

South Tech Academy

School Counseling Newsletter

Weekly Update January 29, 2021

Second Semester Begins Tuesday, February 2nd

Many students will continue to learn from home during the second semester. If you made the choice for your child to return to campus for in-person learning on February 2, we want to ensure that safety for all remains our priority.

Prior to Tuesday, all students should access their schedules on SIS. On campus students should either print their schedule, write it down on paper, or take a screenshot of it for reference. Students learning remotely should also access their schedule on SIS to identify any class changes. If you see an issue with your schedule, please email your counselor.

To see your 2nd semester courses: Go to your SIS Gateway on your district portal, Click on CLASS SCHEDULE on the left side of the screen, Click on SEMESTER 2 in the middle of the screen. If you have a change in your schedule for semester 2, your new teacher will be inviting you to join their Google Classroom. Please check your student email for the invitation.

Upcoming Virtual College Fairs

Check out these organizations that are offering virtual college fairs this spring.

- NACAC Fairs has a [number of events](#) scheduled throughout the spring.
- SACAC is offering a [virtual fair](#) on February 11th. In the days prior to the fair, students can also take advantage of the Virtual Mini Camp that will cover topics such as the college search process, types of colleges, and how to determine the “right fit”.



UCF's SPARK Form Mid-Year Update

Once midyear grades are available, seniors who have applied to UCF will need to update their SPARK Form. To assist in submitting these grades, SPARK Forms have been unlocked through Friday, February 5, 2021. Applicants should [log into their SPARK Form](#) account with a copy of the most current high school transcript handy. From there, proceed to check the accuracy of your previously-submitted courses. If your schedule changed since you initially submitted your SPARK Form, make the appropriate update. Indicate your grades for courses where semester grades have been issued. If your school ranks, and the rank/size has changed or was not initially provided, please update that information on the school information tab. [A list of FAQs](#) is available to assist you in this process. If you have questions regarding this mid-year update, please contact ucfsparkhelp@ucf.edu.



FSU's CARE Application Deadline Extended

The Florida State University [Center for Academic Retention and Enhancement \(CARE\)](#) provides preparation, orientation, and academic support for students who are among the first in their family to attend college and may face unique challenges in college because of educational or economic circumstances. They have decided to extend their CARE Summer Bridge Program application deadline to March 1. Interested students can apply to CARE now at care.fsu.edu/apply. If you have already submitted your FSU application and now want to apply to CARE, please contact their office so they can add the CARE supplemental application to your Application Status Check.



Palm Beach State College

Palm Beach State College is excited to provide you with various opportunities to engage students through the admissions process. We have multiple events that students are welcomed to take advantage of, virtually, now through May.

- **SENIOR Night** - An event focused on supporting high school seniors as they begin the transition process to college. We discuss PBSC programs and the opportunity to complete the admissions application on the spot. After each session, students will have a chance to win a **\$500 scholarship** to help with tuition and books at PBSC.

Students can register here:

<https://palmbeachstate.campuslabs.com/engage/events?query=senior%20night>

- **Parent Night** - PBSC created a workshop for parents of dual enrollment and incoming freshmen to understand the process of admissions and answering any questions that parents have along with information on financial aid and more.

Parents can register here:

<https://palmbeachstate.campuslabs.com/engage/events?query=parent%20night>

- **Dual Enrollment** - The Dual Enrollment Office will host monthly virtual sessions for students and parents that are in the dual enrollment or early admissions program. The presentation will include an overview of the program requirements and deadlines for the upcoming term. The event will count as the student's dual enrollment orientation if attended.

Students can register here:

<https://palmbeachstate.campuslabs.com/engage/events?query=Dual%20enrollment>

- **Admissions & Application Session** -

Students can register here:

<https://palmbeachstate.campuslabs.com/engage/events?query=admissions>

Big Future Days

College Board is hosting virtual events for high school students to connect directly with college admissions representatives and take action on the most important steps for college. Students will be able to explore colleges, participate in live Q&As and online chats with admissions representatives and current students, download college planning resources, and drop in with questions for a college adviser. You can register for any event and more than one. You can attend all or parts of the event. Click the events below to learn more about the colleges and states included in that region.

[BigFuture Days West](#): Southwest: Saturday, February 6, 4:00-8:00 PM

[BigFuture Days Southeast](#): Tuesday, February 23, 5:00-9:00 PM

[BigFuture Days Northeast](#): Sunday, March 7, 4:00-8:00 PM

[BigFuture Days Midwest](#): Thursday, March 11, 5:00-9:00 PM



TGR FOUNDATION
A TIGER WOODS CHARITY



Scholarship Workshop

TGR Foundation is hosting a Scholarship Workshop. This session will support high school students in dedicating time to learning about and applying to scholarships. On February 2, TGR Foundation staff and college mentors will hold both morning and afternoon virtual drop-in sessions to answer any questions or advise students on navigating their scholarship process. This is a student-centered event and is open to 9th through 12th grade students only. Reserve your spot by Sunday, January 31 via [Eventbrite](#). Email ewsp@tgrfoundation.org if you have any questions.

FAFSA and College Application/Information Assistance

JUNIORS (hosted by Cindy)

When: Feb 9, 2021 04:00 PM

Register in advance for this meeting:

<https://palmbeachstate.zoom.us/j/98481234567>

After registering, you will receive a confirmation email containing information about joining the meeting.

