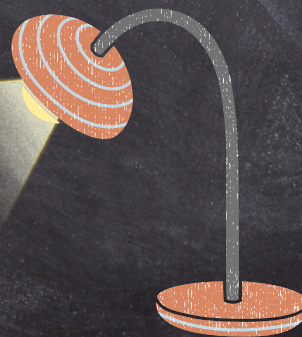


Eldorado Counseling NEWSLETTER



Winter 2023



★ Happy New Year! ★

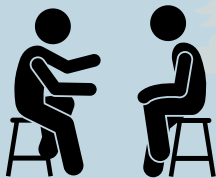
Welcome back, students. We hope you had a restful and healthy vacation.

We're looking forward to a great 2023!

Need to speak with your counselor about academic, personal or social issues? If it's an emergency or crisis, **come to the Counseling office!**

If it's not urgent, you can request to speak to your counselor by emailing them, dropping by to set up a meeting, or [filling out this easy form.](#)

See the [Counseling website](#) if you're not sure who your counselor is!



College Visits

Seniors & juniors: learn about different colleges by meeting with admissions reps right at EHS! Below are 2 upcoming visits, and we're planning many more, including Ft. Lewis College, this semester!

[Sign up here](#)

to receive a reminder & pass.



DID YOU KNOW?

THE ELDORADO COUNSELING WEBSITE...

has helpful info and resources on:

- academic support/tutoring
- colleges, trades & career planning
- scholarships & financial aid
- school & community events
- much more!



Upcoming Holidays

Monday, 1/16: No school: Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Day
Monday, 2/20: No School: Presidents' Day

Follow us!
eldo_counseling



JUNIORS & SOPHS, MARK YOUR CALENDARS!

Don't miss College & Career Info Nights for... JUNIORS: Jan. 24 @ 6 PM and SOPHOMORES: Feb. 2 @ 6 PM! These info sessions are for parents/families and students!

Events are in person in the EHS Lecture Hall and will cover: the college search, admissions & application info; timeline for college & career planning; how to be a strong applicant for college & scholarships; scholarships: in-state and out-of-state; financial aid & FAFSA; career research; alternatives to traditional college: trades, apprenticeships, military; and more!

Questions: velhagen@aps.edu



COURSE SELECTION FOR 9TH, 10TH & 11TH GRADERS!

Current freshmen, sophs & juniors, soon it will be time to select your courses for next year!

- Monday, 1/30: 30-minute Advisory will focus on upcoming course selection events
- Monday, 1/30: Current 9th/rising 10th graders have course selection presentations through Biology
- Wednesday, 2/1: Electives Expo for 9th - 11th grades & 12th Grade Class Meeting - see below
- 2/2 & 2/3: Current 9th/rising 10th graders turn in course selection cards
- Monday, 2/6: Current 10th/rising 11th graders have course selection presentations through World History
- 2/9 & 2/10: Current 10th/rising 11th graders turn in course selection cards
- Monday, 2/13: Current 11th/rising 12th graders have course selection presentations through U.S. History
- 2/16 & 2/17: Current 11th/rising 12th graders turn in course selection cards

Here is the 2023-24 EHS course catalog with next year's class options. Check it out!

Information on Career Enrichment Center (CEC) classes and dual credit classes!

Something to think about: look back over your YouScience career results and put some thought into what fields you might want to pursue, before selecting next year's courses!

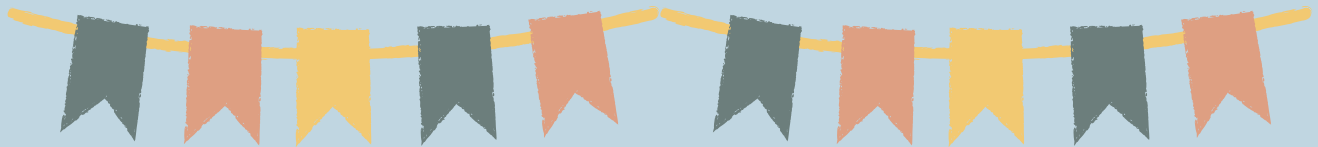


CAREER FAIR: January 31!

On the morning of January 31, sophomores, juniors and seniors will take turns attending a career fair in the gym! We will welcome representatives from a variety of careers and companies – some of whom are awesome Eldorado family members – to share their experiences and expertise with students.

