



J.C. Farr, Principal



The Squawking Hawk

Tamalpais High Community News

October 2016
Issue 2

Greetings Tam families,

Two weekends ago, I sat in 95 degree weather watching the Tam Football team compete against Marin Catholic. Just one week later, I wore several layers to shield myself from the cold against San Rafael. I now realize the summer heat is behind us, what a difference a week makes. The month of October also brings homecoming, a week of planned activities that promotes school spirit, culminated by the football game and dance on Saturday night. Homecoming week provides students with an opportunity to show their school spirit and participate in dress up days. The remaining dress up days are follows: Wednesday-Western, Thursday-Bay Area sport team, Friday-Tam Gear. I myself wore pajamas on Monday as a way to promote school spirit. Please encourage your student to participate in all of the fun. Homecoming is not only for students, I encourage you all to come out to the football game on Saturday against Redwood High School. I hope to see you all there.

Compass: We are excited to partner with the College of Marin's new COMPASS program. COMPASS is designed to provide underserved students, whose parents did not attend college, the opportunity to take college courses throughout their high school career. In addition to early exposure, and acclimation to college-level classes, the COMPASS framework will strengthen our students' confidence and self-efficacy. Twenty-five freshmen will be selected to participate in the program throughout their tenure in high school. Several COM (College of Marin) courses for COMPASS students will be held on our campus, and students will be encouraged to enroll in classes on COM's Kentfield or Indian Valley Campuses, when appropriate. We will continue to communicate about this opportunity. Contact Assistant Principal, Wendy Stratton, if you have any questions at wstratton@tamdistrict.org.

Restorative Justice: As we enter into the 2016-17 school year, we want to update you on a continued shift in our approach to student discipline. We believe to be engaged citizens we must possess

emotional intelligence. As educators we strive to support our students to develop skills such as empathy and self-reflection, so that they can be responsible members of our community.

Towards this vision, Tam High administration has embedded many Restorative Justice practices into the way we respond to students who have violated a school rule or when there is a conflict between students. Under a Restorative Justice framework, instead of asking what punishment our students deserve, we engage them in a process of self-reflection to determine appropriate actions to repair harm done to self and others. We believe this process allows for the emotional intelligence growth necessary for positive active participation in our school community and beyond.

Last year we invested resources into a student driven initiative to bring Restorative Justice to Tam. We trained 13 students and 5 teachers to facilitate Restorative Circles as well as a Peer Council. Where Restorative Circles can be used for conflict resolution, Peer Council can be used for violation of school rules. While some student actions may compel us to suspend a student from class or school, in most cases we are opting for in-house suspension so that we can build a relationship with the student, and make sure they do not miss out on an opportunity to learn.

As we go forward this year, we are looking to deepen our knowledge about Restorative Practices in and outside of the classroom.

PTSA: Please join me in supporting the Tam HS PTSA this year! Your membership goes directly towards building "Tam-Unity". The PTSA uses its membership dues (annual dues are \$30) to provide parent/teen education programs, staff appreciation events, parent/guardian socials, campus beautification, senior events (such as the amazing Safe & Sober party for grads), weekly communications and much more! But the PTSA needs your help to make all this happen. Help us reach our goal of 400 members...please consider joining at <http://tamhighptsa.org/donate>.

Updates & Information

ATTENTION PARENTS!

Does your child need free tutoring? Stop by Tam PEER TUTORING!

Who we are: Here at Tam, we offer Peer Tutoring, a free resource for all Tam students to come receive extra help on homework and studying. As a community, we can provide academic support through study groups or individual tutoring!

PEER TUTORING
Tuesdays and Thursdays
3:30pm-5:00pm
Tam Library

Your students can drop in for 10 minutes or stay the whole time!
For more information, please contact Rebecca Henn at rhenn@tamdistrict.org.

Tam Drop-Off and Pick-Up

We appreciate your efforts to get our students to Tam safe and on time. Now that our school year is solidly underway, we ask for your cooperation on a few issues related to drop off/ pick up.

Miller Drop off Zone

Last year, in an effort to keep our students safe, we improved our drop-off zone. We respectfully request that you ask your student to wait to exit your vehicle until you are in the designated white zone. While this may take a few more minutes in the morning, we do feel this is the best way to keep our students safe. Additionally, when you are in the left hand lane, please ask your student to walk all the way to the crosswalk to cross. We want to avoid another incident like we had last year.

