

SPECIAL POINTS
OF INTEREST:

- **FOPHS Board Meeting Dec 5, 630pm**
- **Grad Night Meeting Dec 11, 630pm**

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Message from the Principal

Greetings Hillmen,

Happy Holidays! We are nearing the end of the first term and still much is happening on the Hill. Progress reports were distributed to students on November 16, 2012 by their second period teacher. If you have any questions or concerns, please contact your child's teacher and/or counselor. Finals for the Fall Term will be held on Thursday and Friday, December 20 and 21. Periods 1 and 2 are on Thursday and periods 3 and 4 on Friday. Each period is two hours long and school ends at 12:15 pm. Please remember that the library is open from 7 am to 3:30 pm Monday through Friday and after school tutoring is available in the library on Tuesdays and Wednesdays from 3 pm to 4 pm. This tutoring time is staffed with 2 English teachers, a bilingual aide and soon to be math tutor (parent volunteer). Computers are also available to students during this time. Teachers also offer their time before school, during lunch, and after school, for students requesting help. Please encourage your child to seek out their teacher and establish a time they could meet for extra help.

The Placer Drama department just completed their Fall production of Stage Door. Congratulations to a job well done to all performers and their director, drama teacher Lori Ibrahim. The Placer High Music Department has been busy as well this Fall, putting on great halftime shows at home football games and participating in the Veterans Parade. They wrap up the term with a Winter Concert in the school auditorium on Wednesday, December 12. And don't forget, if you are looking for a Christmas tree, the Band Boosters is selling a great selection in the school parking lot. As we head in to Winter sports, we congratulate all Fall sport athletes and their tremendous success this year. Right now the ski and snowboard team is anticipating a break out season with plenty of snow planned on to perform this year. Girls and boys basketball has a busy month of December being involved in numerous tournaments, including the Coach G Memorial Tournament and the Kendall Arnett Tournament. Wrestling will look to avenge their loss to Bear River last year and win a PVL crown. Please refer to the school web site for dates and times of events.

As was presented in the Auburn Journal on November 28, Placer High has embarked on a campaign to bring a new track and synthetic football field to LeFebvre stadium. It has been a nearly two year process to get to this point and we are excited to begin the with the engineering and design aspect of the project. If you are interested in learning more about the project or wish to donate, please contact either Bob Haydon at rhaydon@community1bank.com or Principal Peter Efstathiu at pefstath@puhsd.k12.ca.us.

Please note some future dates: The school will be closed for the Winter Break beginning December 23 through January 6, 2013. Teachers report back to school on January 7, 2013 for teacher work day and there will be a district wide inservice day on Tuesday, January 8. All students report back for the Spring Term on Wednesday, January 9. Schedule distribution will take place in the Lower Gym beginning at 7:15 am on Wednesday. Back to School night will be held Monday, January 14, 2013 beginning at 6:30 pm. Lastly, we have had issues with some reckless driving and speeding around the campus. In cases where we have been able to identify the driver we have addressed the issue. Auburn police will be stepping up patrols in the area around the school to assist in keeping the school and students safe.

Have a great Holiday.

Sincerely,
Peter Efstathiu
Placer High Principal

Go Hillmen

Message from the FOPHS Board..

We are always on the hunt for more ways to raise monies to support more programs. We are looking into a new program to raise monies for Placer. The program is similar to a loyalty card. Parents can logon to the website and donate and/or shop online. If you access your shopping sites through this website we receive 3% of the total you pay to any of the stores. You also get 3% back to you! Yes, you get money back for shopping through this web site. There is no additional cost to you, you just logon before you shop online. There are many sites that can be accessed through this program like Macy's, Amazon etc. What for more details to come in late December and January.

If you would like to find out what FOPHS is all about, please come to our next meeting January 9, 2013 at 6:30pm in the staff lounge.

We wish you and your family a Merry Christmas and thank you again for supporting FOPHS and the school.

