

THE TILLER NEWS

T-TOWN'S WEEKLY NEWSLETTER, PRODUCED BY STAFF AND STUDENTS



BRIEF HAPPENINGS

#APPLIED CELEBRATION

For the second straight year, the Tillers participated in the California College Application and Success Campaign - more commonly known in T-Town as “#Applied”! Our goal this year was to have 100% of all Seniors submit a college application of their choice by Tuesday, November 19th. Last year, 87% of our senior class submitted an application by the target date! Data for this year’s class will be available after the holiday break. The counseling department hosted a celebration on Tuesday during tutorial to celebrate this important step toward postsecondary success!

THSMUN CONFERENCE

THS MUN will host its’ 27th annual MUN Conference this weekend on Saturday and Sunday, November 23rd and 24th. Over 1,200 students from more than 30 high schools throughout the state are participating in the event. MUNers will discuss a variety of international topics and current events through collaboration and debate. The annual conference is completely student-run and has been coordinated by the MUN High Secretariat leaders this year. This conference serves as a vital fundraiser for the MUN program and is one of the largest held in California!

FEATURED ARTICLES

MENTAL HEALTH AWARENESS

By Joey LaBarbera, on behalf of the Special Education Department

Although Mental Health Month is not until May, it is very important that we acknowledge the struggles that some of our students may be suffering from. According to the National Alliance on Mental Illness, 1 of 6 adolescents aged 6-17 will suffer from a mental health disorder this year. Mental health disorders may be categorized in the following 7 groups: mood disorders (such as depression and bipolar disorder), anxiety disorders, personality disorders, psychotic disorders (such as schizophrenia), eating disorders, trauma-related disorders (such as PTSD), and substance abuse disorders. Many of our students suffer from any one of these disorders daily but there is help available. There are many hotlines available for individuals suffering and a simple google search will bring up many. We also have resources available on campus for all students. If you have a concern about a



student, please let the counseling staff know and they can contact our First Team to assess the situation. If you happen to have a student in special education, please contact their case carrier so that they can contact other support providers (such as ERMHS therapist, school psych, etc.) Tustin High has done a tremendous job bringing awareness to mental health disorders - thank you for all you do for our students!

INSTRUMENTAL MUSIC UPCOMING CONCERTS

By Michael Fisk, Instrumental Music Program Director



This December, the Tustin High School Band, Jazz Band, Orchestra, and Choir will be performing in spirit of the holidays. The annual Winter Concert will begin at 7:00 pm on December 5th where the Intermediate Band, Advanced Band, String Orchestra, and Concert Choir will be performing a variety of winter pieces. At the end of the night, all three groups will come together to play as a full symphony piece. On December 12th, the annual Jingle Jazz concert will take place in the Tustin High School Cafeteria starting at 7:00 pm. The Jazz Band will be performing a variety of music, ranging from smooth and mellow songs to upbeat and energetic pieces that invite the audience to clap along and dance to the beat. Both concerts are free. Come out and enjoy some great holiday music.

TILLER SPOTLIGHT: KRISTI DRINKARD

Submitted by Corinne Pysher, Counselor



Kristi Drinkard is a sophomore who has recently returned to Tustin High after requiring home teaching following a sports injury. Doctors initially thought Kristi had a concussion, but it was actually a traumatic brain injury, which can take months and sometimes years to heal. Kristi has gone through months of therapies to get back to the excellence in academics that she has always shown. Kristi has shown motivation to keep up with her work, dedication to her education, and resiliency in continuing to keep fighting, even on the days when it seemed impossible! We are so proud of Kristi’s commitment to her future and her determination to succeed! Way to go Kristi!

WINTER SPORTS PREVIEW



By Melissa Trout and Tom Giebe, Athletic Directors

As the cold weather sets in, our winter programs start gearing up for their competition season. With seven Varsity teams actively practicing, this promises to be one of the busiest times of the year on campus.

Basketball: Both our Boys and Girls Basketball Programs are expected to have great seasons! The squads have a mix of returning starters and new Tillers that will bring extra depth to the teams. Although Coach Bossenmeyer and Coach Gocke focus on one game at a time, we are hopeful that a CIF run is in the future for these Programs. Both teams are participating in tournaments this week. The Varsity Girls team is looking forward to a trip to Illinois next month. The Tustin Family would also like to congratulate Coach Boss as he enters his 20th Season as a Tiller!

Girls’ Water Polo: The Program is excited to welcome

Head Coach, Molly Andrews, back to the pool deck. Mrs. Khojikian has also joined the coaching staff. Although the Varsity team graduated some key starters last year, there is still plenty of talent on the pool deck! Both levels had impressive wins over Godinez High School this week in the season opener.

Wrestling: Last year, the Wrestling team was one of the largest programs on campus with almost eighty athletes participating. The team has been working hard in the off-season. Although our league is extremely competitive, there will be some Tillers that will qualify for CIF. Our girls Wrestling team will enter its fourth competitive season. Although the Tillers graduated a state-qualifier, there are still many talented wrestlers in the program. With almost 45 females athletes participating we wish all of our girls

the best of luck as they continue to be trailblazers in this “new” sport.

Soccer: Our Girls’ Soccer team is going to have one of its best seasons to date. The Tillers will have many returning Varsity starters from last year but also have new talent that will make large impacts on the field. Our Girls’ Varsity team came close to a CIF bid last season and are hoping to make it to playoffs this year. Our Boys’ Program has been pushing to the limit with grueling, off-season training. They were league champions last year and are confident that they will repeat their long CIF run. Best of luck to Coach Najera, Coach Gross, and our Varsity squads this year!

