



TS EXPRESS

NEWSLETTER

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Director's Message

Welcome back to school! What an exciting time for TRIO Talent Search students. It seems like a short time ago that the staff and students were in the midst of the summer enrichment program.

Congratulations to all the Talent Search students who successfully completed the Middle School Summer Enrichment Program and the OnTrack program. These students remained focused and demonstrated the motivation it takes to be successful in academics. They probably won't suffer from "summer melt" because they took the time to become better students.

The new school year is upon us and with it comes another chance to prepare for the future. Engage the help of the Talent Search counselors early on and plan to participate in the many activities highlighted in this newsletter. Most of all, have a productive school year!

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"It is not always people who start out the smartest who end up the smartest." – Carol Dweck (Mindset: The New Psychology of Success, Amazon book)

Emily Roets-Estevez, Program Educational
Advisor | Financial Literacy Coordinator
presents

Student Spotlight: Rylan

TRIO/GEAR UP Day at WSU 11/11/22



Rylan first joined TRIO Talent Search (TS) as an AVID student at Jardine Middle School and is currently a sophomore at North High School. At North, Rylan is involved in the AVID and BioMed programs, track, cross country, and honors courses. As an active TS participant, Rylan has attended the campus visit to Emporia State University, TRIO/GEAR UP Day at Wichita State University, and TS College JumpStart. During the summer, Rylan continued to show dedication to his future by completing 3.5 hours of OnTrack modules. These modules covered topics to prepare him for 10th grade, applying for college, and to explore different career options. After graduation, Rylan hopes to attend Washburn University and become a business owner. As a TRIO TS student, Rylan feels that the program has furthered his interest in college and helped him explore different college options.

Welcome Back

- Stephanie Haynes, Middle School Director



Middle school is an amazing, exciting journey. In middle school, there is more freedom, independence, and more things to become involved in. Students are more successful when they have ideal expectations. TRIO Talent Search is here to help.



Here are six things that students can expect in middle school:



ACT Prep

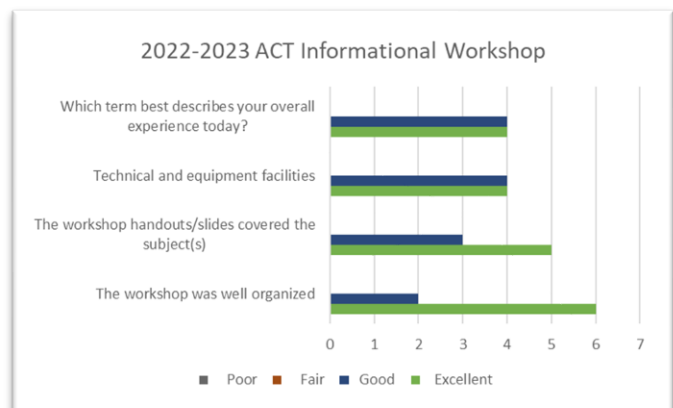
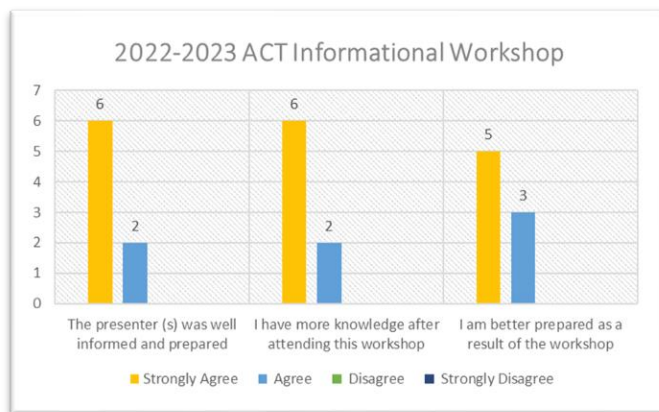
- Thip Phichith, Program Educational Advisor | ACT/SAT Coordinator

2023-2024 Test Dates (National)

Test Date	Registration Deadline	Late Registration Deadline	Photo Upload & Standby Deadline
September 9, 2023	August-23	August-23	September-23
October 28, 2023	September-23	October-23	October-23
December 9, 2023	November-23	November-23	December-23
February 10, 2024	January-23	January-23	February-23
April 13, 2024	March-23	March-23	April-23
June 8, 2024	May-23	May-23	May-23
July 13, 2024*	June-23	June-23	July-23

Source: <https://www.act.org/>

Program Educational Advisor Thip Phichith conducted an ACT informational workshop on April 28th in the library at Southeast High School. Nine sophomores attended. A PowerPoint presentation was used to cover test-taking tips and guessing strategies to help students better prepare for the ACT. In this workshop, students also learned what the ACT test consists of, when to take the ACT, how to register for the ACT, ACT test dates, registration deadlines, and how the ACT is scored. Tutoring resources were also provided. At the end of the presentation, students logged in to their laptops to play a fun game that Phichith created using Blooket. The game consisted of eight math questions relevant to the practice ACT test. The students enjoyed playing the game and had a wonderful time. At the end of the session, students were given a workshop evaluation to complete before their dismissal. Below are the results from the student evaluations. Phichith plans to do more ACT prep workshops at Southeast for the new school year.



