



## INCORPORATING TECHNOLOGY IN SPECIAL ED PROGRAM

By Denise Christensen, on behalf of the Special Education Department

The Moderate/Severe Program is excited to share the fact they are incorporating technology to engage all levels of learners within the program. **Nearpod**, **Pear Deck** and **Kahoot** are only a few of the applications that not only engage the students, but actually document their participation and create a record for assessing student understanding. THS Digital Learning Coach, **Roland Jones**, has been instrumental in making these applications known to **Denise Christensen**, and continues to share his knowledge of technology with her. She, in turn, shares what works for her students with the other teachers in the Special Education Department. Everyone wins!



## T-TECH AT INNOVATION AWARDS DINNER

By Ed Hernandez, T-Tech Academy of Technology and Engineering Director

T-Tech seniors, **Brandon Rossano** and **Eric Baker**, were selected as finalists in the Orange County Innovation in Education Awards, winning \$500 in scholarship money in the process. Brandon and Eric were recognized last Thursday night at the annual awards ceremony held at the Westin Hotel in Costa Mesa for their work in "**Project Skywalker**", the prosthetic limb-build for Orchard Hills School student, **Nick Caiozzo**. The awards are part of the larger Orange County Tech Alliance Awards. It was genuinely gratifying to see these young men recognized at the same event as some of Orange County's top technology entrepreneurs. Go Tillers!



## TUSTIN HIGH KEY CLUB

By Kimberly Aguilar, Class of 2019, THS Journalism

Key Club is back this year with more opportunities to volunteer and learn leadership skills through countless fun events. This year, meetings are every Wednesday at lunch, in Mrs. Tran's Room 416, and run by the club's new student-led board consisting of President, Timothy Nguyen (pictured, left), Co-Vice Presidents, Sacheen Premaratne and Ethan Dykman, Secretary, Eric Baker, Treasurer, Lily Andoh Kesson, and Technology/News Coordinator, Umer Irshad. The Key Club and their members are always involved in the latest community events, such as the Movie Night Social at Marina High School in September. This movie night is the perfect way to get to know fellow club members and new people over a movie and snacks. Then, on October 8th, the Operation RTC (Region Training Conference) at Rancho Alamitos High School is in full-swing. Attending this event is especially important for anyone who would like to be a board member of Key Club next year, and, better yet, it also counts for six hours of community service. The third, and arguably most fun, Key Club event, known as the Fall Rally, will take place at Six Flags Magic Mountain on November 12th, from 8 a.m. to 7 p.m. It is worth noting that the requirements for attending this thrilling event is to be a Key Club International member, and to have at least eight hours of community service with THS Key Club. For more information on THS Key Club, visit [tustinkeyclub.weebly.com](http://tustinkeyclub.weebly.com). To be reminded of meetings and events, text Remind to 81010 "@thskey".

## ATHLETES OF THE WEEK, ANAKA MAHESH AND NILO (ANTUNEZ) HOOPER

By Melissa Trout, Girls' Athletic Director

Although Varsity Tennis player, **Anaka Mahesh**, had a slow start at the beginning of the season, the freshman has made steady progress since League competition began. Anaka went 3-0 in her matchups against Western and Valencia last week, which helped the Tillers earn their first League competition in a few years. Her overall record is 11-4. In addition to being a promising tennis player, Anaka juggles a rigorous, academic load and is heavily involved in Tustin's Model UN Program.



By Tom Giebe, Boys' Athletic Director

During the Empire League Cluster Meet last week, Freshman **Nilo (Antunez) Hooper** ran an outstanding race on the hilly course at Craig Regional Park. He helped the Varsity Team by scoring as the 4th man (top 5 on team score), running a time of 17 minutes 56 seconds. He will become the first Freshman at Tustin High School to letter in Cross-Country in approximately ten years. Nilo and his Cross-Country teammates will be competing in the Orange County Championships this weekend. Nilo also plays tenor saxophone in the Tiller Marching Band.



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For more Tiller News from our students' perspective, please visit [iTHSmedia.com](http://iTHSmedia.com), for our student-produced on-line magazine and videos.

Information regarding [Student Fees/Cuotas al Estudiante](#)

# COUNSELORS' CHAT

## (Current Happenings At Tustin)

A weekly newsletter brought to you by your THS Counselors.