In Advisory leading up to the fair, students will receive information about the careers and jobs represented and the layout of the event, so you can prioritize the tables you want to visit. We will also have a fire truck and ambulance with their crews!

Optional: if you'd like to be in the running for prize drawings, fill out the *Career Fair Prize Passport* you'll receive from your Advisory teacher, and turn it in at the prize table before you leave the fair!



Feb. 1: ELECTIVES EXPO FOR 9TH - 11TH GRADES

On the morning of Feb. 1, freshmen, sophomores & juniors will attend our annual Electives Expo, where they'll have the opportunity to learn about the diverse course offerings at Eldorado. Students will visit several teacher presentations to help them decide what classes to choose. Happy shopping!

Feb. 1: MANDATORY SENIOR MEETING!

While 9th - 11th graders are exploring the Electives Expo, seniors will attend a mandatory class meeting. They will learn about end-of-year requirements and activities, graduation, scholarships and postsecondary planning. We know seniors have lots of questions and we've got answers!

If you missed the last senior meeting, Counseling has copies of the Campus Specialties catalogs where you'll find info on ordering **caps & gowns** as well as optional senior swag like grad announcements, class rings, etc.! To order your cap & gown and other items, contact Campus Specialties directly.



JUST FOR SENIORS!

CLASS OF
2023

WEBSITE: Did you know there's a page on the [EHS Counseling website](#) that's Just for Seniors? Here you'll find info on FAFSA/college financial aid, scholarships, how to send transcripts to colleges through [Parchment](#), and more. Don't miss the many other Counseling website pages re: [college info](#), [career resources](#) and opportunities such as [apprenticeships and training in the trades](#)!

SCHOLARSHIPS: The [Albuquerque Community Foundation](#) is the source of many college scholarships for NM students. Their online application is now open and deadlines are April 6, with some exceptions. Seniors: create an account, then do a brief questionnaire to see which scholarships you might qualify to apply for. The Manuel Lujan Scholarship, worth \$2,000 over 4 years, will be awarded to one EHS student who will attend a NM college or university. The \$800 Bryan Cline Scholarship is also guaranteed to one EHS Varsity Soccer female player and to one male player. There are many other scholarships listed on the [EHS Counseling website](#), and [APS scholarship spreadsheet](#), and you can also sign up for a scholarship search engine (listed on [this page](#)). Lastly, check with the college of your choice to make sure you've been awarded the best possible scholarships you qualify for!

NEW EHS SCHOLARSHIP: The \$1,000 Louis Ducharme Kindness Award will be given to one Eldorado senior each year. This award was established by Louis' family to honor his spirit of kindness. EHS staff will nominate students for this honor and the recipient will be announced @ May 15 Honors Assembly!

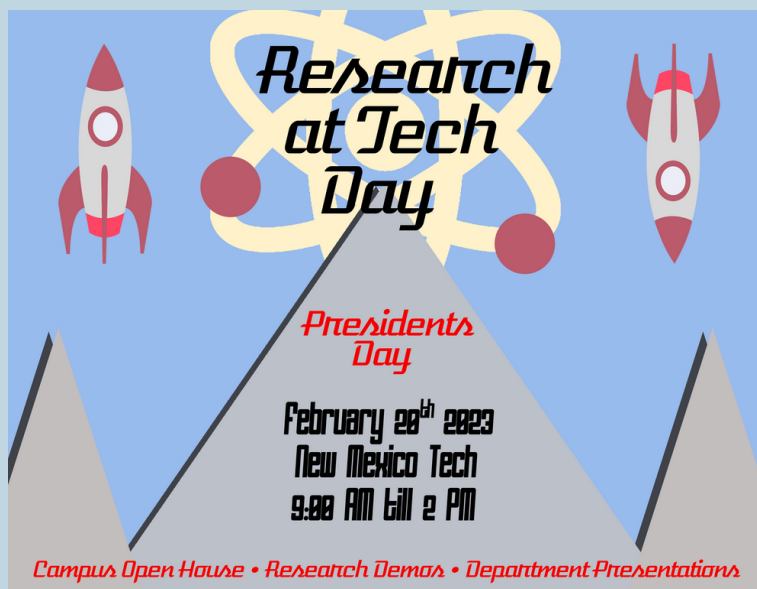
FREE COLLEGE IN NEW MEXICO: If you decide to stay in NM for college -- whether at a 2-year school like CNM or at a traditional 4-year college or university -- you are entitled to the new [Opportunity Scholarship](#). This covers all *tuition and fees* for up to 8 semesters of college, IF you attend school full-time and keep up a 2.5 GPA. You will also qualify for the [Lottery Scholarship](#) starting the *second* semester, which covers "a portion of tuition and fees" (amount decided each year by NM Legislature and communicated by colleges) for up to 7 semesters, IF you attend school full-time and keep up a 2.5 GPA. There is *no application* for the Opportunity or Lottery Scholarships; your NM institution of higher learning will automatically award you the money IF you meet the requirements! Some combination of Opportunity & Lottery funds will make it so that your tuition and fees are covered; this money does NOT go toward room & board (housing and meal plans) or other expenses. That's where any additional scholarships and FAFSA you may qualify for funds kick in. Questions? Contact the financial aid department of the NM college or university of your choice.

