



COUNSELING CORNER

September 2009

Hello and welcome back to school! The semester is rolling along and everyone seems to have done nicely shifting from summer-mode back into school-mode (no easy feat after the lovely summer we had!)

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Interesting Reads:

Outliers: The Story of Success. By Malcolm Gladwell.

Websites and links:

www.asdk12.org>West
School Website>
Curriculum>
Highly Gifted

Credits! Remember: if you have a course from a source other than West High that you want to go on your transcript you must get it approved first through your counselor and the Curriculum Principal!!

I have been enjoying meeting the West HG 9th graders. During the first week of September I began my "lunchtime chats." This is a time when students are invited to bring their lunch and 3 friends down to my office to talk about how the school year is going. I have found this to be a fun and informal way for me to get to know all of "my" 9th graders, and for them to get to know me and how to get in touch if they need to. I'm looking forward to getting to know everyone better as the year progresses!

During September I will also begin going into the 9th grade classrooms to work on two-year academic plans and help students become familiar with graduation requirements. I will ask students to bring this plan home to be reviewed and signed by parents, then return it to me. The academic plan is kept in student files as a "work in progress" and we will revisit graduation requirement periodically.

Upcoming Events:

- September 11: Back to School Night
- October 12 & 13: College and Career Fair at Denai'na Convention Center.
- October 29: Parent/Teacher Conferences
- October 30: In-service day, no school for students

****CONGRATULATIONS** to West High's 14, yes you read it right, 14 National Merit Semifinalists! Twelve of West's semifinalists are members of our HG program!

