North High School

Saxon Times

The Principal's Newsletter

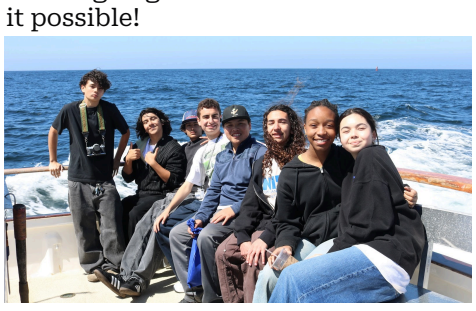
Issue No. 10 | April 2025

Elevating our youth, cultivating our future

-Growth Mindset & Lifelong Learning-



North High students had a blast at **TUSD STEM Day** at Torrance Airport! From hands-on airplane builds to exploring real aircraft, the day was packed with fun and future-ready learning. Big thanks to all who made it possible!



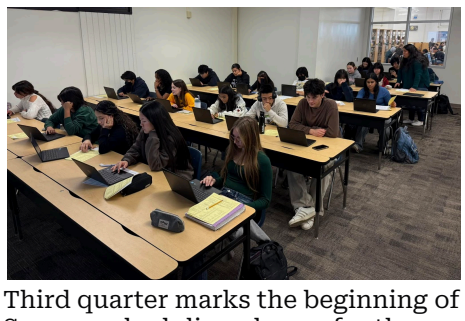
Ecology Club students took learning to the open ocean on a **whale watching adventure**! From spotting marine life to discussing ecosystems, these lifelong learners showed curiosity, wonder, and a passion for science beyond the classroom.



Video Production students in Mr. Christian's CTE class welcomed Supervising Producer / Writer Christine Lee from the City of Torrance. Thank you for sharing your experiences with our students and enlightening them about local job opportunities!



Cardiac Combo were victorious in the 25th anniversary of **Mind Madness**! Thanks to each of our 64 student teams who competed and all the faculty and staff who helped make this happen!



Third quarter marks the beginning of Saxons scheduling classes for the **2025-2026 school year**. Special thanks to our counselors for all their hard work!



PRINCIPAL'S MESSAGE

Dear Saxon Families,

As we wrap up an eventful and inspiring **March**, I want to take a moment to celebrate the incredible achievements and joyful moments that have defined this past month at North High.

First and foremost, congratulations to our **Visions of Unity scholarship recipients** and our brilliant **Mind Madness champions**! Their sharp thinking and teamwork showcased the intellectual spirit of our students in a jam-packed finale in our gym! Our **Spring sports** teams are also in full swing, and a special shoutout to **Boys Volleyball**, who are off to a blazing 4–0 start in league play! Go Saxons! We had a memorable **JROTC Military Ball** with keynote speaker, **Mayor George Chen**, whose words inspired our cadets and guests alike.

March was also a time of cultural celebration and connection. During **Multicultural Week**, our students honored the rich diversity of our community through stunning performances and cultural activities! We were especially proud to share this experience with our feeder elementary schools—giving future Saxons a glimpse of what makes North so special!

In the spirit of inclusion, we recognized **Disability Awareness Week** with a variety of lunchtime sensory activities and moving performances led by our students. It was a meaningful opportunity for all of us to deepen our empathy and celebrate every student's unique abilities. We also celebrated our **Campus Security Officers** for all that they do to keep our students, faculty and community safe!

Looking ahead to **April**, we hope everyone enjoys a well-deserved and restful **Spring Break**. When we return, we have so much to look forward to. Our talented Saxons will shine in the **TUSD Drumline and Colorguard Showcase**, and the creativity of our students will take center stage during **Chalk Walk** and the **Celebration of the Arts**. The **North Area Choir Concert** promises an evening of beautiful harmony, and our JROTC cadets will represent us with pride at our **International Golden Bear Tournament**. And of course, we can't wait to see our students take the spotlight in our **Spring Musical**, which is sure to be a showstopper!

As always, thank you for your continued support and partnership. North High remains the BEST school in the South Bay and more importantly, a special place because of the people - students, families, and faculty - who make up our Saxon community!

Stay Safe, Stay Healthy, Stay Saxon Strong! -Principal Nitake



Our students are working hard and staying focused as they prepare for the upcoming **AP exams**! From **study groups** to late-night review sessions, their dedication and perseverance are truly inspiring. Let's cheer them on as they push through these final weeks!



Ms. Burris' **Anatomy class** dove into a moo-ving experience — dissecting cow kidneys! Gloves on, scalpels ready, and a whole lot of "ewws" mixed with "ooohs" filled the room.


