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Important Dates

- 12/4 - Tulare Christmas Parade
- 12/9 - Poetry Out Loud
- 12/11 - Winter Choral Concert
- 12/15 - Red & Gold Parent Booster Meeting 5:15pm
- 12/17 - Instrumental Music Department Winter Concert 6pm
- 12/18 - Intra District Transfer Applications Deadline
- 12/19-1/11/26 - Winter Break
- 1/14/26 - PIQE Meetings Begin 8:30 am
- 1/19/26 - Martin Luther King Jr Day - No School
- 1/20-1/23 - Grade Level Honor Roll Luncheon
- 1/21-1/22 - Senior Pictures in the Auditorium
- 1/26/26 - Red & Gold Parent Booster Meeting 5:15pm
- 2/9/26 - Lincoln's Birthday No School
- 2/16/26 - President's Day No School
- 2/23/26 - Red & Gold Parent Booster Meeting 5:15pm

The Counseling Office Celebrates a Busy and Impactful Fall Semester

August: Kicking Off With Grade-Level Assemblies

The year began with a full schedule of grade-level assemblies, where counselors introduced themselves, outlined expectations, and provided students with an overview of the resources available to them. These assemblies set the tone for a year focused on growth, support, and readiness.



September: Senior Support & College Kickoff

September centered on the senior class as counselors met individually with 12th-grade students to review their graduation status, post-secondary plans, and any necessary supports.

The month also featured the annual College Kickoff Assembly, followed by a well-attended College Parent Night. Additionally, the counseling office hosted College Cafés every Wednesday, providing drop-in assistance with college and university applications. Students received guidance on personal statements, FAFSA IDs, application portals, and other key topics—all in a relaxed and supportive environment.

October: COS Sign-Ups, FAFSA Night & School Spirit

In October, seniors received hands-on help signing up for College of the Sequoias (COS) courses directly in their English classes, ensuring every interested student could complete the process with support.

Counselors also held their first FAFSA Night for parents, providing step-by-step guidance on the financial aid application process.

October also marked the close of AP Exam sign-ups, with counselors assisting students in meeting deadlines and verifying course participation.

To celebrate school spirit, the counseling team hosted the beloved BELL Game Tailgate Lunch, where they fired up the grill and served hamburgers to students in preparation for the big game. Throughout the month, counselors met with their junior students for academic planning and college/career guidance.





November: Welcoming Future Tribe members & Continuing Student Support

November showcased Tribe HEART with the Pre-TU Tailgate, giving prospective students a glimpse of campus life and the opportunities available at TU. Counselors and students also represented the school at the Academy Showcase and Academy Parent Night, presenting the school's award-winning academies and helping incoming families explore pathways and programs.

They are now wrapping up meetings with freshmen and sophomores, ensuring that every student is on track, receiving the necessary interventions, and finishing the semester strong.

A Semester of Service and Support

From campus events to one-on-one student meetings, the Counseling Office has demonstrated an unwavering commitment to student success. As the semester comes to a close, the team remains focused on helping students stay informed, prepared, and confident in their academic journey.

With so much already accomplished, the Counseling Office looks forward to continuing its momentum into the spring semester.



FAFSA and Dream Act Applications Due March 2nd.

The FAFSA, or Free Application for Federal Student Aid, is a free form that determines your eligibility for federal, state, and college financial aid, such as grants, loans, and work-study programs. You must complete the form to apply for financial aid and can also use it to see if you qualify for state and institutional aid. States and colleges use the financial information you provide on the form to calculate your aid package, which can include grants, loans, or work-study.

The Dream Act is a California state financial aid application for undocumented and other eligible students to receive state and institutional aid for college, as they cannot apply for federal aid through the FAFSA. It allows eligible students to apply for grants, scholarships, and campus-based aid, and to be eligible for in-state tuition at public universities. Eligibility is based on meeting certain residency requirements in California, such as graduating from a California high school, and the application must be completed annually for each academic year.



For more information, or help, contact the counseling department.

Stay informed with Tribe Talks



Community Schools Coordinator Juan Carrasco and Assistant Principal Shanelle Herrera will be holding monthly morning meetings with parents on campus to build community and relationships.

These meetings will consist of topics of interest to parents that could include guest speakers from outside agencies, meetings with administration and counseling. Our hopes are to bring a sense of welcome and belonging to our parents, to help increase awareness and parent involvement.

Parent Institute of Quality Education (PIQE)

We will be offering our PIQE program again this year running from Wednesday January 14th to March 4th with two classes. Spanish class begins at 8:30am and our evening classes begin at 6pm for both English and Spanish class. This 8 week program will guide parents through how to support their student through their high school years with topics of Social Emotional Learning, A-G requirements, College applications and requirements, FAFSA, etc.

If parents complete at least 6 out of the 8 classes, they get to attend the PIQE graduation, and then be invited to our PIQE Parent Leadership course that will take place in September of 2026.