Kim Lightfoot
President
Friends of Placer High School

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English Department - AP Testing



Freshmen Parents: Does the idea of your student participating in more challenging critical thinking and reading sound rewarding? Would your student benefit from being prepared to tackle AP classes as an upperclassman? Sophomore Accelerated English may be the right choice for your student. Testing to be eligible for Placer's Sophomore Accelerated English class is on Monday, January 14th at 1:45pm or Thursday, January 17th at 6:00pm in the library. There is no need to pre-register. Students must take the test to be enrolled in the program. Call Mrs. Haydon at extension x5766 for more details.

Sophomore and Junior Parents: The English Department is offering testing to enroll in their AP Junior and Senior English classes. If you are currently not enrolled in an AP class, but would like to do so, please have your student attend one of our testing dates this January, either the Monday, the 14th at 1:45 pm or Thursday, the 17th at 6:00 pm. Students must take the test to be enrolled in the program, and students need only attend one of these dates. There is no need to pre-register. Students just need to show up in the Placer Library with a pen, pencil and paper. If you have any questions, please contact Mrs. Haydon at extension x5766 for more details.

Grad Night News.....

Thank you to everyone who helped with the Grad Night Holiday Boutique and Festival of Lights Parade. We appreciate the parents and customers who took the time to visit and spend their dollars for such a good cause.

We encourage you to attend at least one of the next Grad Night meetings- Tuesday December 11th or Tuesday, January 8th 6:30 at Tango. The donation letters will be distributed in January to take to local businesses. We have found the personal face to face contact produces great results and it saves on postage expense.

Do you have unused electronics sitting around your house or are you expecting something new for the holidays to replace your old equipment? If so, save your items and contribute the Grad Night E-Waste collection.

Our next fundraiser is the E-Waste collection scheduled for **Saturday, February 2, 2013** 9:00am - 1:00pm in the PHS lower parking lot. Acceptable electronic items for collection include: monitors, TVs, desktops, laptops, tablets, VCRs, stereos, speakers, keyboards, mice, PDAs, digital cameras, zip drives, telephone, video game consoles, printers, copiers, laser and multi-functional peripherals, scanners, fax machines, small kitchen appliances like blenders, mixers, toasters, microwaves and hairdryers. Non-acceptable items include: household appliances (i.e. refrigerators, washers, and dryers), furniture, hazardous household waste including fluorescent light bulbs, household batteries, car batteries, paint, pesticides, used oil, cleaning supplies and tires.

Electronic items with glass require identification so tape a piece of paper to the item with your name and address.

A pre-collection is scheduled for Saturday, January 12, 2013 9:00am - 12:00pm in the Vintage Oak residential neighborhood. We need 6 volunteers to help in this effort. We will need to pick up E-Waste at shed above the football field at 8:00 (take existing materials out of the dumpster and put into our trailer, and then drive to Vintage Oak area by 9:00). If you have a truck and would like to help with pickup, we could use your help. We also need volunteers to help load from curb to truck. E-waste, unless prearranged, should be left on the curb for pick up. Flyers will be distributed to the Vintage Oak neighborhood during holidays.

We also need at least six volunteers for actual E-Waste event on February 2nd. Both of these events require a good bit of moving and lifting, so be prepared to get a work out. Please contact Lynn Gaffney at 916-532-2761 or lynn.gaffney@hp.com if you can help for these events. Last year we made over \$2400, so it is a great fundraiser for our Grad Night!



Counseling News...

Financial Aid Night Learn how to help pay for college through scholarships, grants, loans and work study December 4th at 6:30 pm in the Placer High auditorium. The presentation by the Placer High counselors will include information about Cal Grants and tips for filling out the FAFSA (Free Application for Federal Student Aid). This information will be helpful to anyone planning to attend a 2 or 4 year college or trade/technical school. Students and parents are invited.

College Scholarships and Financial Aid The FAFSA (Free Application for Federal Student Aid) is the Financial Aid Form to apply for federal, state and specific college campus-based financial aid. This includes grants (free money) and loans (parent and/or student loans that must be paid back). The form consists primarily of financial information that must be filled out by parents and students. The application is done online at www.fafsa.ed.gov and is available for the 2013-2014 academic school year beginning January 1st. Since funds are limited at many colleges, early submission of the FAFSA can maximize chances of receiving financial aid. The FAFSA should be completed no later than March 1 but again the earlier the better.

