

COLT E-NEWSLETTER

MAIN OFFICE: 541-744-5000

FAX: 541-744-5029

ATTENDANCE: 541-744-5027

Colt Night Wednesday, March 30th

COLT NIGHT will be a one night only event before Thurston High School starts forecasting grades 9-12. We will be welcoming new Freshmen and their families encouraging the curricular and extra-curricular participation for our new and returning students. We will be promoting our unique and challenging class choices, distributing information about sports and clubs, we will also have drop - in sessions for participants to gather more information about AP classes and Honors Options, and so much more.



Teens and Social Media

Thurston High School will be partnering with the Springfield Police Department and Ophelia's Place to educate teacher, students, families, and the community on the trends in social media. Please join us as we discuss the relevance of social media and cyber safety. In addition to learning about the trends in social media, you will come away with practical tips and strategies to better support your child.

- What:** Teens and Social Media.
- When:** Tuesday, April 12th, 6:30-7:30 pm.
- Where:** Thurston High School Auditorium.
- Who:** Thurston High School, Springfield Police Department, and Ophelia's Place.
- Why:** To learn about relevant trends in social media to better support your child.
- Who is Invited:** Families of THS and elementary and middle school feeders.
- Other:** Bring your phone, tablet, or laptop!

In addition to the community night, Springfield Police and educators from Ophelia's place will be giving a similar presentation to all Thurston students on April 14th. This will be followed up with social media and cyber safety curriculum in Health classes. If you have any questions, please call Sun Saeteurn in the Main Office. 541-744-5030 Thank you.

[Thurston One Page](#)

For Current Information on the Calendar, bell schedule and how to contact staff visit the:

[Thurston Website](#)

To check out the schedule and see our events visit the:

[Events Calendar](#)

For times and locations of our sporting events visit the:

[Sports Calendar](#)

Connect with us and "LIKE" us at:

[THS Facebook](#)

Follow us on Twitter

[@thscolts](#)

Juniors took the ACT

On March 15th, Thurston offered the ACT to our junior class in which 284 students participated. This exam is a college entrance exam, students can send their scores to the first four colleges of their choosing for free. Students may also be asked to provide their ACT scores on scholarship applications. If students are unhappy with their results, they can pay to retake the ACT in the fall through other avenues. We were pleased to see so many of our students take advantage of this free opportunity.

Important Dates:

- 3/30 - Colt Night - 5:30 - 7:30PM
- 4/1 - Early Release RED Day - Class out 12:40PM
- 4/2 - E-Car Races in Hood River
- 4/9 - Mr./Mrs. THS Pageant - Aud - 6PM
- 4/11 - 4/15 - Volunteer Appreciation Week
- 4/22 - Prom Assembly - Red Day w/activity
- 4/23 - Prom - Wheeler Pavillion - Fairgrounds
- 4/23 - E-Car Race at Valley River Center
- 4/29 - Cheer Tryouts - Main Gym -4PM

College and Career Center

So you have been selected for FAFSA Verification...

You finally submitted the FAFSA. You think everything is going smoothly – until you receive a notice that you have been selected for FAFSA verification. What does this mean???

Verification is a process used to double-check certain information on the FAFSA. The US Department of Education or one of the colleges where you applied may have picked you randomly, or because something was incomplete, inconsistent or estimated on your application.

What should you do?

Don't panic. You can easily verify the information they need, and this will only add a couple of weeks to your aid approval process.

Carefully read the notices you received, then:

1. Sign in to your online FAFSA and use IRS data retrieval, if it's available, to link your family's tax forms to your application.
2. Complete and return any additional documents the college requests. This may include a worksheet, proof of your household size or non-taxed income, or the number of your family members who are in college.
3. Wait for your college to contact you and request any other data they need.
4. If you still have questions, or haven't heard from any college by the end of April, you may want to ask the financial aid office at the college if they need any more information.