TILLER NEWS

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OCTOBER 14, 2016

Welcome to the 2016-2017 school year! It's a big year with changes in the FAFSA filing period using prior-prior year, University of California personal insight questions, and an addition of a new application platform for some private universities. The Tustin Counselor Team will help your students navigate through this school year and get informed about college/ career pathways. If you are not sure who your counselor is, **please refer to our website**. The purpose of this newsletter is to provide current communication regarding resources, initiatives, events, and workshops available for all Tillers.

### **TUSD ANNOUNCES EARLY START FOR 2017-2018 SCHOOL YEAR**

Tillers, be sure to make next summer's vacation plans accordingly, as TUSD announces an EARLY START for the 2017-2018 school year!

#### **COLLEGE VISITS - OPEN TO ALL GRADE LEVELS**

Students should sign up on [Naviance](#) if they plan on attending any of these visits, and also to view our entire calendar of ALL college visitations scheduled for this school year.

COLLEGE/UNIVERSITY	REPRESENTATIVE	DATE	TIME
U.C. Berkeley	Ebelio Mondragon	Tue 10/18	1PM
Johns Hopkins University	Celeste Hamre	Wed 10/19	2:30PM
Illinois Wesleyan University	Melissa Ramirez	Thu 10/20	1:10PM
University of Redlands	Ashley Morris	Thu 10/20	2:35PM

#### **SENIORS - CLASS OF 2017**

**College and Career Readiness (CCR):** This week's CCR contained important reminders and information regarding the Digital Scholastic Aptitude Test (SAT). Students were also given comprehensive information regarding filing an application for financial aid. All students were asked to provide feedback on the CCR via a survey that was sent to their myTUSD emails.

**Assigned Tutorials:** Tutorials were assigned based on progress reports. If students received a "D" or "F" grade, students were assigned a tutorial for that class. This is an important step to get back on track for success. Tutorial assignments will not be changed until quarter grades come out. If you have any questions, please contact your counselor.

**October 19th:** All Seniors have been registered to take the digital SAT. Students will receive an email with their room assignment in their myTUSD emails. Room assignments will also be posted in front of the cafeteria on the day of testing. **Students must bring their school ID or driver's license, #2 pencils, an approved calculator, and a fully charged laptop.** Students must arrive for check in by 7:30 a.m.

**UC College Application Workshop:** With new changes to the UC application, particularly the Personal Insight Questions, we want all students to be better prepared to complete their applications. We will be hosting a representative from **UC Merced on October 17th, from 6 p.m. to 7 p.m.**, to cover changes on the application, and provide tips for the Personal Insight Questions. The event will take place in the Little Theatre. We hope to see you there! Click [here](#) for the flyer.

**Preparing for the FAFSA:** Do you need help applying for your FSA ID? Come out to the library during **tutorial time on Tuesdays and Thursdays starting October 11th!** The FSA ID is your digital signature to file your Free Application for Federal Student Aid. You must have your FSA ID in order to successfully submit the FAFSA. Special support from Santiago Canyon College's financial aid department will be present to provide you support as well as your counselors. Please come prepared with your laptop.

**California Scholarship Federation (CSF):** The application window for CSF is open from October 17th through October 28th! You can get an application in the counseling office or on the THS website [here](#). Don't forget to pay at the student store and attach a copy of your transcript with the application. Submit to Mrs. Hagstrom in the counseling office by October 28th.

**College Visits:** Admissions representatives want to talk to Tillers regarding prospective admissions at their universities. This is a great way to ask questions and get to know the campus as well as introduce yourself to a potential decision maker. Please don't miss these opportunities! **Sign up on Naviance**. The list of colleges visiting will be updated as soon as appointments are made. If you need help signing up, go see your counselor!

**#applied:** As of today, 28.8% of the Senior class have submitted applications to post secondary institutions. Counselors will be tracking this information through Naviance. Add your colleges on to your Naviance dashboards once you have submitted applications. Need information on how? Click [here](#) for a quick tutorial!



## JUNIORS - CLASS OF 2018

**College and Career Readiness (CCR):** Why is the Preliminary Scholastic Aptitude Test (PSAT) so important? The PSAT score taken during Junior year may qualify students for the National Merit Scholarship program. All students completed the mandatory pre-administration activity for the PSAT during CCR this week. Students were also asked to provide feedback through a survey that was sent to their myTUSD emails.

