesson- College school sort activity, write a college comparison essay
- **Grade 12:**
  - August-Myths/Truths about College, transcript analysis, admissions requirements for 2 and 4 year colleges, admissions testing information for 2 and 4 year colleges, FAFSA, and letters of recommendation.
  - Semester 1- Individual senior meetings to discuss ECAP (Education Career Action Plans) post-graduation.

## College/Career Opportunities

- **GateWay Community College** is inviting you to their Career Exploration Day event: Thursday, November 3, 2016, from 8:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m.
- **Grand Canyon University** - High school juniors and seniors are invited to our Phoenix campus on Thursday, November 10th at 7 a.m. for Health Sciences, Engineering and Technology Day 2015. This is a great opportunity for students to learn about career options in a variety of STEM sciences, including health sciences, engineering and technology, as well as tour our science labs and participate in hands on activities. [gcu.edu/HSET](http://gcu.edu/HSET)
- **Interested in a career in the Construction industry?** Attend the AZ Construction Career Days event on November 3rd or 4th. Go to: [www.azccd.com](http://www.azccd.com) to register. Event will take place at: 8:00 am - 2:00 pm, Arizona Army National Guard, Papago Site, 5636 East McDowell Road, Phoenix, Arizona.

## **Financial Aid/In-State College Night is Monday October 3, 2016 from 6-7 in the Lecture Hall (All Grades)**

**Grade 12:** Seniors use parchment to request transcripts. Log into your parchment.com account School Code: 030-124. Students click “sign-up. I don’t have a registration code.”

**Grade 12:** Seniors, need letters of recommendation for university admissions? If you are using the **Common Application**, you will need them. The counselor letter of recommendation is part of the **Secondary School Report**. Please complete the student (and parent) Brag Sheets online: FHHS Website, Counseling Department, Career Development. Then, make an appointment with Miss Phillips for an interview, and give her 1-2 weeks after the interview to write your letter of recommendation. **Don’t forget to say thank you for this favor!**

**Grades 9-12/parents:** We encourage you to review grades on-line and attendance weekly, with your student. If you have any questions or concerns, contact your child’s teacher immediately.

**Grades 9-10: Student support groups** for study skills will be taking place during semester 1. The counseling department will expand the support group options during semester 2.

**Grades 9-11:** EVIT Expo is November 14<sup>th</sup> from 9-1 check out the website at [www.evit.com](http://www.evit.com)

**The National Honors Society** offers after school tutoring on Wednesdays during lunch and on Thursdays after school in room B104, the Homework Hub room.

**Power Hour:** Tutoring is also available from all teachers. The teachers are the best source of tutoring assistance. Another teacher of the same subject can help as well.

**On Sept 27<sup>th</sup>:**

9<sup>th</sup> Graders- Mindset Presentation with Daniel Santiago

10<sup>th</sup> Graders- EVIT Presentation

11<sup>th</sup> Graders- Military Presentation

12<sup>th</sup> Graders- Tri-University Presentation by NAU, ASU, and U of A

The Counseling Department