Volume 4, Issue 10: March 11, 2025

The North Wind

Read ALL about it! | Editor-in-Chief: Blake Noe | Just the Facts!

Interview with Dr. Stowe

Zajan Botardo

On February 10th, the North Wind conducted an interview with Dr. Tim Stowe, the TUSD Superintendent. Dr. Stowe was very polite and answered all of the questions that we posed to him. We were very lucky to have such an exclusive interview.

Dr. Stowe went to school in Torrance, and eventually began working in Torrance as well. Before he became a superintendent, he was a substitute teacher and worked at North High and Magruder. He was also a basketball coach at West High. He previously served as an assistant principal, principal, chief academic officer, and deputy superintendent before becoming superintendent. We are lucky to have a superintendent who went to school in our district!

One key aspect of the interview was learning about a Portrait of a Graduate: a campaign created to show how our students can be successful in their school. Dr Stowe stated that school districts across the entire state of California are adopting similar plans for their districts.

Additionally, we found out that Dr. Stowe really cares about the opinions of all stakeholders in Torrance, and cares about student success. He says that opinions and questions come from many people in the community, and that the district will do their best to make everything comfortable not just for the students but for the parents as well.

Overall, the future of North High and TUSD will improve since changes have been made, and things will continue to evolve since student and parent demands will continue. The best thing is that TUSD will provide for us and allow student choice and thoughts to be made.

To read more about Portrait of a Graduate, you can look at the back page, and to hear more about the interview, look out for our podcast!

Our Saxons are pushing boundaries, seeking knowledge, and rising to the occasion in journalism, academics, athletics, and leadership. **The North Wind** highlights students who are dedicated to learning and improving every day. Read their latest issue under ***Quick Links*** above.

-Communication & Collaboration-



Our **Winter Guard** brought home the Silver Medal at the recent WGASC competition in Henderson, Nevada with a season high score of 81.02. Well done!



The **Visions of Unity** Art & Literature Contest was held for the final time, after 25 years of allowing Torrance students to express their ideas. Congratulations to our North High students who were part of its history: **Natalie Ashikawa**, **Cassandra Castillo**, **Grace Choe**, **Danica Comedes**, **Nami Garcia**, **Zuri Godwin**, **Sophia Gonzlaez Moreno**, **Amanda Gonzalez**, **Faith Labinpuno**, **Annabelle Lee**, **Diego Marin**, **Aide Ramirez**, **Nicholas Reed**, **Jahden Robinson**, **Jasmine Smith**, **Danica Strawn**, **Angelica Nicole Talaver**, **Tyler Tanaka**, **Valerie Velasquez**, and **Leyla Yoshida**.

Quick Links

- April Calendar
- Monthly Cafeteria Menu
- Librarian Updates
- North Wind Publication
- Facebook & Sammy Saxon
- Video Bulletin
- North High Athletics
- ASB Instagram
- College & Career Instagram

-Civic Engagement & Global Citizenship-



Another year of celebrating our diverse Saxon community at our **Multicultural Assembly**. We thank all students for your hard work putting together an amazing show, and for the encore performance for our rising Saxons. Thank you to Ms. Rivera and Ms. Taylor and all teachers who made this possible.

During **Disability Awareness Week**, Saxons united to celebrate the contributions and experiences of individuals with disabilities. Through **Ethan Jimenez**'s inspiring presentation, and student-led activities, the students fostered empathy, inclusion, and understanding.





Our **AP Environmental Science** students took their learning beyond the textbook on a guided tour of a local sewage treatment facility. From wastewater flow to final filtration, students saw science in action and deepened their understanding of environmental systems and sustainability.



Way to go **Lady Saxons**, Coach Kwan and Coach Duperron for assisting the Torrance Area Chamber of Commerce in creating and filling 75 Easter baskets!

Saxons display Civic Engagement as they help volunteer at **Onizuka Space Science Day** at El Camino college! Special shoutout to the Onizuka Family and astronaut Dan Tani for a memorable Saxon experience!



Saxon Pride

-Healthy Habits & Life Skills-



Huge shoutout to our amazing students and teachers who participated in **Run LA Kids** at Dodger Stadium! A big THANK YOU to everyone who showed up, cheered each other on, and made this experience so special. Thinking about giving running a try? Reach out to Mr. Munoz to learn how you can get started.

At North High School, the safety and well-being of our students is our top priority. Our **Health Office** staff works closely with our **Campus Security Officers** to ensure they are fully trained and ready to provide first aid whenever needed, creating a secure and supportive environment for all.