**Assigned Tutorials:** Tutorials were assigned based on progress reports. If students received a "D" or "F" grade, students were assigned a tutorial for that class. This is an important step to get back on track for success. Tutorial assignments will not be changed until quarter grades come out. If you have any questions, please contact your counselor.

**October 19th:** All Juniors are registered to take the PSAT on this day. Students will receive an email with their room assignments in their myTUSD emails. It is very important that students are on time this day as tardiness will impact their testing. All students were given practice booklets to prepare for the big exam.

**California Scholarship Federation (CSF):** The application window for CSF is open from October 17th through October 28th! You can get an application in the counseling office or on the THS website [here](#). Don't forget to pay at the student store and attach a copy of your transcript with the application. Submit to Mrs. Hagstrom in the counseling office by October 28th.

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## SOPHOMORES - CLASS OF 2019

**College and Career Readiness (CCR):** Students learned about the importance of the practice Preliminary Scholastic Aptitude Test (PSAT) as it relates to college preparedness. The California Scholarship Federation (CSF) application process was also covered. Students were given a reminder and flyer regarding Frosh/Soph Parent Night.

**October 19th:** All sophomores will be take a free pre-PSAT exam on Schmoop. Students will receive an email with their room assignments in their myTUSD emails. Room assignments will also be posted outside of the cafeteria on the day of the exam. It is VERY important that all students arrive on time with a fully charged laptop.

**Assigned Tutorials:** Tutorials were assigned based on progress reports. If students received a "D" or "F" grade, students were assigned a tutorial for that class. This is an important step to get back on track for success. Tutorial assignments will not be changed until quarter grades come out. If you have any questions, please contact your counselor.

**California Scholarship Federation (CSF):** The application window for CSF is open from October 17th through October 28th! You can get an application in the counseling office or on the THS website [here](#). Don't forget to pay at the student store and attach a copy of your transcript with the application. Submit to Mrs. Hagstrom in the counseling office by October 28th.

**October 26th Parent Workshop:** Please save the date! Freshman/Sophomore counselors will be hosting a parent workshop discussing how to support your student as they navigate the first few years of high school. The event will take place at 6 p.m. More information to follow shortly!

**College Visits:** Admissions representatives want to talk to Tillers regarding prospective admissions at their universities. This is a great way to ask questions and get to know the campus as well as introduce yourself to a potential decision maker. Please don't miss these opportunities! [Sign up on Naviance](#). The list of colleges visiting will be updated as soon as appointments are made. If you need help signing up, go see your counselor! It's an important step...so start early!

## FRESHMEN - CLASS OF 2020

**College and Career Readiness (CCR):** This week's session gave students a reminder of college tour assignments and parent night. Students also had the opportunity to learn about and explore important websites such as Haiku, Aeries, and Naviance. All students were asked to complete a student survey to provide feedback on the CCR session.

**Save the Date, October 19th:** All freshmen will participate in ONE college campus tour on this day. Freshmen will receive their permission slips during English classes which will state the school they have been assigned to based on the the survey responses collected during CCR. All permission slips must be returned to the English teacher by no later than October 7th. Only students with submitted permission slips will be able to participate in the campus tours.

**Assigned Tutorials:** Tutorials were assigned based on progress reports. If students received a "D" or "F" grade, students were assigned a tutorial for that class. This is an important step to get back on track for success. Tutorial assignments will not be changed until quarter grades come out. If you have any questions, please contact your counselor.

**October 26th Parent Workshop:** Please save the date! Freshman/Sophomore counselors will be hosting a parent workshop discussing how to support your student as they navigate the first few years of high school. The event will take place at 6 p.m. More information to follow shortly!

**College Visits:** Admissions representatives want to talk to Tillers regarding prospective admissions at their universities. This is a great way to ask questions and get to know the campus as well as introduce yourself to a potential decision maker. Please don't miss these opportunities! [Sign up on Naviance](#). The list of colleges visiting will be updated as soon as appointments are made. If you need help signing up, go see your counselor! It's an important step...so start early!

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For more information and resources, please visit:

[Naviance; THS Career Center](#)

[THS College Planning](#)

[Financial Aid and Scholarships](#)