



Fort Lee Public Schools

Fort Lee High School

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To All My Students,

Welcome! I'm Mrs. Acosta and I will be your counselor throughout the rest of your time at Fort Lee High School. I would like to be the first to wish you a Happy New Year! A Happy New School Year that is! I have always loved the beginning of the school year. There is something about walking into a sparkling clean building that is thrilling and exciting. The smell of freshly sharpened pencils and crisp new notebooks can really get you during those first few days. The anticipation and excitement everyone has of doing well during is at an all-time high. As you make your *new school year resolutions* I suggest you try to stick with them from September to June. I would urge you to keep that excitement and anticipation and hold on to them, even if things get tough along the way. Together, we can work to find solutions to your challenges!

Each school year is important and will impact your GPA and your future plans. If you did well last school year, keep up the good work. If you did not reach your expectations, you have this year to improve. College admissions representatives like to see that you improved each subsequent school year. They call it "Growth". They love to see how you grew throughout your four years in high school. Now is the perfect time to work on bringing up your GPA.

We have many exciting things to look forward to this year. I will be meeting with each of my 10th Graders beginning in September. I look forward to putting a face to each of the names of my tenth graders and welcoming back my eleventh and twelfth graders. We will begin by meeting with our Senior Parents on **Senior Parent Night/FAFSA Night** which will be held on **Tuesday, September the 17th at 6 PM**. On the **evening of September the 26th**, we will have our **Annual College Fair from 6:00 PM to 8:30 PM**. I urge all of you to attend with your parents. Speak with the college representatives who will be present. Explore your options. It is not too early to begin scheduling college visits.

We will have several **Meet and Greet Breakfast** meetings in the fall. The first one will be for our **9th Grade Parents** and will take place on **Friday, September the 28th from 9 AM to 11 AM**. This meeting will provide an overview of high school. On **October the 18th from 9:00 AM to 11 AM** we have our **10th Grade Parent/Counselor Breakfast**. At that time, we will discuss all extracurricular activities that are available to you and why it is so important that you become involved. On **November the 16th from 9:00 AM to 11 AM**, we will have our **11th Grade Parent Breakfast**. The focus of this meeting will be to introduce parents to Naviance. These Breakfasts will give parents a chance to meet with me and ask me any questions they may have. I would also like to remind everyone that **PSAT's** will be administered on **Wednesday, October the 10th**.

I would like to take this opportunity to urge my students to become involved! As your GPA and standardized test scores are important in the college application process, so is what you did in terms of extracurricular activities. Quality, being more important than quantity. You do not have to join many activities. However, stick to what you do join for a number of years. If you are able, try to reach positions of leadership within your activity.

On **April the 10th** we will be hosting our annual **College Planning Night at 6:00 PM**. A number of colleges will participate in a panel discussion to answer questions posed by the Guidance Department and the audience. If you come every year you will hear from 6 or 7 different colleges each year, totaling 20 over three years!

I wish you all a wonderful school year! I can be reached at dacosta@flboe.com or (201) 585 – 4675 Ext. 6516.

Sincerely,

Mrs. Acosta

School Counselor