Future dates:

Feb.9, Feb.23

SENIORS (hosted by Lucil)

When: Feb 11, 2021 4:00 PM

Register in advance for this meeting:

<https://palmbeachstate.zoom.us/j/98481234567>

After registering, you will receive a confirmation email containing information about joining the *meeting*.

Future dates:

Feb. 11, Feb. 25

Boynton Beach Woman's Club Scholarship

The Boynton Woman's Club will be awarding scholarships to senior high school students who are full time residents living in Boynton Beach. The following are the eligibility requirements:

- *Public high school seniors residing in the following zip codes: 33426, 33435, 33436, 33437, 33467, 33472, and 33473.
- *Students (male or female) must have a grade point average ranked with the upper 25% of the graduating class
- *Volunteer community service hours
- *Demonstrate financial need
- * Plans to attend a Florida college or university
- *Two letters of recommendation from any of the following representatives: school counselor, current or former teacher, community service partner.

Scholarship application can be found on the school counseling google classroom. The deadline is February 8, 2021.

Common Application Midyear Reports

Seniors, if you applied to colleges or universities through The Common Application, please be aware that your school counselor will submit any required midyear reports and transcripts with first semester grades to The Common Application as soon as possible when these grades become available on SIS after the first semester ends on January 29th. We have already notified colleges within our School Profile on The Common Application that the start of our school year was delayed due to Covid, and that our first semester ends on January 29th with midyear grades available sometime after February 1, 2021.

Common Black College Application (CBCA)

The [Common Black College Application](#) (CBCA) allows students to apply to any or all of their 60 Historically Black Member Institutions at the same time for only \$20. A few of the well-known HBCUs included are Fisk University of Tennessee, Morgan State University of Maryland, Norfolk State University of Virginia, Tuskegee University of Alabama and Voorhees College of South Carolina, and three are located in Florida (Bethune-Cookman University, Daytona Beach; Edward Waters College, Jacksonville; and Florida Memorial University, Miami Gardens.) For more information and to begin your application, please visit <https://commonblackcollegeapp.com/>.



South Tech Academy Scholarship Bulletin #11

The most recent [South Tech Academy Scholarship Bulletin](#) is now available. This is a great way to find opportunities to fund your college education!

COMMUNITY SERVICE OPPORTUNITIES

Palm Beach County Criminal Justice Commission

The 42nd Citizen's Criminal Justice Academy are looking for people over the age of 14 to join their virtual sessions which will be held on twelve consecutive Mondays from 6:00-9:00 pm starting on Monday February 1 through April 12, 2021.

Students can earn up to 33 hours of community service. Click on the [link to register](#).



Volunteers Needed

Palm Beach North Chamber of Commerce ArtiGras Fine Arts Festival 2021 . [It all starts here!](#)



Virtual Community Service Opportunities



VolunteerMatch

Search for virtual Community Service opportunities here:

<https://www.volunteermatch.org/virtual-volunteering> - Be sure to submit the Community Service hours log to your School Counselor or Ms. FanFan, and keep a copy for your records.

Community Service Opportunity: Logo Design Challenge

The [Girls Coordinating Council of Palm Beach County](#) is hosting a logo design challenge open to all PBC residents, ages Birth to 22, who identify as female. The GCC of PBC encourages collaboration in the community to support girls and provide opportunities for girls to succeed. Girls who submit a logo design will earn ten hours of community service. The selected designer will continue to collaborate with the GCC on the final design, earn 20 hours of community service and \$50 in gift cards. Submissions are due on February 5, 2021. For more information or to submit your design, email hcaroten@pbcgov.org.

UPCOMING EVENTS:

February 1 - No School for students
February 2 = Second semester starts
February 4 - PBSC application assistance
February 6 - ACT Test
February 12 - SAT Registration Deadline
February 19 - Herff Jones on campus
March 12 - Herff Jones on campus
March 13 - SAT Test
March 15-22 Spring Break
April 17 - ACT Test
May 8 - SAT Test
June 5 = SAT Test
June 11 - Senior Check Out
June 12 - ACT Test
June 16 - Graduation @8:00pm
June 16-18 - Final Exams

Mental Health Tip

[Staying Hopeful During COVID](#)

Featured Article

[Linking College Majors to Careers](#)

Featured Career

Accountant or Auditor

Quick Facts

2019 Median Pay:\$71,550 per year or \$34.40
per hour
Typical Entry-Level Education: Bachelor's
degree Work Experience in a Related
Occupation: None On-the-job Training: None

Meet your School Counselors!



Your School Counselor is Available to Help

Your school counselor is here to help! We are available by email to answer any questions or concerns you have. Feel free to reach out to us at any time! We also have a ton of information posted on our School Counseling Google Classroom.

School Counselors (by student's last name)

[Christina Merrigan:](#) A - E 561-364-7933

[Jennifer Franco:](#) F - M 561-369-7008

[Brian Nugent:](#) N - Z 561-369-7055

Featured Post-Secondary Institution

New College of Florida

Sarasota, FL

[ncf.edu](#)

Average GPA: 4.00

Average ACT Composite: 29

Average SAT Reading & Math: 1279

**Notable Programs: Liberal Arts and
Sciences; General Studies and
Humanities; Biological and Physical
Sciences; Foreign Languages and
Literatures; Environmental Studies;
International/Global Studies.**