# THURSTON HIGH SCHOOL

## COLT E-NEWSLETTER

### Graduation Requirements

Thurston High School students must complete Essential Skills Graduation Requirements in Reading, Writing, and Math.

While "Opting-Out" of Smarter Balanced Testing as a Junior is an option for your student, please be aware Smarter Balanced testing acts as a very viable method for meeting these graduation requirements. Please call THS Testing Coordinator Christine Thomas for more information.

#### Senior information to know:

May 31- Tickets will go on sale for Senior Breakfast and Graduation

June 10th- Senior Breakfast @ the Eugene Hilton from 8 AM until 10 AM (Price to be determined)

June 11th- Graduation @ the Hult Center at 1:00 PM (Number of tickets to be determined)



### SmarterBalanced Testing Starts

#### Attention all Juniors!!

We highly recommend you familiarize yourself with the SmarterBalanced test. By spending time working on the practice test, you will better understand how to navigate the test website and how to use the helpful tools available throughout the test. Directly below is the link to the website and the directions to all four practice tests.

- Open the [link](#)
- Sign in as a guest, select grade 11 and select yes
- Select a practice test
- High School ELA CAT
- High School ELA PT Practice Test
- High School Math CAT
- High School Math PT Practice Test
- Scroll to the bottom and click on "select"
- Scroll to the bottom and click on "Yes, start my test"
- Read through the test rules and select "Begin Test Now"

Once the test is open it will be helpful to search around the website and find all the test tools available during the test.

The testing starts March 30, 2016. We mailed a copy of the testing schedule home to families earlier this month. Students will also receive paper copies of the testing schedule within their classes March 28th and 29th. Only Juniors will be taking the SmarterBalanced test this spring.

The SmarterBalanced test provides the primary opportunity to meet the state's Essential Skills graduation requirements in Reading, Writing, and Math.

### Forecasting Information

#### Class of 2020 (8th graders) - School Presentations:

Monday, April 4 - Thurston Middle School

Tuesday, April 5 - Briggs Middle School

Wed., April 6 - Agnes Stewart Middle School

#### Computer Input with Counselors:

Monday, April 11 - Thurston Middle School

Tuesday, April 12 - Briggs Middle School

Wed., April 13 - Agnes Stewart Middle School

#### Class of 2019 (9th graders) -

#### Transcript Audits & Forecasting Info Handed Out:

Week of April 18th during 9th graders Freshmen Learning Team Class

#### Computer Input with Counselors and FLT teachers:

Friday, April 29 - B day FLT classes

Monday, May 2 - A day FLT classes

#### Class of 2018 (10th graders) -

#### Transcript Audit & Forecasting Info Handed Out:

Thursday, April 14 during 5th Period

#### Computer Input with Counselors:

Wednesday, April 27: Lit 10 B Day Classes

Thursday, April 28: Lit 10 A Day Classes

#### Class of 2017 (11th graders) -

#### Transcript Audit:

Wednesday, March 16th at 8:00am in Auditorium

#### Forecasting Information Handed Out:

Monday, April 18: Lit 11 A day classes

Tuesday, April 19: Lit 11 B day classes

#### Computer Input with Counselors:

Monday, April 25: Lit 11 B day classes

Tuesday, April 26: Lit 11 A day classes

### CTE Programs

It was a fine start to the day at the first Springfield Public Schools / Springfield Area Chamber of Commerce Business Summit on Workforce Readiness. Thank you to our amazing partners at Springfield Public Schools and particularly Superintendent Dr. Susan Rieke-Smith for facilitating this meaningful dialogue around Career and Technical Education (CTE). Thank you to all of the great business folks who participated and share a commitment to education, workforce readiness, and multiple career pathways for our kids. Thank you to Springfield Mayor Christine Lundberg for attending and for your vision. And a very special thank you to Principal Chad Towe and his wonderful team from Thurston High School for being incredible hosts for the 7:00am meeting and the informative and fun tour of their CTE programs.

