



# Tocoi Creek School Counseling Newsletter September 2021

## The Beginning is Everything!

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

School Counselors just finished visiting all 60 Toro English classes to introduce ourselves to all of our students. **Every student was given a grade specific checklist of school counseling tasks that we will be working together to accomplish this year.** We encouraged students to share those lists with their parents, but if they didn't, the lists are available for downloading in schoology. We also have additional copies available in the school counseling office.

**Next Up:** We will be visiting our Freshman English classes for a longer classroom lesson where we will be focusing on goal setting. We will also teach students how to calculate their GPA, their graduation requirements, and more!

### Introducing the 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 September's Breakfast Club should sign up here:**  
<https://forms.office.com/r/yXRHKKZajS>

#### Upcoming Topics:

- September:** Organization
- 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



**PLANNING TO TAKE AN AP CLASS ON FLVS?**

**THE DEADLINE TO REGISTER FOR A YEAR LONG COURSE IS SEPTEMBER 29!**



**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 need to register here: [TCHS PSAT Information.pdf](#)

**Deadline: September 12, 2021**

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:

**Sept. 14:** Interims Posted on HAC

**Sept. 14 - 16:** 9<sup>th</sup> Grade Classroom Visits

**Sept. 23:** Breakfast Club: Organization

**Sept 29:** Last day to register for yearlong FLVS AP courses.

#### Appointment Links:

D'Erica Gibbs:

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

Linda Smith:

<https://calendly.com/lindamsmith>



# Your Toro Journey Starts Here:

## 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

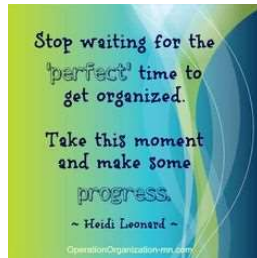
### JUNIORS

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

### ORGANIZATION ISN'T ABOUT PERFECTION.

**IT'S ABOUT EFFICIENCY, REDUCING STRESS & CLUTTER, SAVING TIME & MONEY, & IMPROVING YOUR OVERALL QUALITY OF LIFE.**

-Christina Scalise



## Organization Strategies:

- **Write everything down!** Don't expect yourself to remember everything that you have to do. Whether you are using a phone app, planner, or notebooks- have a consistent way of keeping track of your to-do list.
- **Use tools to stay organized:** Use a multi-pocketed backpack, pencil pouch, folders, and notebooks to keep like things together and different things separate. Keep papers for the same class together and have different folders for each course.
- **Color code and label everything:** This will give you visual cues of your system and help you remember where everything goes.
- **Break big tasks into smaller ones:** This will help the tasks seem less overwhelming and if you assign deadlines to the smaller tasks, then the deadline will be manageable.
- **Establish a nighttime routine:** Set aside time each night to make sure you are ready for the next day. You can lay out your clothes, confirm that homework is completed and in your backpack, etc.

## 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.

## INTRODUCING THE SCHOOL COUNSELING TORO GUIDE!

The Toro Guide was put together to walk a student through their complete high school experience. It is made for the parents that say "I'm just not sure where to start or what to do" to help their student find their "best path." We encourage parents and students to download the Toro Guide and review it together throughout a student's high school career. The Toro Guide can be found on the TCHS School Counseling Schoology page under "Resources" and "High School Information"



TCHS School Counseling   
Toci Creek High School



*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!*

We are SO EXCITED to be your school counselors!