Cal Grants The State of California funds the Cal Grant program which can be used at colleges and universities in the state. This is "free money" that does not need to be paid back. In order to apply for a Cal Grant, a FAFSA must be filled out and GPA verification must be sent by the high school. This year we are submitting student information including the GPA verification to the Cal Grant program for all of our seniors. If you do not want your student's information sent and wish to opt-out of the Cal Grant program go to the Placer High website, then to the counseling page and select the CalGrant Opt-out on the left side. It will be active until December 6. Keep in mind that if the information is not sent, the student will not be eligible to receive a Cal Grant.

Spring Term Class Changes: Students wanting to make a class change for the spring term should plan to see their counselor before school, at lunch or after school on December 17th, 18th and 19th. Options for available electives are extremely limited and therefore not all change requests will be possible. **Once the spring term begins, students will not be able to make any further class changes except for going into a T.A. position or seniors taking an unscheduled 1st or 4th Period.**

There are a few ROP courses that are offered on a semester basis and will accept new students spring semester. Junior and senior students are eligible to enroll and should see their counselor right away if interested.

Architecture, Construction & Engineering	1:10 - 4:10 pm at Granite Bay High
Business Data Systems	1:10 - 4:10 pm at Granite Bay High
Game Development (Xbox)	6:00 - 8:00 pm Tues. + Online ROP Center
Medical Front Office	8:00 - 11:00 am ROP Center



Counseling News continued....

Sierra College is offering a Parent Information Night on December 12th. This informative meeting will be held in the Learning Resource Center Room 212 at the Sierra College campus in Rocklin 6:00 pm to 7:00 pm. Space is limited, so sign up by e-mail at: outreach@sierracollege.edu. **There will also be two Sierra College presentations at PHS for students during the school day:** Wednesday, January 30th 8:15-9:00am and Monday, February 4th 1:45 - 2:00pm. Students should sign up with Ms. Smith in the counseling office.

The online application process for Sierra College will begin in January. See "Applying to Sierra College" on the Placer High website counseling page for the step-by-step process. All students who think they may attend Sierra (even students who are applying to 4-year colleges) should apply online in January. That will leave enough time for students to take care of assessments, orientation and meet with a Sierra counselor before selecting classes. Placer High has reserved assessment times at Sierra College for Wednesday, February 20th (during the week off) at 10:00 am and Monday, March 11th at 2:30 pm (PHS is out at 1:35 for PLC). Students must have already applied online, received their MySierra account and have called the Assessment Office to confirm they want a spot on either of these days. Students who wait will find it's hard to make the necessary appointments needed before registering for classes.

Freshmen, Sophomores and Juniors Registration for 2013-14 Classes Timeline:

- AP/Accelerated English Assessment January 14 at 1:45pm or January 17 at 6:00pm in the library.
- Tuesday, February 26th current 9th - 11th grade student will receive the 2013-14 course selection sheets. The course catalog (course descriptions and information) will be available on the school website.
- Thursday, February 28th is Course Preview Day, where student can attend class presentations and talk to teachers about prospective courses including ROP.
- March 2 - 10 students will register for classes online through the parent portal
- March 11 - 19 students will be called in to meet with a counselor to go over course selections.

MORE COUNSELING....

2012-2012 SAT Test Dates

Date	Test	Registration Dead-line	Late Registration Dead-line
January-26	SAT & Subject Tests	December-28	January-11
March-9	SAT only	February-8	February-22
May-4	SAT & Subject Tests	April-5	April-19
June-1	SAT & Subject Tests	May-2	May-17

Register online at www.collegeboard.com

2012-2013 ACT Test Dates

Test Date	Registration Deadline	(Late Fee Required)
February 9, 2013*	January 11, 2013	January 12 – 18, 2013
April 13, 2013	March 8, 2013	March 9 – 22, 2013
June 8, 2013	May 3, 2013	May 4 – 17, 2013

Register online at www.act.org

Note: Please visit the Counseling page on the Placer High School website for updates and information on a variety of topics.