Shoutout to North High's **Sports Therapy** students! They represented us proudly at the AACI Sports Medicine Competition, showcasing their skills and dedication!



Students in **Sports Practicum** gain experience providing medical aid to our student athletes!



Saxons in **Urban Farming** and **Farm to Table** classes learned about sustainable agriculture at Catalina View Gardens.



We are so excited that our **baby quails** have finally hatched! You can watch them on our live quail cam.



Softball season is underway and our **Lady Saxons** got a nice victory over Port of LA at home!

-Leadership & Character-



Clarissa Adame received the Daughters of American Revolution (DAR) National Award. This award has been in existence since the Civil War. Congratulations, Clarissa!

Our JROTC class held its annual **Military Ball** at San Pedro Elks Club.



Officers and cadets displayed their pomp and precision at the event with the sombre "Missing Man Table" reminding us of the fallen, the missing and imprisoned U.S. Military members.



North High takes pride in being home to many exceptional TUSD employees. Congratulations to our Cafeteria Manager, **Sharon Caparino**, was awarded Classified Employee of the Year. Well deserved!



The Saxon Strong Award is given to students who demonstrate great citizenship, act with fairness, show respect, and consistently display trustworthiness and responsibility. Our February recipient was **Megan Clark** and March winner was **Fabian Tornez**. Keep up the great work, Saxons!



Members of our **Key Club** enjoyed a luncheon with Kiwanis, connecting over leadership and service! Let's keep making a difference together!



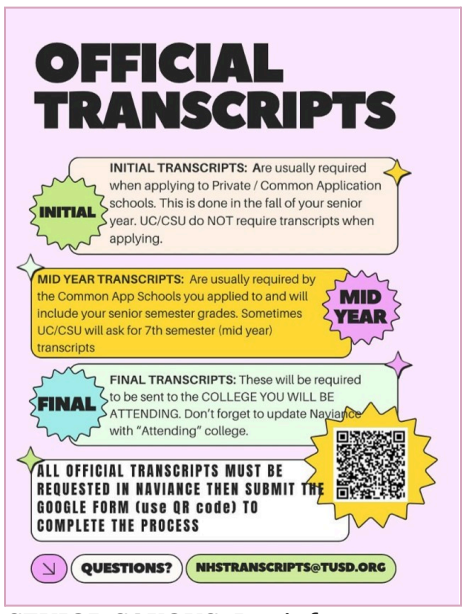
North High was honored to have hosted a visit from **Leadership Torrance**. Our students from **JROTC**, **Robotics Club**, **Media Design**, **Video Productions**, **Film**, **Piano**, **Engineering**, **Entomology**, **Financial Algebra**, **Commercial Photography**, **Human Body Systems**, **Woodwork**, **English** and **Urban Farming** were excited to share what they have learned. We thank the Torrance Chamber of Commerce for their interest in supporting our programs and look forward to many more opportunities for our Saxon community!

SAVE THE DATE

April 14 - Return from Spring Break
April 16 - Senior Parent Night
April 22 to 29 - CAASPP Testing Starts: Block Schedule



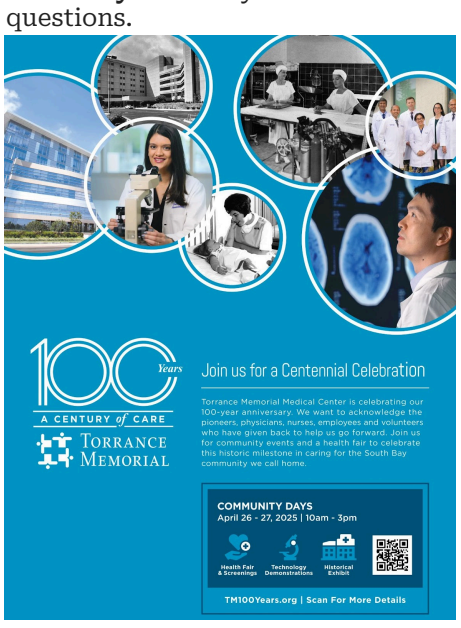
College & Career



SENIOR SAXONS: Don't forget to update your **Naviance** accounts when you accept your college offers. Official Transcripts will be sent directly to your selected college via Naviance.



