



EARLY COLLEGE HIGH SCHOOL NEWS

Home of the Phoenix

November 2017

**Office &
Attendance
719-328-2020**

**Registrar
719-328-2025**

**Counseling
719-328-2085**

UPCOMING EVENTS

NOVEMBER

- 11/2/2017 Deadline to register for Dec. 2, SAT
- 11/3/2017 **CANCELLED:** Phoenix Family Friday /
Morning Coffee with the Principal (Parents) 7:30-9:30 a.m.
- 11/3/2017 Deadline to register for Dec. 9, ACT
- 11/4/2017 SAT Test for Registered Students
- 11/6/2017 School Accountability Committee Night
(ALL staff and parents welcome), 4:30-6:00 p.m.
- 11/10/2017 ICAP Friday
- 11/10/2017 Veteran's Day – Recognition in School
- 11/10/2017 Coffee House, 5:00-7:30 p.m., Black Box Theater
- 11/13/2017 Mid-Quarter 2 grades are available online for students
- 11/14/2017 FAFSA Completion Night, 5:00 p.m.-7:00 p.m.
- 11/15/2017 Concurrent Enrollment Form Deadline for Spring
- 11/15/2017 PPCC Graduation Ceremony Application Deadline
Students completing Associates Degree in December.
(Students *MUST* apply in order to participate in the PPCC Graduation Ceremony)
- 11/16/2017 Career Panel / Hospitality and Tourism,
9:30-11:00 a.m., Large Auditorium
- 11/16/2017 Concurrent Enrollment Forms Due, Campus Pathways Schedules Due,
Textbook Order Due.
- 11/20-24/2017 Thanksgiving Break, District 11 Closed
- 11/22/2017 PPCC Open, BUT NO CLASSES
- 11/23/2017 Thanksgiving Day, PPCC Closed
- 11/24-26/2017 PPCC open, BUT NO CLASSES
- 11/27/2017 PPCC Withdrawal Date, Fall Semester (PPCC Campus)
- 11/29/2017 PPCC Withdrawal Date, Fall Semester (ECHS/RJWAC Campus)



VETERANS DAY

Veterans Day is Saturday, November 11 and we would like to take this time to thank the veterans in our school community who served and fought for our freedom. Over the past several years, our schools honor community veterans through the Saluting America program. D11 will celebrate Saluting America this year November 1-10. For more information on this program, click [here](#).



HAPPY THANKSGIVING!



Thanksgiving Break is November 20-24.

Thanksgiving Break is always a great relief and rest for staff and students alike. We all look forward to the days of rest, the time with family and friends, and the special moments that create a day of leisure.

As we take this time of rest, let us all remember to have grateful hearts. Here at Early College and Career Pathways, we are grateful for our hard working students and their supportive parents, our dedicated teaching staff, and our relentless leadership team. Together we make a school that is not just unique but special in every way. Thank you all for your investment in our school and the privilege to RISE together!

Mrs. Umana-Arko, Principal



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PHOENIX OF THE QUARTER

CONGRATULATIONS TO THE ECHS PHOENIX OF THE QUARTER!



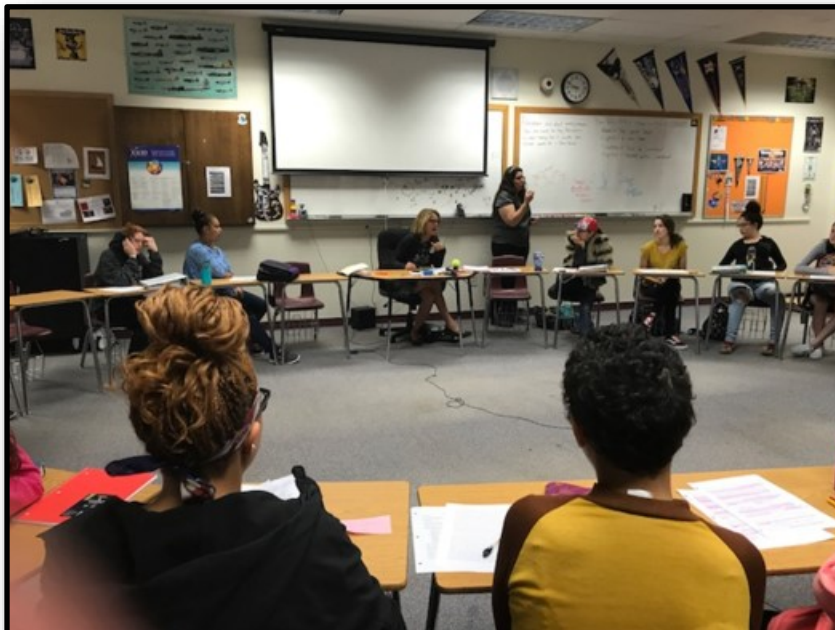
9th Grade: Hana Omari

10th Grade: Sarah Rodgers

11th Grade: Charles Hansen

12th Grade Shelby Hulland (not shown)

CITY COUNCILWOMAN JILL GAEBLER VISITS EARLY COLLEGE HIGH SCHOOL



Jill Gaebler (seated, center) discusses the op-ed process with students.

