TRIO Talent Search-South TSS NEWS

Summer Newsletter 2024



Executive Director's Message

Summer Greetings!

It's time to let summer begin! Baseball, swimming, shopping, and relaxing are often associated with summer vacation—and why not? If students worked hard during the school year, they deserve to kick back and unwind. After a moment of enjoying "time in the sun," it will be time to find a summer job, shadow a professional mentor, or maybe take a college class or two. Seniors who plan to begin college in the fall are encouraged to complete the FAFSA. This important step could mean the difference between having enough money to begin school or having to take a "gap year." While there are some advantages to taking a year off, if students really want to attend college in August, they are advised to work with Talent Search-South counselors to make that a reality. There are many steps to take before the next semester begins and the TSS counselors are ready to assist all summer long. Please contact the office to schedule an appointment. Enjoy the summer!





"A Little Progress Each Day Adds Up to Big Results."

Satya Nani

Summer Plans Oharon K. Robertson, Hdministrative Opecialist

Keep your mind active to prevent learning loss during the school break period by taking advantage of summer learning opportunities. TSS offers a Middle School Summer Enrichment Program (SEP) from June 3-July 12 with college road trips included on July 15 for 6-7th graders and an overnight trip for the 8th graders July 16-17. The SEP improves skills in English, computer science, math, and financial literacy/life skills. Inspiring guest speakers from various career paths and campus tours help students prepare for postsecondary education and explore career interests. Participation in the SEP strengthens reading comprehension, teaches money management, provides social connections, and encourages physical and mental activity which benefits overall wellbeing. High schoolers can adapt the habit of continual learning and make the most of the summer by reading, researching college/careers, filling scholarship applications, doing internships, and checking out online learning opportunities. Set aside time daily or at least twice per week to visit the Academic and Financial Resources page at www.wichita.edu/talent search. It includes links to ACT Prep, financial literacy and financial aid, test prep, and Khan Academy which offers free academic resources in math, history, economics, computer programming, art, and more. The Occupational Outlook Handbook is also linked which describes various careers, job outlook, salaries, education requirements, and other pertinent information to help shape students' career interests.

SUMMER LEARNING LOSS FACTS

- Students lose the equivalent of one month of learning during the summer vacation.
- Students lose up to 2.6 months of math skills over the summer.
- Reading skills decline by about the equivalent of two months.
- Teachers spend up to six weeks reviewing past material in the fall to make up for summer learning loss.

Sources: https://www.oxfordlearning.com/10-benefits-of-summer-learning/

https://www.brookings.edu/articles/summer-learning-loss-what-is-it-and-what-can-we-do-about-it/





TRIO Access and Success Conference - North Carolina Central University

Vivian Pham, Hissistant Director

Assistant Director/Statistician Vivian Pham accompanied South High School sophomore Abigail B. to the TRIO Access and Success Conference at North Carolina Central University (NCCU) in Raleigh, NC. It was a unique opportunity to visit the campus and participate in various activities with surrounding TRIO students and colleagues. Here is Abigail's impression of the experience.

"On the first day of the conference all students were assigned to help at the NCCU campus community garden. I really enjoyed the project itself and everything was well organized. There were certain sections for different jobs and that was comforting. I was nervous at first, but as soon as I started my first task it was smooth sailing. I flattened the dirt with a shovel, dug up plants, pulled weeds, and helped spread dirt out evenly into a wooden box.

The next thing we did was take a tour of the campus. I learned more about college and what things I should look for in a college.

I really enjoyed what the campus had to offer, and began considering it as a potential college for the future, despite my reluctance to be far from Kansas. Later that evening, we returned to the student union for the meet and greet reception. This was probably the most surprising part of the conference. It turned out to be a glow party reception! I enjoyed the BINGO game the most because I was able to meet other people from other states.

On the last day, I attended the workshop called Embracing the Power of Personal Responsibility. I had a good time at this session and the basic message was that we are always responsible for ourselves. The presenter recited a cool poem at the beginning and ended with a group activity where we had to come up with responsible solutions to different situations.

Overall, I got out of my comfort zone and got to experience the similarities and differences between North Carolina and Kansas. Once again, thank you for giving me this amazing opportunity."

Thanks to Abigail for sharing her experience. Talent Search-South sponsors its participants to attend student conferences and offers many opportunities throughout the year for students to visit various college campuses and take advantage of numerous other developmental opportunities for academic success.

