



The Virtual Academy Bulletin

3/31/17

Spring break week is April 10th - April 14th - No School

Course Selections for Next Year:

Course selection sheets are past due. I know several folks have not turned them in as they would like to schedule a meeting to review their choices. If you would like to schedule a meeting with me, please contact the front office as soon as possible. I would like to have all course selection sheets in by 4/6 at the latest. Thank You!

Students interested in enrolling in Folsom Lake College courses through the Early College Program should see me or Mrs. Vargas ASAP to pick up the necessary paperwork. Folsom Lake College posted their summer and fall schedules on 3/27.

BIG ANNOUNCEMENT

We are very excited to announce (with about 90% certainty as we iron out final details) that Folsom Lake College has agreed to offer two college level courses during the school day at the Virtual Academy next year! These courses will be taught by FLC staff on our site during regular school hours. Currently, the courses they plan to offer are Spanish 401 (entry level) and College Success.

This is a HUGE opportunity for our students! This will be the first time ever in El Dorado County that the college will be teaching classes at a high school during the school day. These courses will provide students both weighted high school credit as well as transferrable college credit!

In order for the courses to be offered, we need to enroll 25 students in each class. We are over halfway there but I still have not heard from several students. Please encourage your student to sign up for these courses. Even if they have taken a year or two of Spanish on Middlebury, this course will be a great next step (or even a great first step for a student who has not taken a language course). The College Success class provides students with a wealth of Career and College planning information that will help prepare them for life after high school.

Lastly, Ms. Maginness is working diligently to align two of her courses with FLC so that we can offer college credit as well as high school credit for completion of the junior and senior English courses. Students would have the option to take either high school level English 3 & 4 or college level (for college credit) for both

classes! We will keep you posted as we work to finalize this agreement.

In total, we may be looking at FOUR college courses offered on site at the Virtual Academy next year! As a part of our commitment to our students and families, we will continue to strive to find ways to provide students outstanding opportunities to be truly prepared for their next steps after high school. Thank you for your ongoing support of our program and please encourage your student to take advantage of these incredible opportunities!

I'd also like to take a quick moment to congratulate all of our award recipients and thank our attendees for coming to the 10th annual awards ceremony and Cake Auction. This was a very enjoyable afternoon with absolutely incredible cakes designed by our talented students. Special thanks to Brenda Vargas for all of her hard work in organizing the event!

***All The Best to You and Yours,
Chuck Palmer, Director***

CAASPP (California Assessment of Student Performance and Progress) Testing for 11th graders is scheduled on the following dates:

Math:

April 24 - math (CA) 1st and 2nd block

April 26 - math (PT) 1st block

English:

May 2 - English (CA) 1st and 2nd block

May 4 - English (PT) 1st block

Tenth grade students will be taking the California Standards Test (CST) for Science on May 2 during 1st block.

*April is Public Schools Month
April 27th is School Bus Drivers Day*

Check out our NEW VIRTUAL ACADEMY EARLY COLLEGE PROGRAM!!!

Friends, did you know that our students have the opportunity to complete over a year of college by the time they graduate high school? It's true! As a part of our new **Virtual Academy Early College Program**, Juniors and seniors can take two courses each term at FLC and earn both high school and college credit! Check out these incredible facts about the program:

- Students can complete up to ten college classes by the time they graduate high school. That's approximately a year and a half of college coursework!
- These courses, in most cases (see Mr. Palmer or Mrs. Vargas for help in selecting), are transferable courses meaning that they can be used for college credit at UC's, CSU's or private universities! You don't get this guarantee with AP courses. You do with college courses through our program!
- For a student who attends a UC after graduating high school, this would equal a college savings of approximately \$50,000!!!
- The coursework is generally not more difficult than high school or AP level coursework. In fact, high school students taking FLC courses tend to have higher grades in college classes than college students!
- The courses count for high school credit! One semester course (3 units or more) taken at the college equates to a year of a high school course (10 credits)! On top of that, students receive extra grade weighting (an "A" is worth 5 points, a "B" is worth 4, etc.) on their high school transcript. This can result in huge gains to the student's GPA and looks incredible on a college application.
- For students who plan to attend the community college after graduation, the hardest courses to get into are general education courses. In fact, the average time to complete an AA degree is now almost 3 1/2 years. By taking part in this program, students can have almost all of their college general education requirements done by the time they graduate high school! This means you can earn your AA degree or certificate far quicker than the average student.
- The best part: For students in high school, the courses are FREE! The only cost would be for textbooks!

FLC is currently taking registrations for Spring classes. Deadlines are rapidly approaching. Please contact Mr. Palmer for more information, to see if your student qualifies, or to pick up a registration packet.

FBI Teen Academy

FBI Teen Academy applications for spring are available for students in the 11th grade. Click [here](#) for additional information and for the 2017 application. The academy will be held April 7 at the FBI Sacramento field office headquarters in Roseville. Apply now!

Student Voter Registration - The Student Voter Registration Act of 2003 (Elections Code sections 2145-2148) was implemented to ensure every school in California does all in its power to provide a meaningful opportunity to eligible high school students to register to vote. With the passage of a new law, 16 and 17-year olds can now pre-register to vote and their registration will automatically become active once they turn 18.

<http://www.sos.ca.gov/elections/voting-resources/voting-california/>



Parents Logging into Canvas:

1. Need Help Navigating Canvas: Parents: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=BX-FdMX9Clw>
2. Step by Step Guide Here: <https://community.canvaslms.com/docs/DOC-2020>

College/Career Information

[Link to our College & Career Page](#)

Attention students!!

- Register for the **May SAT by April 7**. Check the Virtual Academy website for future dates and deadlines.
- Register for the **June 10 ACT by May 5**. www.actstudent.org
- PSAT 8/9 and PSAT 10 testing windows are approaching.
- Students attending FLC/El Dorado Center Community College (Summer/Fall 2017) need to start applying February 1st. Application is on the VA Career Center website and in the Career Center. Contact: Sarah Aldea - Outreach Specialist - El Dorado Center.

Check Virtual Academy website (listed under events) for CSUs campus tour dates!

Los Rios Spring 2017 - For Spring classes (check this link: http://www.losrios.edu/lrc/lrc_reg_dates.php). Please view classes to see if they are available based upon your school schedule. Click on class schedules then click on the magnifying glass and search for available classes.

The Common Application process is available now!!

College application due dates are coming up! See Brenda Vargas in the Career Center for assistance.

Scholarships/Academic Contests

Additional scholarships are available on the Virtual Academy website and in the Career Center. Start applying!

[Link to our Scholarship Page](#)

Athletic Information

The Extracurricular Athletic Handbook, for participation in sports at the comprehensive high schools in our district, is available online at www.eduhsd.net. All required forms in this document can be completed online and printed for submission to the Athletic Department at your student's home school. If you have questions, please contact the Athletic Director at your student's home school:

Joe Volek
Athletic Director
El Dorado High School
(530) 622-3634, ext. 1010

Stephen White
Athletic Director
Oak Ridge High School
(916) 933-6980, ext. 3044

Tyson Escobar
Athletic Director
Ponderosa High School
(916) 933-1777, ext. 2295

Jay Aliff
Athletic Director
Union Mine High School
(530) 621-4003, ext. 4125

Staff Contact Information:

If you are having technical issues, please contact:

- Chuck Palmer, Director: cpalmer@eduhsd.net
- Aprille Maginness, Lead Teacher: amaginness@eduhsd.net