Sierra College.....

Spring 2013 admission: New students interested in attending Sierra have hopefully already applied to the college as we will be opening up new students registration for classes on December 10, 2012.

Fall 2013 admission: Students will be able to complete the online application for the Fall 2013 semester starting from January 7, 2013. I would recommend that they complete their assessment and counseling appointments no later than March. New students will be able to register in classes from May 8, 2013 for Fall 2013.

Waitlists coming in 2013: Starting in the summer of 2013 the college will introduce an official waitlist for classes. Once a class becomes full a student will be able to enroll on a waitlist for that class. If a space then opens in that class, before the semester starts, the student will be notified by email and will have 48 hours to register and take advantage of that open space.

Associate Degrees for Transfer (AA-T): Please visit the Sierra College web site and find our complete degree and certificate listing for 2012-13. We have include all the AA-T degrees that we are currently offering. The main aim of these degrees are to simplify transfer from a community college into the CSU system. For more information on about these transfer degrees please visit www.AdegreeWithAGuarantee.com

Scholarship Workshops: If your students needs advice and guidance on applying for Sierra College scholarships then there are two upcoming presentations. Space is limited so please see the scholarship flyer for contact details to confirm a spot.

Early Assessment Program (EAP): Students may be exempt from our assessment testing if they passed the EAP and are classified as college level ready. For a full list of all the assessment scores we accept, please visit our web site.

December 2012

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Sat/Sun
PLC-Min Day	Detention 3:00-5:00pm SAMI Meeting 7:30am PASS Rm 616 Lunchtime BBB @ Liberty Ranch 3:45/5:30/7 GEB vs Encina 4/5:30/7 WASC Preliminary Visit	Ste Council Mg. 3:10 FOFHS Mg. 6:30pm PASS Rm 616 Lunchtime	PASS Rm 616 Lunchtime EBB Mesa Verde Tourney (F) GEB @ Redding (JV) GEB @ Del Campo Tour (F)	EBB Mesa Verde Tourney (F) GEB @ Redding (JV) GEB @ Del Campo Tour (F) Wrestling @ Madras 9am (V) December 7 & 8	SAT-Library 7:30am 1 2 EBB Mesa Verde Tourney (F) GEB @ Redding (JV) 8 GEB @ Del Campo Tour (F)
3	4	5	6	7	9
PLC-Min Day	Detention 3:00-5:00pm Department Mg. PASS Rm 616 Lunchtime BBB vs Pioneer 4/5:30/7 GEB @ Vista Del Lago 4/5:30/7	Winter Concert 7:30pm PASS Rm 616 Lunchtime	PASS Rm 616 Lunchtime EBB (V&J) Antelope Tourney GEB Coach G Memorial (V) GEB @ Del Oro Tour (JV) Distribution of Spring Sch During 2nd period	EBB (V&J) Antelope Tourney GEB Coach G Memorial (V) GEB @ Del Oro Tour (JV)	EBB (V&J) Antelope Tourney GEB Coach G Memorial (V) GEB @ Del Oro Tour (JV) Wrestling 15
10	11	12	13	14	16
PLC-Min Day Faculty Mg. 2:45 Library Program Change Day Before Sch, Lunch, After Sch	Detention 3:00-5:00pm BBB vs Woodland 4/5:30/7 GEB @ Pioneer 4/5:30/7 Program Change Day Before Sch, Lunch, After Sch	BBB Rail City Classic (V) Program Change Day Before Sch, Lunch, After Sch	BBB Placer Frosh Tourney BBB Rail City Classic (V) GEB Natomas Tourney (V)	BBB Placer Frosh Tourney BBB Rail City Classic (V) GEB Natomas Tourney (V) End of Grading Period	BBB Placer Frosh Tourney BBB Rail City Classic (V) GEB Natomas Tourney (V) 22
17	18	19	***** See Final Schedule Below		
20	21	23	24	25	26
Christmas Eve-Holiday	Christmas-Holiday	No School	No School EBB- Kendall Amett EBB (JV) Kendall Amett GEB (F) Del Oro Tour	No School EBB- Kendall Amett EBB (JV) Kendall Amett GEB (F) Del Oro Tour	EBB Kendall Amett EBB (JV) Kendall Amett GEB (F) Del Oro Tour 29
24	25	26	27	28	30
Admission Day-Holiday			Final Schedule Thur. 12/20 & Fri. 12/21 0 Period 7:00-7:45 1st or 3rd 7:55-9:55 Nutrition 9:55-10:05 2nd or 4th 10:15-12:15 Buses Leave at 12:25		
31					

