

KELLIS COUNSELING **QUARTERLY**

Thank you for reading the first edition of the Kellis Counseling Department's newsletter. This informational guide will be updated each quarter of the school year and will include important dates, reminders, and guides to success and support.



TERM 2 IMPORTANT DATES

10/15-10/24: 10th grade presentations & counselor meetings during school

10/23: West-Mec Application Workshop in Electronic Classroom during both lunches, no need to sign up!

10/24: Career Pathway Expo @ Centennial HS, 5:30-7:30 p.m.

10/31-11/8: 11th grade presentations & counselor meetings during school

Various Dates: West-Mec Open Houses for interested students and families, check out West-Mec section for more details!

11/8: AP Exam Registration deadline for Fall semester & Yearlong classes

11/13: MyLife Day for 8th graders- HS students release at 10:20 a.m.

December TBD: Student Class Registration for 25-26 school year

12/17-12/19: Final Exams for Sem. 1, Early Release both days @ 10:20 am



SCHOOL COUNSELORS' CONTACT INFO

Please email us with questions or concerns!

Mrs. Breanna Brown- brbrown@pusd11.net

Mrs. Katye Gainey- kgainey@pusd11.net

Mrs. Lindsay McClone- lmclclone@pusd11.net

Ms. Alexis Varner- avarner@pusd11.net

Mrs. Rochelle Whittaker- rwhittaker@pusd11.net



BLOCK SCHEDULING



- Peoria Unified School District runs on block scheduling.
- Classes are 90 minutes long on a normal day.
- Most classes last one semester, students earn one credit when they pass the course.
- Students have an opportunity to earn 8 credits in a school year.
- We offer a small selection of year-long courses. Students in these classes earn one core credit and one elective credit during the year.
 - These courses are: English Essentials, English I Yearlong, Algebra I Yearlong, AP Calculus I/II with Extension

REGISTRATION FOR 25-26 SCHOOL YEAR

- Current 9-11 graders will be registering for the 2025-2026 school year in December 2024.
- More specific information will be shared when Registration documents are sent out.
- Current 11th grade parents- If your student is on track to graduate, they are allowed to have a shortened school day next year. Student's will need to request Release Time AND get your signature for approval.

COUNSELOR PRESENTATIONS & MEETINGS

During 1st semester, counselors present to students about important information to help them be successful in high school.

Following that presentation, students have a one-on-one meeting with their counselor to discuss graduation requirements, grades, and future post-secondary and career plans.

Counselors have met with Seniors and Freshmen. Sophomores and Juniors will have these meetings in the next few weeks.

This is a dedicated time for students to ask questions and look at their schedules for 2nd semester.

UNIQUE OPPORTUNITIES FOR 2025-2026

- CTE Mastery of Subject Graduation Endorsement: Students must meet requirements to earn seal. See this [link](#).
- M.E.T. Academy: Held at Peoria HS. Current 9-11 graders may apply. Visit their website [here](#) for more information. Applications due to counselors by Dec. 6 , 2024
- West-Mec: Students can work towards career-specific certifications. Visit their website [here](#) for more information. Applications due to counselors by Dec. 19, 2024

CLASS OF 2025 INFORMATION FOR SENIORS



»»» Order your cap and gown! Click this [link](#) to purchase before the price increases. Seniors will pick up their items in April 2025 during lunches.

»»» Schedule your senior portrait for the yearbook NOW! These pictures must be taken by Thanksgiving break. Click [HERE](#) to schedule your appointment with Grad's Photography.

»»» Transcript Requests --If you need your transcript sent to a college you are applying to, please go to... **SCHOOLINKS > COLLEGE APPLICATIONS > ADD APPLICATION**

»»» Senior Workshop Wednesdays

- Mrs. McMillen hosts an application workshop every Early Release Wednesday to help seniors apply to college. Come to the Electronic Classroom (I-149) after school for help!

GRADUATION REQUIREMENTS REMINDER

»»» Students are required to earn 28 credits for a PUSD diploma over 4 years of high school

- 4 English, 4 Mathematics, 3 Social Studies, 3 Lab Science, 1 Phys. Ed, 1 CTE/Fine Arts, 12 Electives
- PUSD posts **UNWEIGHTED GPA**

»»» All students must take and pass the Arizona Civics Exam.

»»» PUSD does **NOT** require world language credits for high school graduation

- Please note that some in-state, four-year universities and many out-of-state universities DO require 2 credits of the same world language for admission.
- Students and families should check university admission requirements before applying!

FAFSA TALK

FAFSA is a crucial step in funding students' post-secondary education. <<<

Students who plan to attend 4-year universities, community colleges, or trade/technical schools could be FAFSA-eligible. <<<

Completed applications are **required** to accept needs-based and merit-based scholarships at their intended school. <<<

Eligibility:

The FAFSA determines eligibility for federal grants, loans, and state/institutional aid. All students should apply, regardless of their family's financial situation. <<<

Required Documents:

Families should gather necessary documents ahead of time, such as tax returns, W-2s, and Social Security numbers, to streamline the application process. <<<

Parents and Students must each create an FSA ID to use to apply! Click [here](#) to start this process. <<<

Mrs. McMillen will be hosting a FAFSA workshop on campus to help families fill out and submit the application. **DATE TBD!** <<<

“QUOTING” COUGAR COUNSELORS

What is one quote that you live by?

“YOU CAN DO DIFFICULT THINGS!”
-MRS. BROWN

“BE A PINEAPPLE--
STAND TALL, WEAR A
CROWN, AND BE
SWEET ON THE INSIDE!”
-MRS. GAINNEY

“BE GRATEFUL.”
-MRS. WHITTAKER

“EVERYTHING HAPPENS
FOR A REASON.”
-MRS. MCCLONE

“ONE STEP AT A TIME.”-MS. VARNER

