

THE KELLER CONNECTION

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A NOTE FROM THE PRINCIPAL

I hope you and your family stayed warm during our crazy winter weather this week! I am certain the students and staff enjoyed the extra day off! As the district shared in their email, we will not have to make this day up. The school year is flying by and we have a busy spring semester ahead! This time of year is a very exciting time with lots of campus activities, but it can also be stressful with college and career decisions for our Seniors, registration decisions for next year for our underclassmen, all while preparing for EOC and AP tests. Our counseling team is here to help and support in any way that they can, so please don't hesitate to reach out if your student needs support!

Campus life is very busy as we navigate spring semester! Teachers and staff are busy engaging students in the classroom and in their extra curricular activities. Our UIL Academic team and Academic Decathlon team are preparing for upcoming district competitions. Along with these groups, many of our Career and Technology groups are in competition season including DECA, BPA, TAFE, FCCLA and HOSA. These organizations are all led by teachers and help students build real world knowledge and skills. Theater students are busy working on their winter show, The Night Witches (show dates Feb. 1- 4) and work has begun on our One Act Play. Our winter guard and indoor percussion groups are busy preparing for their competition season and band and choir students have just finished up All State tryouts. KHS is incredibly proud of our 8 students that are part of just 3% of high school musicians from across the state of Texas that have been selected and named as All State musicians.

On the athletics side, things are very busy as well! This fall 25 of our student athletes signed to continue their career at the college level and we will have another round of signees next month. Basketball is midway through their season, district for soccer starts this week, and wrestling, swimming and diving are preparing for their district meets coming up later this month. Softball, baseball, track, tennis and golf are all gearing up for their spring seasons! While there is a bit more work to do around our new indoor facility, our athletes are taking full advantage of getting inside during inclement weather! Congratulations to Keller cheer! They competed at the UIL State Spirit competition last weekend and finished 11th out of 68 teams and won the Best of Category in Crowd Leading! The Indianettes are working hard and have several competitions coming up in the weeks ahead. And while campus life is incredibly busy, I am so grateful for the opportunities that our students have to engage in the classroom and in other areas they are passionate about. It is through these opportunities that their school experience becomes more than learning curriculum.

Our campus theme for this year is "Keller High is reMARKable" with students and staff focusing on leaving a positive mark as we navigate this school year. At the start of the year students and staff made commitments on how they would leave their mark this year that are displayed in a mural in the commons. When we returned after our winter holiday break, students and staff were encouraged to reflect on those commitments and recommit to leaving a positive mark this semester. We had many reMARKable moments during the fall semester and I am excited for many more moments this spring!

You are a vital piece to your students' success and ours, so thank you for your continued partnership and support!

Take care and Go Keller!

Lisa Simmons

#KELLERALLIN

#LeaveYourMark



UPCOMING EVENTS

Jan. 26 - Parent Coffee Chat w/ Admin (see pg. 3 for topics)

Feb. 5-9 - Counselor Appreciation Week

Feb. 16 & 19 - Student Holidays

Feb. 23 - Parent Coffee Chat

Mar. 5 - SAT for 11th (see pg 2 for details)

Mar. 11-15 - Spring Break

Apr. 1 - 5 - Assistant Principals Week

Mar. 29 & Apr. 1 - Student Holidays

Apr. 9 - English I End of Course Exam

Apr. 10 - English II End of Course Exam

Apr. 23 - Biology & US History End of Course Exams

Apr. 26 - Parent Coffee Chat

Apr. 30 - Algebra 1 End of Course Exam

May 6 - 10 - Teacher Appreciation Week

May 27 - Class of 2024 Graduation @ 12PM



Testing Information

March 5th

School Day SAT for Juniors
Optional TSI Testing for 9th & 10th Grades
Late Arrival for all non-testers
More details will be shared at a later date.

State End of Course Exams (EOC)

English I - April 9th
English II - April 10th
Biology & US History - April 23rd
Algebra I - April 30th

AP Testing

May 6 - 17



COUNSELING UPDATE

KHS Families:

KHS Counseling has been working with our students to choose classes for next year. We value your involvement as parents very much as you help guide your students through this process and ensure that everything they have input in Aeries is accurate and acceptable from the parent perspective. This year we are using Personalized Course Selection in which students can update their choices themselves in Aeries. We have met with our 9th and 10th graders to help them plan and will be meeting with our juniors (who will be SENIORS next year!!) the last week in January after we return from a couple of weeks helping our upcoming 9th grade students through this process.

A few quick bullets on timeline and details:

- Aeries is open for students and families to adjust their courses for next year.
- The deadline to make changes is February 9, 2024, so make sure you have had a chance to talk with your student(s) and reviewed what they have selected.
- Students will need to update their course requests in Aeries themselves by the deadline (we are here to help and guide them along the way, but inputting the selections is up to the student for the first time this year).
- Detailed instructions on the process are below:

How to select classes in Aeries:

- [Step By Step Guide to Selecting High School Courses in Aeries Student Portal.](#)
- [Keller ISD Counseling Website](#)
- [2024-25 KISD 9th Grade Course Selection Sheets](#)
- [2024-25 KISD 10th-12th Grade Course Selection Sheets](#)
- [Keller ISD Graduation Requirements](#)
- [Career & Technical Education \(CTE\) Programs of Study](#)
- [TEA Graduation Toolkit \(Herramientas para graduarse\)](#)

We are here to help if you need anything along the way.

KHS Counseling

Keller High School

**Remarkable
Connected
Family
ALLIN
Together
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College & Career Center Update

Dear Families,

Paying for college is a big issue that is top of mind for our students and families. And it is important for all of our students and families to know that financial aid is available to make college or other post-secondary education within reach for all of our students! This financial aid includes scholarships, grants, federal work-study programs, and (for families who want to pursue them) federal student loans. We recommend that all of our seniors who will pursue post-secondary education fill out the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) to maximize their opportunities for grants, scholarships, and work-study programs. The FAFSA recently opened for our seniors, and it is generally shorter and easier to complete than it used to be. Only seniors need to complete the FAFSA (except in rare instances), and the state of Texas has made completion of the FAFSA (or formally opting-out) a graduation requirement for seniors. We also encourage all of our KHS students to take a look at the lists of scholarship opportunities that we make available on the KHS Counseling website but especially seniors. Each year, we are amazed at the number of scholarships that our seniors receive. We are grateful to partner with our families to help each KHS student pursue their post-secondary goals!

Finally, thank you for the privilege of getting to work with your KHS Students!

KHS College & Career Counseling



**JOIN US FOR COFFEE
CHAT WITH KHS
ADMINISTRATION &
GUESTS**

Friday, January 26

9:00am - 10:00am

Keller HS Library

Topics Include:
Course Registration for Next Year
Senior Events & Information

Sponsored by the Keller HS PTSA