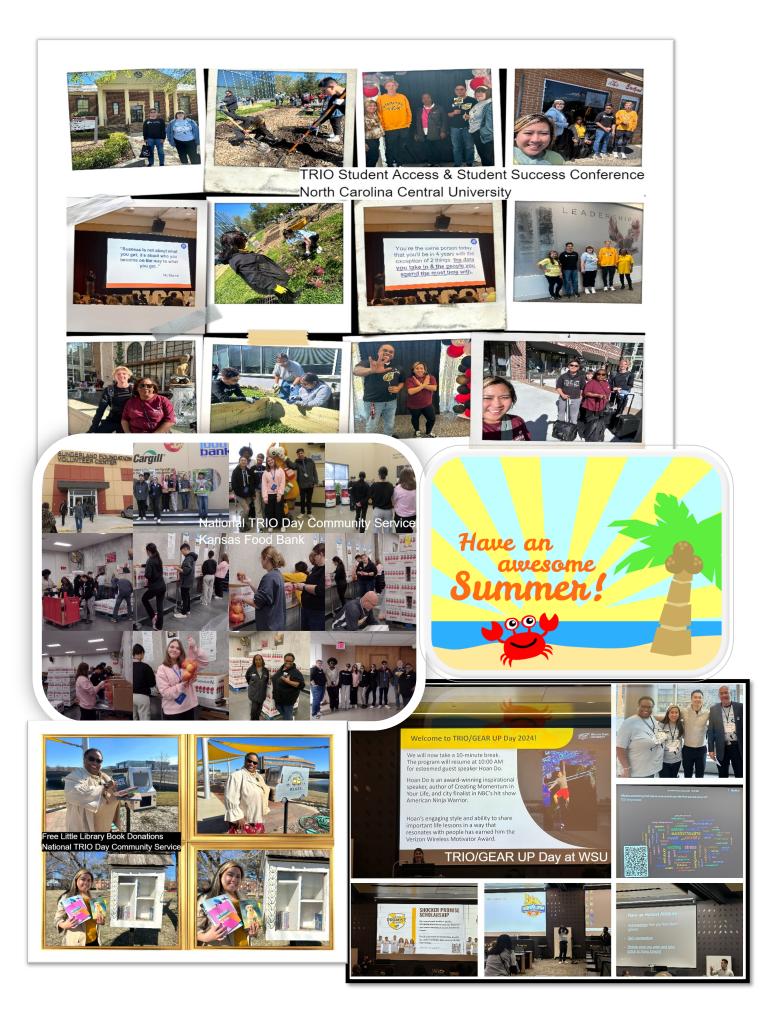












TRIO Alumni

Sharon K. Robertson, Hdministrative Specialist

Once TRIO students graduate from high school, they become TRIO alumni . TRIO graduates from the Missouri, Kansas, and Nebraska areas are eligible for inclusion in the MO-KAN-NE (MKN) Alumni Directory which helps to keep TRIO alumni connected. MKN is a regional chapter of the national TRIO organization known as the Educational Opportunity Association (EOA). MKN and EOA work to provide professional development resources to its members and assists first-generation, under-represented students, students with disabilities, and veterans to gain access to and succeed in post-secondary and graduate education.



The National TRIO Alumni Association (NTAA) encourages alumni engagement, professional growth, mentorship, and opportunities to give back and advocate for TRIO programs. Graduating from high school does not mean graduating from TRIO. Those who choose to pursue college can check with their school to see if college level TRIO programs are available like Student Support Services, McNair, and Veterans Upward Bound. These programs can provide necessary support, resources, and advising to TRIO college students. For more information, contact a TRIO advisor. For more about the TRIO Alumni Directory, please see the information below.

"Graduating from high school does not mean graduating from TRIO."



JUNE

- 06/01 SAT Test Online
- 06/03 Middle School Summer Enrichment Program (SEP) Begins
- 06/07 ACT Registration Deadline

06/08 ACT Test

06/19 Juneteenth/No SEP

JULY

- 07/04 Independence Day/No SEP
- 07/12 SEP Classes End; SEP Academic Awards & Showcase07/13 ACT Test
- 07/15 SEP 6th & 7th Grade Road Trip
- 07/15-17 SEP 8th Grade Road Trip

AUGUST

- 08/09 ACT registration deadline
- 08/14 First day of School





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MISSION STATEMENT

The mission of the TRIO Talent Search-South program is to identify, encourage, and assist low income and potential first generation college students to complete a secondary education, enroll in postsecondary education, and complete a postsecondary program.

STAFF

Larry Ramos, Executive Director Vivian Pham, Assistant Director Sharon K. Robertson, Administrative Specialist





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