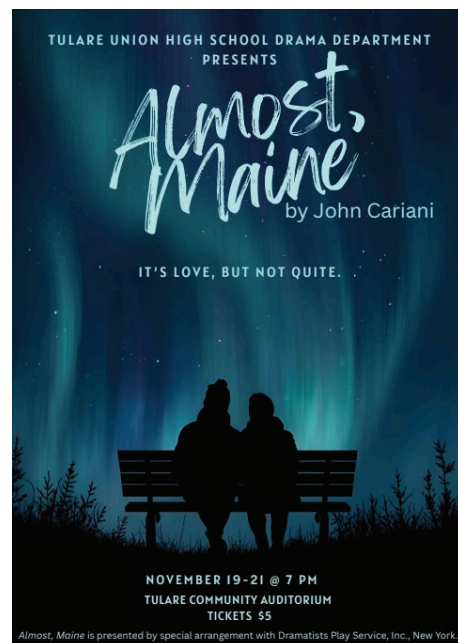
For more information, contact Mrs. Herrera at (559) 656-5366

TUHS Drama Makes Headlines with Almost, Maine



Tulare Union's Production of "Almost, Maine" was featured in the Visalia Times Delta.

Under the direction of Ms. Melany Miller, a TU all star cast tells John Cariani's nine interconnected stories, exploring love, loss and realism as the lives of its quirky, plain-spoken residents intersect, overlap in the fictional town of Almost, Maine.



Tulare Union Students Explore NASA JPL and Caltech

Earlier this month, students from AP Physics, AP Computer Science Principles (CSP), and AP Computer Science A had the incredible opportunity to visit NASA's Jet Propulsion Laboratory (JPL) and the California Institute of Technology (Caltech). This hands-on STEM experience gave our students a rare look into the cutting-edge work happening at some of the world's leading science and engineering institutions.

The day began with a guided tour of NASA JPL, where students explored the on-site museum and learned about the history of planetary exploration. One of the highlights was visiting the clean room, where engineers are currently working on ASTHROS, a major high-altitude balloon observatory mission. Students also stepped inside the iconic Space Flight Operations Facility, home to Mission Control, and even had the chance to sit at the Mission Control consoles during the tour.

Following the NASA tour, they traveled to Caltech for lunch where they were joined by one of our own Tulare Union alumni, Cesar Delgadillo, who is currently studying electrical engineering at Caltech. Cesar not only spent time with our students during lunch but also opened the robotics lab for a private tour. Students were able to see—and in some cases interact with—several exciting student-run engineering projects, including a remote-controlled couch, an underwater submersible, and a Unitree robotic dog similar to the one used in our AP CSP course.

The experience left a strong impression on many of our students. As AP Physics student Gavin Wilson shared:

"I might sound like a nerd for saying this, but I did in fact go to the center of the universe. In all reality it was an amazing experience not only to see such a historical place, but also to watch a group of people continue to strive to make our world a better place."

Overall, this trip was a truly memorable and inspiring opportunity for our students (even with a 4:45 a.m. departure!). Experiences like this open doors, spark curiosity, and allow students to see firsthand what is possible through STEM education. A special thank-you to everyone who contributed to making this trip possible for our students.

To share a bit more about one of the projects they saw, here is NASA's description of the ASTHROS mission:

ASTHROS (short for Astrophysics Stratospheric Telescope for High Spectral Resolution Observations at Submillimeter-wavelengths) is a high-altitude balloon mission for studying astrophysical phenomena. Launching from NASA's Long Duration Balloon Camp near McMurdo Station in Antarctica, ASTHROS aims to fly for 21 to 28 days at an altitude of about 130,000 feet—high enough to observe wavelengths of light blocked by Earth's atmosphere. When fully inflated, the 40-million-cubic-foot helium balloon will span nearly 400 feet, roughly the size of a football stadium. The observatory, including its gondola, solar panels, antenna, scientific instruments, and communication systems, is estimated to weigh around 5,500 pounds.

We are proud of Mr. York and our students and excited to continue providing real-world learning opportunities that deepen their STEM education here at Tulare Union High School.



Calling all Poets: Poetry Competitions

Poetry Out Loud® lifts poetry off the page, creating community and connection. Since the program began in 2005, more than 4.5 million high school students have participated in this dynamic poetry recitation competition. Poetry Out Loud can help students improve public speaking skills, build confidence, and grow their appreciation for poetry. Memorize and recite a poem from poetryoutloud.org for this year's competition.

Poet's Own Voice - Students will submit their own works to the Tulare County Office of Education. After submission, students will recite two of their best poems in front of a panel of judges. The top three students will receive a cash award at the Poetry Live event in February.

Interested? Contact Melany Miller, TU Drama.
melany.miller@tulare.k12.ca.us

Winter Choral Concert: Sounds of the Season

Join us for the annual winter concert, December 11, at 7:00PM in the Tulare Community Auditorium.

Only \$5 for general admission.

Poetry Competitions

CALLING ALL
POETS!

TWO OPTIONS

1 - Poetry Out Loud
Memorize and recite a
poem from the
poetryoutloud.org website
and/or

2 - Poet's Own Voice
Recite your OWN original
poetry



Contact Ms. Miller asap if interested in
either or both competitions.
The TU Competition for Poetry Out Loud
is December 9th during school hours.

Contact Info:
melany.miller@tulare.k12.ca.us
OR
stop by the Drama Room - Rm 530

TULARE JOINT UNION HIGH SCHOOL DISTRICT
PROUDLY PRESENTS...

SOUNDS
OF THE SEASON

A WINTER CHORAL CONCERT

DECEMBER

11

AT 7:00 PM

Tulare Community Auditorium
\$5 General Admission