Miller Parking Lot Drop-Off/Pick-Up

While the Miller Parking Lot is not an official drop-off or pick-up zone, it is clear that it is being used as such. We ask that when dropping off your student, please be mindful of your speed. We have many students who are on foot walking through the lot. In the afternoon, we ask that you do not block the parked cars, nor park in the handicapped spots unless of course that is required for you. We have had several occasions where teachers were unable to exit the lot due to parked cars who were picking up their student.

We thank you for your cooperation!

Tam Site Council

Tam Site Council has **one** opening for a parent representative. Thank you to all the parents who have expressed interest in serving on this Council. The election will be an online ballot. Please be on the lookout for this communication tomorrow.

The Tam Site Council meets once a month on Wednesday's at 3:00pm. The first meeting is scheduled on October 19th. This body meets with administration, teachers, and students to develop and implement the school site plan, and to serve as a forum to discuss school or district issues.

Superintendent's Parent Forum

All Tam High School parents and guardians are invited to a forum to meet TUHSD Superintendent Dr. David Yoshihara on Thursday, October 6, from 6:00 - 7:30 pm in Classroom 2020. This is an opportunity to ask questions, reflect on policies and programs, and share concerns you may have. The forum is an open discussion without any pre-set agenda. This is an opportunity to ask questions, reflect on policies and programs, and share concerns you may have. We hope to see you there!

Tamalpais Union High School District

Invites you to a

Marin City

Parent Engagement Meeting

Thursday, October 6, 2016

6:00pm - 7:30pm

at

The Hannah Gallery

170 Donahue Street
Marin City, CA 94965

Please join us to meet the administrators at your child's school and share your thoughts on how the schools and district can best serve your child.

**For more information, please contact: Tara Taupier,
ttaupier@tamdistrict.org, 415-945-1055.**



Good News

Homecoming Week is full steam ahead!
"The Bay Can Play"

Tam Admin



SPIRIT DAYS

Monday: Pajama Day, Obstacle Course at lunch

Tuesday: Twin Day, Ball Pit/ Jacob's Ladder at lunch

Wednesday: Western Day, Carnival at lunch

Thursday: Bay Area Sports Day, DIY Tie Dye at lunch

Friday: Tam High Spirit Day,



Tam Teachers
Grace Backer
Alyssa Sandner
Caroline Dezendorf



Tam Counseling



Congratulations Tam News!

Congrats to the Tam Newsies for winning a rare Columbia Scholastic Press Association Crown Award as one of the top 15 hybrid web/print magazines in the country. Columbia will announce whether the Newsies have won a Gold or Silver Crown at their national convention in March at Columbia University.

For the full list of winners: <http://cspa.columbia.edu/magazine-2017-crown-finalists-announced>

This is the second consecutive year The Tam News has earned a Crown Award as a top web/print publication! The award is arguably the most prestigious in the country for high school publications.

Thanks to all of you for your support of our student journalists!

CTE's Sense & Sensibility



Thank you to all who participated in the
Campus Beautification Days on
September 10th and 18th.
Thank you for making Tam Shine!



Upcoming Events

Check the tamhigh.org calendar for details

October 3-7: Homecoming Week-The Bay Can Play

October 4: Parent Ed Event: *Staying Connected to your Teen-ager*, 7pm - College of Marin Theater

October 5: **International Walk and Bike to School Day**

October 6: Superintendent Parent Forum, 6pm - 2020 Classroom; **Marin City Parent Engagement Meeting at The Hannah Gallery, 6pm-7:30pm**

October 7: Homecoming Rally - Rally Schedule, Powder Puff Game during lunch

October 8: Homecoming Game 2pm / Homecoming Dance 7:30pm-10:30pm in the Student Center; Parent Ed Event: *Today's Marijuana: What Parents and Teens Need to Know*, 7pm - Redwood HS Small Gym

October 10: Adjusted Schedule, Periods 1-4

October 11: Adjusted Schedule, Periods 5, T, 6, 7; Student Makeup Photo Day

October 12: Staff Development Day, No School; Senior Portrait Day-Ruby Scott Gym, 9am-3pm

October 15: Fall Volunteer Fair; PSAT for Sophmores/Juniors

October 18: TUHSD Board Workshop @ 5pm, Kreps

October 19: Tam Site Council Meeting, 3pm - Counseling Conference Room

October 21: CTE Presents "Live! From the Student Center"; **PTSA Tam Parent Coffee - Where Parents Talk at The Hivery, downtown Mill Valley, 8am-9am**

October 24-28: CTE Presents "Beowulf"-Caldwell Theater, 7pm

October 26: Freshmen Advisory for students during Tutorial

November 2: PTSA Parent Ed Event: *My Digital TAT2, Social Media in High School*, 7pm - Student Center

November 4: End of R2

November 5: CTE Dance-A-Thon, 12pm-10pm

November 7: Winter Sports Begin

November 16: Tam Site Council Meeting, 3pm - Counseling Conference Room

International Walk and Bike To School Day 20th Anniversary!