Mr. Berry's World Geography class recently completed a project comparing two op-eds published in the Colorado Springs Gazette. Once the students submitted their final project, Colorado Springs City Council President Pro-Tem Jill Gaebler (whose district includes the Roy J. Wasson Academic Campus), author of one of the op-eds we studied, participated in a Socratic Seminar with the students. We enjoyed a lively discussion, and the students were able to ask questions about the op-ed process and Colorado Springs governmental issues.

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**contact
(970) 239-1641**

info@tscaschools.com



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UPDATE FOR PHYSICAL EDUCATION CLASSES

Hello Early College Guardians and Parents!

As you know, students are able to earn both high school and college credits in PE classes. For the remainder of the year, we will conduct the college PE courses on the following dates:

Oct 18, 20, 23, 25, 30, Nov 1, 3, 6, 8, 10, 13, 15, 17, 27, 29, Dec 4

If there is no school on one of the listed dates, it is a snow day, or we have a change to the schedule, most likely, we will make up that day. Therefore, it is important that all students attend on these dates in particular to meet the college attendance requirements. Please go to PPCC and check your current attendance! If a student has at least two absent days, the student has only one more day in which to be absent for college PE courses. There are a few students with three absent days already. Being absent on college credit PE days can affect the grade by as much as a grade level if it occurs more than the allowed amount. Please see the online syllabus for details. Thank you for your continued support!!

SPEECH & DEBATE CLUB

Early College High School now has a Speech & Debate club! From various forms of debate to a range of interpretations and speeches, this club will allow you to expand your horizons and add tools to your toolbox. Practice will be held on Mondays & Fridays (with a few Tuesdays) after school from 3:15-4:15 in the Flex room (rm. 192). There are various competitions across the state that we will be attending -- our first potential competition will be November 18th. For a complete list of practices and competitions, please see or email Mr. Alarcon with questions: zachary.alarcon@d11.org

CONCURRENT ENROLLMENT DOCUMENTS DUE NOVEMBER 16

All students must have their completed Concurrent Enrollment Agreements in no later than November 16, 2017. Call Mrs. Mackins with questions or to schedule an appointment with your counselor, at 328-2085.

In addition, Off Campus Students must also submit a printed copy of their Spring Semester Schedule, their Textbook Requirements, and an Off Campus Application to the Counseling Department by November 16.

YEARBOOK

Parents, Students, and Staff Members:

The holiday season is quickly approaching us; have you been thinking about unique gifts to share? Well, we have a unique gift for sharing this season. As you know, your student will be recognized in the yearbook multiple times. How about surprising them with an individual copy of the yearbook. Each book will only cost \$25 for a hardcover, which is entirely in color, designed by students, and professionally printed.

Have you already ordered your yearbook? If not, did you know that your school's yearbook program has received many awards at the state and national levels and is recognized as an award-winning program? Were you also aware that there is a team of 10 students, and two advisers, who produce the yearbook after school and on weekends? Don't let your home be without this fantastic book this year, order your copy today?

Please contact the business office to order your 2018 yearbook today! Mrs. Ladefoged is waiting to take your call: 719-328-2092.

Thank you,

Angela Banfield, CJE, NBCT

Early College High School and Career Pathways

CTE District Liason - Communications

Digital Student Publications Adviser

(719) 328-2059



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ATTENDANCE

Nationally, it is estimated that between 5-7.5 million students are at a high academic risk of failure due to being chronically absent. At Early College High School and Career Pathways, we know that life happens and that some absences are unavoidable, such as illness. However, what is most important, is making sure that your student is at school as often as possible. Here are 4 tips you can use with your student to hold them accountable.

1. Make it clear that good attendance is an important issue for your family. Showing interest in your student's school activities and expressing their desire for them to excel is a great place to start this conversation.
2. Establish a healthy morning routine. Plan the night ahead for the morning and insist that your student set a reasonable bedtime schedule.
3. Express interest in your student's school activities. Check the school's website for the calendar of events and let your student know you would like to attend events like Back to School night, Parent Teacher Conferences or volunteer on field trips.
4. Stay in communication with your student, teacher and attendance office. If your student is struggling with attendance, address the concern and let your student know they must be in attendance. If you notice your student is struggling with school, speak with their teacher to address this barrier to avoidance and improve their performance. Finally, report all absences within 48 hours and provide doctor's note when possible.