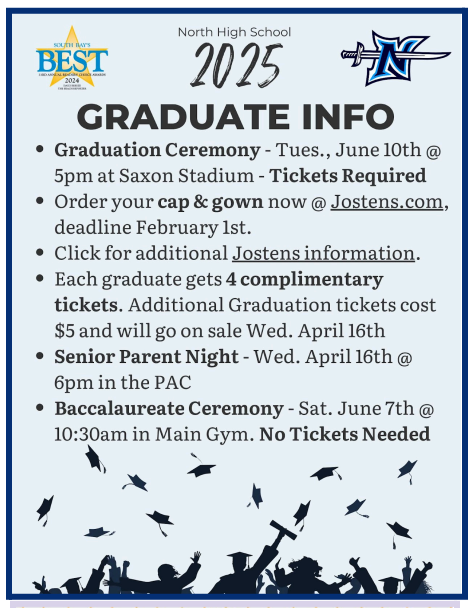
There are still many scholarship opportunities accepting applications. Make sure to visit the **North High College & Career** Instagram page or visit **Mrs. McKelvey** in K-1 if you have questions.



To celebrate Torrance Memorial Medical Center's 100th anniversary, they will be holding **Community Days** on **April 26 and 27, from 10:00am to 3:00pm**. The event is **free of charge**, and we'll also be offering **free food and health screenings**. Parents and students who are looking at pursuing a medical career are invited to come and speak to participating vendors to learn and interact directly with the professionals and equipment used at Torrance Memorial.

CLASS OF 2025

ALWAYS BE IN THE KNOW!
As Graduation Day approaches, please regularly check the **Senior Calendar** for upcoming important events.

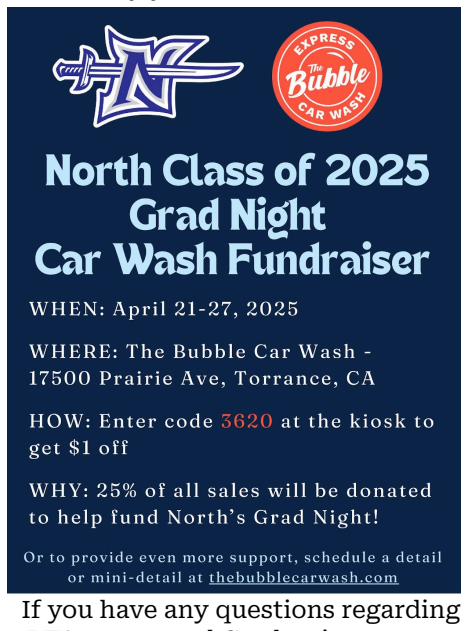




PTA CORNER



SENIOR FAMILIES: Make sure to visit the **North High PTA Web Store** to purchase Grad Night tickets. There are only 200 tickets available so make sure to buy yours TODAY!



If you have any questions regarding PTA-sponsored Graduation events, please email them at **northhighclassof2025@gmail.com**

Saxon Community Resources

STUDENT RESOURCES

Get your **FREE MetroPass tap card**!



Get FREE unlimited rides on any LA Metro transit system to school, parks, work, sports, games, the mall, concerts, and more!

North High School students may request here for their FREE MetroPass tap card (remember to log in using your etusd email account) and pick it up from the Principal's Office anytime during the school day.

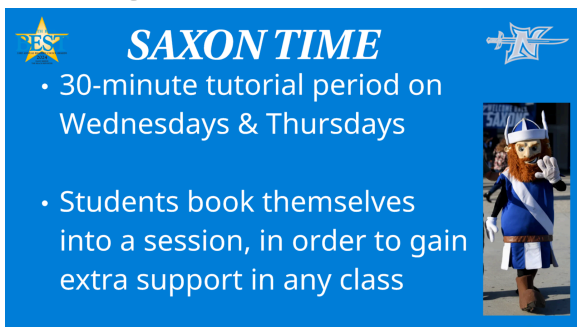
MENTAL HEALTH RESOURCES

Every student can access **FREE** high-quality care from school or home at **NO COST**. Learn more or sign up today, my.hazel.co/tusd.

- Text "LA" to 741-741 to reach the Crisis Text Line.
- Call 988 to reach the National Suicide and Crisis Lifeline.
- Call 1-866-488-7386 for crisis intervention services specific for LGBTQ+ youth.
- Call 1-877-541-2525 for non-emergency support.
- Calendar of free events at allcove Beach Cities! RSVP for a free event now!

TUTORING ASSISTANCE

North High students have a variety of tutoring resources available to them at any time during the week.









PARENT RESOURCES

IMPORTANT REMINDER: Please make vacation plans and doctor's appointments for non-school days and hours. If your student has to be out, consider making sure they attend at least a partial day, or, if they are out for three or more consecutive days, sign up for an Independent Study Contract to keep them up to date on their classwork.



