



# FOUNTAIN HILLS

## HIGH SCHOOL

**COUNSELING DEPARTMENT**

**NEWSLETTER**

**Spring 2017**

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 strives 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 & Scholarship Information

Upcoming Events & Lessons

Personal/Social Information

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## TESTING

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Grade 9-11:

AIMS Science: 4/6/17 All 9<sup>th</sup> and 10<sup>th</sup> graders taking Biology

AZMerit Testing: 4/10/17 Writing, 4/11/17 Reading Part 1, 4/12/17 Reading Part 2,  
4/25/17 Math Part 1 and 4/27/17 Math Part 2 (Algebra 1, Geometry, Algebra 2)

2017 AP Exam Schedule: All tests will be in the learning center

Tuesday May 2: Physics 1- 12:00

Wednesday May 3: English Lite & Comp- 7:30 am

Thursday May 4: US Government & Politics- 7:30 am

Friday May 5: US History- 7:30 am

Friday May 5: Studio Art- 2:30 pm

Monday May 8: Biology- 7:30 am

Tuesday May 9: Calculus AB and BC- 7:30 am

Wednesday May 10: English Lang & Comp- 7:30 am

Thursday May 11: World History- 7:30 am



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Register for the SAT and ACT must be completed on the [College Board website](#) and the [ACT website](#). Registration for these tests should be completed at least two months before the test date to reserve the testing site you prefer. Dates: ACT- **4/8/17, 6/10/17** and SAT- **5/6/17, 6/3/17**. 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 test prep. Get ready for these tests. Your scores on these tests and your GPA in your college prep courses are the top two factors college admissions reps consider.

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## COLLEGE & SCHOLARSHIP INFORMATION

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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.

**Student Athletes:** If you are planning to play college sports at the Division I or II level, you must register with the **National Clearinghouse (NCAA)** during your sophomore year (10th grade). Check on their site to confirm you are taking the courses you need to not only graduate from Fountain Hills and get into the college, but are eligible through their organization. For example, the do not accept on-line courses. Choose classes wisely.

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ASU UPDATES

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Students can still apply to ASU. Students and parents should create their FSA (Federal Student Aid) login and file their Free Application for Federal Student Aid as soon as possible. With the FAFSA available early this year and families being able to use their previous year's tax information, the whole admission process is easier and can be completed earlier. Here's how the changes help families: When families file the 2017-2018 FAFSA, they will use their 2015 tax returns, which are already done. It cuts down on the number of families selected for verification. Families hear from colleges and universities sooner about their complete financial aid package.

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## NAU UPDATES

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Regarding STAR, Honors, and CCC2NAU: STAR: Applications opened on October 1, 2016 with a Priority Deadline of February 1, 2017. To apply, the students must follow the steps below:

**HONORS:** There is no deadline to apply to Honors, but we strongly encourage submitting application materials prior to March 1. If you would like to live in Ernest Calderon Learning Community (this date allows us to review and process your application for Honors in enough time in advance of Calderon room placement); May 1 is their priority date to ensure enrollment in our first year Honors seminar.

**CCC2NAU:** Due to high demand, residential hall space will not be available for CCC2NAU students for the 2017-2018 academic year. There will be alternative housing options available.

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## COLLEGE WEEK LIVE

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**Grades 11-12:** Nearly one million students from 191 countries rely on CollegeWeekLive to help navigate college admissions. You can attend live online events, hear from expert presentations, gain advice from admissions reps and current students at 500+ colleges, and more, by registering for free at [www.collegeweeklive.com](http://www.collegeweeklive.com)

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## SCHOLARSHIP OPPORTUNITIES

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

### **Local Scholarships:**

**Sons of the American Legion Scholarship-** Due date April 10, 2017

**Fountain Hills Elks Lodge #2846 Essay Scholarship-"Who/What is a Patriot?"-**

Due date April 17, 2017

**Senior Women's Singles Group of Fountain Hills Scholarship-** Due date April 27

**Arizona Federation of Republican Women/Laura Bush Scholarship-** Deadline for filing April 28

**Shepard of the Hills Lutheran Church Scholarship-** Postmarked by April 30

- ❖ STOP BY THE COUNSELING OFFICE FOR APPLICATION DETAILS, SCHOLARSHIP AMOUNTS, ETC... ALL SCHOLARSHIPS ARE HOUSED IN THE SCHOLARSHIP BINDER ON THE FRONT TABLE!

## **Law Scholarships:**

**The Fisher & Talwar \$1,000 Legal Inspiration Scholarship** is now available to students currently pursuing or plan on pursuing a college degree.