January 2013				
Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
	New Year's Day-Holiday 1	No School 2	No School BBB @ Marysville 4/5:30/7 GBB vs Yuba City 4/5:30/7 3	No School 4
Teacher In-Service SB @ Boreal 10:00am Ski @ Northstar (Tentative) 7	District In-Service at Placer Grades to office 3:00pm 8	Students Return GBB vs Colfax 4/5:30/7 <i>Schedule Distribution</i> <i>Lower Gym 7:15-7:45</i> 9	Leadership Team 3:10 BBB vs Cener 4/5:30/7 10	GBB @ Center 4:30/6/7:30 11
PLC- Min Day Back to School Night AP/Accel English Testing Library 1:30pm SB @ Alpine Meadows 10am Ski @ Alpine 14	SAM Meeting 7:30am Min. Day BBB vs Colfax 4/5:30/7 Wrestling @ Center 6pm 15	Site Council Mtg. 3:10 FOPHS Mtg. 6:30pm GBB @ Lincoln 4/5:30/7 16	BBB vs Bear River 4/5:30/7 Wrestling vs Lincoln 6pm AP/Accel English Testing Library 5:30pm 17	GBB vs Bear River 4/5:30/7 Wrestling in Sacramento 9am 18
Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Holiday SB @ Boreal 10:00am Ski @ Sugar Bowl 21	Detention 3:00-5:00 Department Mtg. GBB @ Foothill 4/5:30/7 Wrestling @ Foothill 6pm 22	BBB @ Lincoln 4/5:30/7 23	GBB @ Colfax 4/5:30/7 24	BBB vs Foothill 4/5:30/7 FOPHS New sletter Deadline 25
PLC-Min Day SB @ Northstar 10:00am Ski @ Northstar (Tentative) 28	Detention 3:00-5:00 GBB vs Center 4/5:30/7 29	BBB @ Center 4/5:30/7 Wrestling vs Bear Riv/Colfax6pm 30	GBB vs Lincoln 4/5:30/7 31	

Friends of Placer High School is a non profit organization whose primary objective is to promote student welfare in the home, school, and community through the cooperative effort of parents, students, teachers and members of the community. We do this by supporting programs that strengthen communication, provide volunteer support, and through financial assistance that enhances, enriches and supplements district approved activities.

Some of our more significant programs include the Teacher Wish List, Monthly Newsletter, Grad Night, Library Volunteers and Staff Appreciation Day. Our meetings are held the first Wednesday of every month. **Everyone is welcome to attend!** Come see what we are all about and support PHS students on **Wednesday, January 9, 6:30pm. In the Staff Lounge.**

Hope to see you there!

FOPHS Board

Friends of Placer High School

275 Orange St.
Auburn, CA 95603

fophsnp@puhsd.k12.ca.us



FOPHS 2012/2013 Officers

Name	Position
Kim Lightfoot	President
Julie Lardner	Secretary
Emilia Lawson	Treasurer
Patty Tomashefsky	Membership
Sylvia Fisk	Website/Web Newsletter
Janeen Steinheimer	Grad Night Liaison
Shelley Wright	Hospitality
Lisa Voss	Ways and Means (Scrip)
Tyann Elkins	Library Volunteer Coordinator
Peter Efstathiou	Principal