You may reach out to your Counselor to get the process started but a contract must be **requested at least 5 days prior** to the start of the student's absence. Let's make every day count!

COLORFUL MINDS ART THERAPY

Colorful Minds, a free art therapy program offered at the Torrance-South Bay YMCA that could benefit our students.



The program combines creative expression with psychological techniques to support youth mental health and personal growth. Available for both youth (ages 8-12) and teens (ages 13-17), these monthly sessions provide students with valuable tools for emotional expression and self-discovery.

Key Program Benefits:

- ➔ Students explore various art forms while developing self-expression
- ➔ Focus on building self-confidence and communication skills
- ➔ Development of mindfulness and stress-management techniques
- ➔ Peer connection in a supportive, judgment-free environment

Sessions are held weekly:
Youth (ages 8-12): Mondays or Tuesdays, 4:15-5:45 PM
Teens (ages 13-17): Wednesdays, 4:15-5:45 PM
(Starting February 2025)
Location: Torrance-South Bay YMCA 2900 W Sepulveda Boulevard, Torrance, CA 90505

This program is completely FREE for participants. We would greatly appreciate your help in sharing this opportunity with students and families who might benefit from art therapy.

For registration or questions, families can:
Register by scanning QR code on the flyer that is attached to this email.
Contact: Raegen Valdes at raegenvaldes@ymcala.org
Visit: www.ymcaLA.org/tsb
Call: (310) 325-5885



SAY SOMETHING ANONYMOUS REPORTING

As our nation struggles with yet another tragic incident of school violence, we want to remind you again about the important tool we use to help keep our schools secure and our students safe: the *Say Something* Anonymous Reporting System offered through the Sandy Hook Promise.

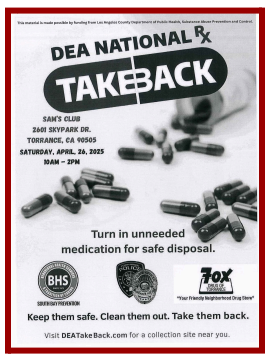
This life-saving service empowers you, our students, and our community members to anonymously report any concerns, including potential threats, bullying, or individuals who may be at risk of harming themselves or others. There are three ways to make a report:

- Call the 24/7 crisis hotline counselors at 1-844-5-SayNow (1-844-572-9669)
- Download the mobile app at Google Play or Apple Store
- Submit a tip through their secure website

No matter how you report, Say Something ensures that every voice is heard and every concern can be addressed promptly. Please remind your children about the importance of speaking up if they see or hear something troubling so that we can partner to address issues before they escalate. By working together, we can create a safer and more supportive environment for everyone.

COMMUNITY UPDATES

DEA NATIONAL Rx TAKE BACK



Do you have unneeded medication and you don't know how to dispose of it? The DEA is holding its bi-annual **National Prescription Take Back Day** on Saturday, April 26 at Sam's Club on Skypark from 10:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m.

PARKING, TRAFFIC & SAFETY



This is a reminder that designated **Disabled Parking spaces** are reserved for vehicles displaying a valid disabled placard at all times, 24/7. It is unlawful to park or leave a vehicle in these spaces without the proper placard, including within school parking lots. We urge you to set a positive example for your children by adhering to these regulations.



For the safety of our community, please remember the following traffic and safety conditions expected on our 182nd Street parking lot:

- Driveways closest to the Admin building and Edison Elementary are for **entry only** at all times.
- All exiting traffic must **exit from the center driveway**.
- No counterflow traffic, particularly during peak drop off and pick up hours.
- No drop offs beyond the safety cones.

Please do not illegally park in the **red zones** surrounding the school. Torrance Police Department will issue citations. Remind your students they must utilize the crosswalks when crossing the street, jaywalking is dangerous.

We appreciate your cooperation in prioritizing student safety.

FOOD VENDORS & PERSONAL DELIVERIES



Delivery services are **NOT** permitted. Deliveries will be turned away since we do not know what is being passed through our fences and it is too difficult to police. Our campus security and admin team are busy monitoring the safety of our students and faculty. This extends to packages of any kind being delivered to North High. Please let your students know this is unacceptable, we are not responsible for lost or misplaced packages. We will return them or refuse them at the door.

E-BIKE SAFETY

The Torrance Police Department made a presentation on e-bike safety. With 2000+ students and faculty arriving and leaving campus at the same time, traffic is inevitable. However, safety is preventable if we all follow road signs, speed limits, and traffic laws. If interested, take this **online e-bike safety course**. Our goal is to ensure the safety of our entire school community.