**Deadline:** November 15, 2017    **Award Amount:** \$1000

**Application:** <http://www.fishertalwar.com/scholarship/>

**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:**

**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>

**Christensen and Hymas Lawfirm** is offering a \$1,000.00 scholarship for any individual who has been accepted to or plans to attend a university or college in the United States, has a cumulative GPA of 2.5 or higher, and a transcript to verify this GPA. Application deadline for application submission is August 1, 2017. Apply at <https://christensenhymas.com/about-us/community-involvement/general-scholarship/>

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SCHOLARSHIP OPPORTUNITIES...CONTINUED

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**ASU has partnered with Raise.me** to offer a new scholarship program for students in grades 9-11. Through Raise.me, your students can now earn performance-based micro-scholarships from ASU for

each of their academic and extracurricular achievements. Raise.me can help your students get a head start on their college search and develop into stronger applicants.

**The American Legion of Arizona** is offering their 80<sup>th</sup> annual high school oratorical scholarship program contest. For details about this scholarship program, please visit [www.azlegion.org/programs](http://www.azlegion.org/programs) and email questions to [legionoratoricalcontest@msn.com](mailto:legionoratoricalcontest@msn.com). View the national contest brochure/rules at [www.legion.org/oratorical](http://www.legion.org/oratorical).

The target audience for Earn to Learn is future university students and their families with annual incomes less than 200% of the federal poverty level (FPL). Earn to Learn will provide matched-savings incentives through special savings accounts for students who wish to pursue a bachelor's degree. Participants who successfully complete the savings program requirements will receive an 8 to 1 match on their savings (save \$500, receive \$4,000 scholarship) for tuition costs at UA, ASU, or NAU. The maximum match that a student can receive through the program is \$4,000 per academic year. For more information please visit: <http://earntolearn.org/>

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.

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## UPDATES, EVENTS & LESSONS

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**Grade 11: Junior Night/Financial Aid w/college reps**, Monday April 17<sup>th</sup> in the Learning Center at 6:30

**Grade 9-12:** Phoenix College Fair, Sunday April 30<sup>th</sup> at the Arizona State University Tempe Campus, Memorial Union at 12:00pm- 2:30pm. For more information <http://rmacac.org/college-fairs/>

**Grade 11:** Common Application Lab Session, Wednesday April 26<sup>th</sup> at 1:30 in the media center computer lab, register with Miss Cooper at [mcooper@fhusd.org](mailto:mcooper@fhusd.org)

**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 9-12: Student support groups** semester 2- Study Skills, Empowered, and Grief/Coping

**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.

**Naviance:** Naviance's web-based software as a service platform provides students with a variety of features, including college research and matching tools, course planning, career assessment, and personality tests, and surveys to help students connect what they are doing in school to what they would like to do once they complete their education. Naviance provides additional functionality to school counselors to track the progress of individual students, communicate and collaborate with students and families, or create reports on their entire student population.

### **Classroom Counseling Lessons in Naviance**

9th Grade- Resume Builder (April, 2017)

10th Grade- Generate a college interest list (May, 2017)

11<sup>th</sup> Grade- Resume Builder (May, 2017)

12<sup>th</sup> Grade- Senior Graduation Survey (March, 2017)

**Summer School Information**- Summer School will run May 30-June 30. Each class is \$185. Summer school packets will be available at the end of April. Courses being offered: Algebra I, Algebra II, Geometry, Advanced Algebra, World History, U.S. History, Government, Economics, English 9, English 10, English 11, and English 12

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## Personal/Social Information

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We have a new addition to the counseling office; Jason Henslin is a 2002 graduate of FHHS and excited to be back working in his hometown. He is a Licensed Associate Counselor, his role at the high school includes: mentoring, coaching, and providing therapy for any interested students. Jason enjoys helping students find ways to cope with anxiety, depression, ADHD, and overcome obstacles by using a variety of techniques and focusing on the counselor/student relationship.

### Social/Emotional Development

The counseling office is working to help students come up with plans to be successful academically, socially, and emotionally. We strive to help students focus on a goal despite obstacles and distractions so they can prioritize their lives in a healthy manner. Part of this includes mentoring on acceptable behaviors that improve social interactions between peers and adults. In addition we try and instill

perspective, we want our students to know that some things need to take care of (i.e. school work) in order to get where they want to go and other things (i.e. conflicts with friends) are temporary and don't have to rule how they feel and act.

### Groups

We also offer several different group experiences for our students. We have a weekly Empowerment Group for students who are overcoming issues with drug and alcohol use. We also offer a weekly study skills group where the counselors work with students who are in need of a little extra guidance to reach their potential. We recently added a group designed to help those who struggle to cope with the loss of a loved one in their life.

### The Counseling Team