FAFSA (Free Application for Federal Student Aid) is an [online application](#) for potential federal government financial aid (read here about possible [grants](#), [loans](#), [work study jobs](#) and [scholarships](#) available through FAFSA). There is free, expert, VIRTUAL FAFSA help available every Monday afternoon from 3 - 6 PM. If you're stuck while trying to fill out the FAFSA and have questions, you can call the FAFSA helpline at 1-800-4-FED-AID or log onto to [FAFSA Money Mondays](#)!

Feb. 1: MANDATORY SENIOR MEETING! On the morning of Feb. 1, seniors will attend a mandatory meeting re: end-of-year requirements and activities, graduation, scholarships and postsecondary planning. To order your cap & gown and other items, contact [Campus Specialties](#) directly.

Contact Ms. Velhagen in Counseling (velhagen@aps.edu) with any college or career questions! It's NOT too late to apply for college, apprenticeships or military, to do FAFSA or apply for scholarships!

FOR ALL GRADES!



Here's an opportunity to visit New Mexico Tech, our outstanding STEM university just an hour south of ABQ!
Sign up here. It's 2/20/23 from 9 - 2.

Did you know?

All colleges welcome students and families for campus tours & info sessions. See their websites to sign up! Maybe a family trip over spring break?



Eastern NM University in Portales is hosting an open house on Feb. 25!
Details and RSVP here.



Eldorado students who have attended this event in the past have rave reviews about it!
Sign up here before it fills up!

SCHOLARSHIP OPPORTUNITIES FOR ALL GRADES!

When we think of scholarships, we often think of seniors, but there are scholarships open to other grades right now!

DUE DATE: Feb. 10, 2023: Optimist Oratorical (Speech) Contest. \$2,500 (if you win at the local level and then at District level). Open to all students younger than age 19 as of Oct. 1, 2022. **Speech topic: "Discovering the Optimism within Me".** To apply: fill out application (can pick up paper copy from Ms. Velhagen), and email or drop off application along with proof that you are under 19 (must be copy of passport or birth certificate) to Ms. Velhagen at: velhagen@aps.edu by **Feb. 10, 2023**. You will present your speech in the EHS Lecture Hall on: date & exact time to be announced (sometime in Feb. or March 2023). Read the detailed instructions on the application form very carefully.
ELDORADO STUDENTS HAVE WON \$2,500!

DUE DATE: Feb. 10, 2023: Optimist Club Essay Contest. \$2,500 (if you win at the local level and then at District level). Open to all students younger than age 19 as of Oct. 1, 2022. Essay topic: **"Who is an Everyday Hero that Brings Out the Optimism in You?"** To apply: fill out application (can pick up paper copy from Ms. Velhagen) and email or drop off application along with essay and proof of age (must be copy of passport or birth certificate) by **Feb. 10, 2023** to Ms. Velhagen at: velhagen@aps.edu. Read the detailed instructions on the application form very carefully.
ELDORADO STUDENTS HAVE WON \$2,500!

DUE DATE: Feb. 15, 2023: Aldo Leopold Writing Contest: \$500. Open to grades 9-12. Write brief essay on topic provided re: global conservation & the environment. <https://www.leopoldwritingprogram.org/writing-contest.html>

DUE DATE: February 23, 2023: Coolidge Scholars: JUNIORS ONLY!! Full-ride scholarship that can be used at any accredited college or university. For juniors with excellent academics who are interested in *public policy*. Application & details on Coolidge Scholars website here.