Wednesday, October 5, 2016

20% of Tam HS students walk or bike to school. 59% drive in single family vehicles (not a carpool). We're striving to decrease our vehicle congestion and increase the safety of our streets by promoting active transportation on, Oct. 5th, International Walk to School Day. This Wednesday, please encourage your student to walk, bike, or skateboard to school - participating students will receive a donated Patagonia Bar by the bike rack in front of Tam, but most importantly, will join our community effort to reduce traffic and pollution around our schools. If you or your student must drive on October 5th, please allow extra time to drive slowly and be on the lookout for an increased number of younger students commuting by foot or bike.

Please read this inspiring Marin Voice article about SAFE ROUTES TO SCHOOLS which is bringing driving safety education and encouragement programs for traffic reduction to Tam HS students.

(**Marin Voice Article:** <http://www.marinij.com/opinion/20160926/marin-voice-safe-routes-to-schools-can-help-you-out-of-the-jam>)

Tam High Homecoming

October 8, 2016

Homecoming Football Game

Tam vs. Redwood @ 2:00pm - Bruce Grant Field

Varsity Game General Admission: \$7.00

(If you are a boosters member we will have a boosters "fast pass" line available for quick access into the facility. Please arrive early and park in a legal parking spot to prevent tickets or tow.)

Homecoming Dance

Tam Student Center

7:30pm - 10:30pm

Save the Date!

PTSA
Tam Coffee Mornings -
Where Parents Talk

Friday, October 21, 8am-9:30am

The Hivery
Downtown Mill Valley

Tam Tidbits

Wellness Update

Last spring the Tam Wellness Design Team made a staffing request for a coordinator to create, organize and role out supplemental educational opportunities as well as to help coordinate services for our students. The Board of Trustees granted this staffing request for a coordinator to join the Tam team as soon as January of this school year.

Tam Administration has been meeting with the counseling department this year with the goal of preparing an implementation plan for the new coordinator to begin work upon their arrival. This plan will be specific to Tam's needs and challenges. The plan will go back to the design team to gather feedback and ultimately will land on an agreed upon plan between all stakeholders. This agreed upon plan, that will address Tam's specific needs and challenges, will then go to the entire staff for final consensus.

Please watch for more updates on this exciting project as we explore what Wellness, at Tam, will look like as this plan comes together.

A MESSAGE FROM ATHLETICS

Quick access to team schedules and upcoming post-season play can be found here: <http://www.tamdistrict.org/domain/464>. All post-season games require paid admittance. MCAL post season prices are \$7 adults and \$4 students/seniors. NCS post season prices are \$10 adults and \$5 students/seniors.

A reminder that the R1 grading period ended Friday Sep 23rd. Athletic grade checks are always unweighted gpa's. Should a student receive a "NM" "NC" or "INC" it will count as a zero/F for athletic eligibility purposes. If you think you are below a 2.0 gpa please schedule a time to meet with the Athletic Director.

The R2 grading period will end November 4th. The R2 unweighted grades will determine if you are to be named an NCS Scholar Athlete. More information on FAQ's can be found here: <http://www.tamdistrict.org/domain/458>.

WINTER SPORTS BEGIN: Monday, November 7th. Students must be registered and cleared through www.registermyathlete.com. Check your registration status online now before the winter rush! Try-outs for all winter teams will be posted here shortly: <http://www.tamdistrict.org/domain/465>.

Tamalpais High School Information

Attendance Hotline: (415) 380-3592
Counseling Department: (415) 380-3537
Assistant Principals: (415) 380-3512

Tamalpais High Website:
www.tamhigh.org

How to Get Involved

Tam High Foundation
Tam High PTSA
Athletic Boosters
PATH (Fine Arts)
THUMB (Music Boosters)
BTI (Be The Influence)

Go Hawks!!!