Thanks,

Mr. Norman, Dean of Students
Early College High School and Career
Pathways

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Pay Attention to Attendance: Keep Your Child On Track in Middle and High School

Showing up for school has a huge impact on a student's academic success starting in kindergarten and continuing through high school. Even as children grow older and more independent, families play a key role in making sure students get to school safely every day and understand why attendance is so important for success in school and on the job.

DID YOU KNOW?

- Students should miss no more than 9 days of school each year to stay engaged, successful and on track to graduation.
- Absences can be a sign that a student is losing interest in school, struggling with school work, dealing with a bully or facing some other potentially serious difficulty.
- By 6th grade, absenteeism is one of three signs that a student may drop out of high school.
- By 9th grade, regular and high attendance is a better predictor of graduation rates than 8th grade test scores.
- Missing 10 percent, or about 18 days, of the school year can drastically affect a student's academic success.
- Students can be chronically absent even if they only miss a day or two every few weeks.
- Attendance is an important life skill that will help your child graduate from college and keep a job.

WHAT YOU CAN DO

Make school attendance a priority

- Talk about the importance of showing up to school everyday, make that the expectation.
- Help your child maintain daily routines, such as finishing homework and getting a good night's sleep.
- Try not to schedule dental and medical appointments during the school day.
- Don't let your child stay home unless truly sick. Complaints of headaches or stomach aches may be signs of anxiety.

Help your teen stay engaged

- Find out if your child feels engaged by his classes and feels safe from bullies and other threats. Make sure he/she is not missing class because of behavioral issues and school discipline policies. If any of these are problems, work with your school.
- Stay on top of academic progress and seek help from teachers or tutors if necessary. Make sure teachers know how to contact you.
- Stay on top of your child's social contacts. Peer pressure can lead to skipping school, while students without many friends can feel isolated.
- Encourage meaningful afterschool activities, including sports and clubs.

Communicate with the school

- Know the school's attendance policy – incentives and penalties
- Talk to teachers if you notice sudden changes in behavior. These could be tied to something going on at school.
- Check on your child's attendance to be sure absences are not piling up.
- Ask for help from school officials, afterschool programs, other parents or community agencies if you're having trouble getting your child to school.



Help Your School and Community Improve School Attendance:

PUSH FOR BETTER TRACKING OF CHRONIC ABSENCE DATA

Every report card includes a box showing parents just how many absences their children have. But does your school look at absenteeism numbers for the whole student body? And can the principal tell you how many students are missing so much school that it interferes with their academic performance? Keep in mind, too much absenteeism isn't just a problem for the students missing school but can disrupt learning for the whole classroom.

All parents should know this sort of information about their children's school. But many schools and districts don't track or release what's known as chronic absence data – the percent of students missing 10% or 18 days over an entire school year. They look at the average number of students who show up for school, rather than at the number who are missing too much school due to any kind of absence, excused or unexcused. Average figures can mask large numbers of chronically absent, at-risk students.

Parents can make a difference!

WHAT YOU CAN DO

In Your Community

- **Get the data:** Ask your school and district to calculate chronic absence rates and share them with parents, teachers and principals.
- **Identify barriers to attendance:** Work with your school to find out from parents and students what prevents them from getting to school.
- **Make a plan:** Encourage your school to make a plan and partner with community agencies to address identified attendance barriers.
- **Create incentives:** Help your school recognize students and families for good and improved attendance. Assist with award ceremonies and certificates or even reach out to local businesses to contribute incentives like gift cards or food items.
- **Educate parents:** Help all parents in your school understand the importance of attendance and who to call for the health, transportation or social services resources they need.



In Your State

- **Encourage tracking:** State regulations or laws should ensure that more school districts track chronic absence data and report it to the state.
- **Urge better reporting:** Your state education department should release chronic absence data statewide, just like they release test scores for districts and schools.
- **Advocate for accountability:** Your state department of education and districts should hold schools accountable for addressing chronic absence in their school improvement plans.

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2017 / 2018 CAREER SERIES

Exploring Career Paths



September 21st - Cybersecurity
November 16th - Hospitality & Tourism
February 8th - Visual & Design Arts
April 26th - Architecture & Engineering

Career Panel

9:30 - 11:00 AM

RJWAC

Large Auditorium

**Register with your
Counselor!**

The District 11 Career Panel Series is an effective way to help align student career goals with their ICAP. The Career Panels offer insight into different occupations found in the career cluster of focus. Students will have an opportunity to hear from the industry's leading professionals regarding their career.

**ALL D11 HIGH SCHOOL AND MIDDLE SCHOOL
STUDENTS WELCOME!**

SPONSORED BY:

The Career Pathways Program

**Roy J. Wasson Academic Campus
2115 Afton Way
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