



# Tocoi Creek School Counseling Newsletter October 2021

## New School, New Friends!

### What's my counselor doing for me?

We visited our **Freshman** English classes for a longer classroom lesson where we focused on goal setting. We also taught students how to calculate their GPA, their graduation requirements, and more! See your student's schoology page or the TCHS School Counseling website to view the PowerPoint that we shared with the students.

**Next Up:** We will be meeting with **Sophomores** during the first full week in October. We will be discussing the upcoming PSAT, graduation requirements, and leading students through discovering their interests and passions to help guide their post secondary planning. We will also be meeting with **Juniors** individually at the end of the month to discuss where they stand academically, where their interests are, and start planning their postsecondary futures.

#### Counselor Breakfast Club:

The counselor breakfast club will be held once a month before school in the Hub. The club will rotate themes and activities for students to engage with.

**Students planning to attend October's Breakfast Club should sign up here:**

<https://forms.office.com/r/yXRHKKZajS>

#### Upcoming Topics:

**October:** Building Friendships & Socializing

**November:** Future Toro Day

**December:** Community Service

**January:** Financial Aid

**February:** Showing off career & technical ed

**March:** What's your legacy?

**April:** Destress before you test!

**May:** Healthy Mental Health Habits



**JUNIORS!**

**REGISTRATION DEADLINE FOR THE NEXT SAT IS OCT. 8 & ACT IS NOV. 5!**



**Test Date: October 13, 2021**

All 10<sup>th</sup> graders are automatically registered to take the test. 9<sup>th</sup> and 11<sup>th</sup> graders needed to pre-register and the deadline for that was September 12<sup>th</sup>.

Get more information about the PSAT (including practice tests) here: <https://parents.collegeboard.org/college-board-programs/psat-10>

#### School Counseling Team:

D'Erica Gibbs: Last Names A-L & Collegiate High School

D'Erica.Gibbs@stjohns.k12.fl.us

Linda M. Smith: Last Names M-Z

Linda.M.Smith@stjohns.k12.fl.us

Chassity Johnson: Registrar

Chassity.Johnson@stjohns.k12.fl.us

Marvin Jenkins: Computer Operator

Marvin.Jenkins@stjohns.k12.fl.us

Kimberly Doyle: Secretary

Kimberly.Doyle@stjohns.k12.fl.us

#### Upcoming Dates:

**Oct. 5 & 7:** 10th Grade Classroom Visits

**Oct. 13:** PSAT Test Day

**Oct. 15:** Last day of the 1<sup>st</sup> Quarter

**Oct. 18:** Planning Day: No School!

**Oct. 21:** Counselor Breakfast Bunch

**Oct. 25-29:** Meet with Juniors

individually

**Oct. 26:** 1<sup>st</sup> Quarter Report Cards go home.

#### Appointment Links:

D'Erica Gibbs:

<https://calendly.com/derica-gibbs-1>

Linda Smith:

<https://calendly.com/lindasmith>



## School Counseling Curriculum

### FRESHMAN:

- Know graduation requirements.
- Understand GPA
- Keys to Success (tutoring, study skills, etc)
- Community Service
- Goal Setting

### SOPHOMORES:

- Review graduation requirements
- PSAT
- Extracurricular suggestions
- Dual enrollment
- Explore college & career options

### JUNIORS

- Review graduation requirements
- Create post secondary plan including: SAT/ACT/ASVAB, NCAA registration, Financial Aid, College search, & next steps document.



First Day

Freshman & Sophomore

Junior

Senior



Graduation

The right time to take the test:

- Junior year is the best time for most students
- SAT or ACT is given almost every month
- Many students take the SAT / ACT more than once
- College apps are due fall / winter of senior year

## 21-22 ACT/SAT Test Dates

### SAT/ACT, PSAT?

#### Which test to take? When do I take it?

- All **Sophomores** are registered for the **PSAT** automatically. **Freshman** and **Juniors** may consider taking it for additional practice. **Juniors** are also encouraged to take the PSAT for National Merit Consideration. [National Merit Homepage](#)
- **Juniors** should take BOTH the **SAT & ACT** in the **late Fall or Winter** seasons. Once students know their "preferred" test, we encourage them to continue testing until they reach their desired score. **The goal is to have a "college application ready" score by the beginning of senior year.**
- Students interested in participating in **Dual Enrollment** may consider testing early. Students wanting to participate in DE as Juniors will need a qualifying test score in the early spring of Sophomore year.



### Community Service Updates!

**Community Service guidelines have changed as of 8/16/21!** Students and parents can review the new requirements and paperwork here: <https://www-tchs.stjohns.k12.fl.us/guidance/home/community-service/>

Students can complete community service hours starting the summer between 8<sup>th</sup> and 9<sup>th</sup> grade through graduation day.

Students can view the number of community service hours on file in HAC.

We are SO EXCITED to be your school counselors!

### ACT

Test Date	Registration Deadline
September 11, 2021	August 6
October 23, 2021	September 17
December 11, 2021	November 5
February 12, 2022	January 7
April 2, 2022	February 25
June 11, 2022	May 6
July 16, 2022	June 17

### SAT

Test Date	Registration Deadline
August 28, 2021	July 30
October 2, 2021	September 3
November 6, 2021	October 8
December 4, 2021	November 4
March 12, 2022	February 11
May 7, 2022	April 8
June 4, 2022	May 5

### FREE TEST PREP RESOURCES:

Deciding what test prep to use can often be overwhelming for students and parents. We encourage students to utilize FREE test prep for their initial study session. After they have taken their initial ACT & SAT, they can determine how much their score needs to improve. This can inform them of just how much they want to invest in paid test prep. Below we outlined some FREE test prep options that we have vetted and recommend.

ACT Websites: [ACT Test Prep](#)  
[Printable ACT Full Length Practice Tests](#)  
 ACT Phone App: [ACT Prep App](#)

SAT: [College Board Test Prep](#) (Khan Academy!)

Both: [SAT/ACT Practice Tests](#)  
[March 2 Success Courses](#)

*Our TCHS School Counseling Page is up and running! Come check it out for a TON of resources including SAT/ACT test prep and more!*



Toci Creek  
School Counseling