

Atoms Writing Center kicks off school year

The Atoms Writing Center will be officially opening up for business this school year on Sept. 17.

In past years, the Writing Center has always been lending a helping hand to students through tutoring them on their writing assignments.

As in past years, the Writing Center will be open during R5 and W4/Pride Time for any students who need assistance.

The club will introduce a few changes this school year that vary from past years.

“We are getting better organized every year,” Atoms Writing Center Director Stephanie Hanson said. “We are setting up and opening up a bit earlier than we have before.”

The Writing Center will be holding a freshman program again this year where freshman English students and classes will be invited and introduced to the Writing Center.

Freshmen will have the opportunity to learn more about the operations of the Writing Center and work on practice writing while getting tutoring help from AWC tutors.

“I became a tutor for the Writing Center because I thought it was a really good opportunity to help,” senior Neyda Villatoro said. “Overall, my favorite part of the tutoring process is just helping the students who come in and making sure they receive the help that they seek.” .

In addition to the freshmen program, the AWC is currently organizing times for seniors who are working on college essays to attend the Writing Center and receive help.

As a club, the Writing Center is working on placing more focus on the brainstorming and prewriting processes this year rather than the revision process.

“We are working on learning how to tutor someone who comes in with nothing,” Hanson said.

AWC tutors provide help to all students at any stage of the writing process.

“You do not need to have a completed draft to come in the Writing Center,” Hanson said. “If a student is really struggling to start an assignment or procrastinating for some reason, we will help them out.”

In addition to tutoring, the AWC will be holding workshops this year as well posting blogs to their online website.

AWC blog posts provide helpful writing tips and advice either in general or about specific writing assignments given in classes.

To check out the Atoms Writing Center website and blog posts, click [here](#).

“I always love seeing the Writing Center in action,” Hanson said. “It makes me really happy every time there are people in there to be tutored and tutors step up to help them.”

Elective fair hopes to recruit new students

The announcements commenced the elective fair. Students rushed through the halls with their favorite choices marked. Some

students used this time to introduce themselves to new classes such as IB Topics, while some organized with their friends to join a class together.

The elective fair is a four session fair where students explore electives that they might want to join next year. As some students have heard, business classes have become mandatory in order to graduate. Also starting with the Class of 2017, students must take a few online class throughout their high school career.

Business classes had a large turnout for each session because a lot of people came to find out about economics and personal finance because it is mandatory.

The reason business classes became mandatory is that they want students to know about the economy, finances and their place in society in terms of what they can do to make their lives better financially because of what happened in the market crash in 2008.

Taking business classes can help students be more productive citizens and not have to worry about the financial crisis a lot of people are in, being in debt and struggling financially.

In business, students learn that the most important thing is that they pay themselves back so to build an emergency fund or always have money there when they need it instead of having to always take out a loan.

"We are really hoping that a lot of students will come up and sign up for business classes, there are a lot of classes that will help the students once they sign up for college whether you're majoring in business or not there is always classes you're going to need in order to be productive in any kind of job" business and Info Tech teacher Albert Steppe said.

The writing center elective fair also went pretty well

according to English teacher Stephanie Hanson.

The number of people applying hasn't decreased or increased compared to last year. To encourage students join the Atoms Writing Center, students who have been in the program for a while come to speak about their experience in the class and how they liked it because students relate to other students more than teachers.

"The whole point of the writing center and the advanced composition class is to be open for the students as much as possible" Hanson said.

The class allows students to have two hours every other school day during which they can come in to be tutored and helped with their writing. If not enough students sign up the writing center will only be open after school or during flex.