For more about the ACT, visit www.wichita.edu/talentsearch or visit Act.org.

College Scorecard

- Mani Souriya, Associate Director | Statistician

As students begin exploring college options, it is important to identify which option works best for them. The College Scorecard tool at <https://collegescorecard.ed.gov> can assist students in researching potential colleges. Whether students choose to pursue a certificate program, two-year associate degree, or a four-year bachelor's degree, postsecondary education is expensive even with financial aid. Therefore, every student should carefully consider the criteria specific to their needs: college type, admission requirements, majors, location, total cost, financial aid, institution size, and community engagement opportunities.

During the academic year, TRIO Talent Search partners with TRIO Talent Search-South to offer campus visits to high school students. Campus visits are a vital part of the decision-making process. They allow students to explore campus facilities, such as the residence halls, food options, admissions, and financial aid. It is an opportunity to interact with current students/faculty/staff and gain a better understanding of the campus culture beyond the tailored brochure. The campus visit schedule for 2023-2024 is listed below along with key questions for students to ask during the visits.

Admissions	Financial Aid	Classroom	Housing	Student Life
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> What is the school known for? 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> How much will tuition and expenses cost? 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> What is the average class size? 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Is student housing guaranteed for four years? 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> What is the campus like on weekends?
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> What majors are offered? 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> What financial aid options are offered? 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> How soon must one choose a major? 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> What type of housing is available? 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> What student clubs, groups activities, fraternities, or sororities are available?
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> What are the admissions requirements? 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> How accessible are professors outside of class? 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> How accessible are professors outside of class? 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Would there be a roommate or living alone? 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Are any programs offered to help students adjust to college life?
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Which standardized test scores do they require? 				



Campus Visits 2023-2024

Emporia State University, Oct 12

WSU Tech (NCAT/South), Oct 26

Kansas State University, Nov 2

University of Kansas, Nov 9

Garden City Community College, Dec 1*

Wichita State University, Mar 5

Southwestern College, Mar 22*

Butler Community College, Apr 9

Pittsburg State University, Apr 18*

***Dates TBD and subject to change.**

College Jump Start

- Sharon Robertson, Administrative Specialist



In collaboration with TRIO Talent Search-South, Talent Search will host College Jump Start on Monday, September 18th. College Jump Start is an opportunity for high school juniors and seniors to learn more about the services Talent Search offers and how they can begin planning and taking steps to prepare for college. Here are just a few topics that will be covered:

- ✓ TS Program Services and the College Campus Visit Schedule
- ✓ Facts vs. Myths About College Campuses and Financial Aid
- ✓ High School Graduation & College Admission Requirements
- ✓ College Application Fee Waivers
- ✓ ACT/SAT Prep
- ✓ Mentoring and Career Exploration Opportunities

TRIO Talent Search is 100% funded by the United States Department of Education and is hosted by Wichita State University.

SERVICES PROVIDED:

- Campus Visits
- Mentoring, Career and Personal Counseling
- Tutoring & After School Tutoring Program
- Middle School Summer Enrichment Program
- College Admissions, Financial Aid, and Financial Literacy Programs
- ACT & SAT Test Prep

TRIO WORKS

Jump Start Your Future!

9 Most Common Soft Skills

Employers Want

- Suresh Menon, Program Educational Advisor | Mentoring and Career Coordinator

According to "Push Far" the world's leading mentoring software company in the world and "Top Resume", the world's leading top resume writing service in the world, the following soft skills are skills that employers look for from a prospective candidate in the present time.

5

Creative Problem-Solving and Innovation

Companies are looking for individuals who can think logically and creatively to come up with solutions to problems that may arise in the workplace. The ability to come up with new ideas while addressing existing problems is a plus.

1

Communication

This covers both speaking and active listening skills. By using past experiences as examples, a candidate must be able to explain how he or she used these skills whether in-person or via electronic media to complete an assignment or project.

6

Time Management

Employers want staff who can manage themselves to get the job done efficiently and on schedule without the need for a supervisor having to look over their shoulder.

2

Teamwork

The ability to collaborate and work well with others and blend into the existing work culture is something that employers look for from a prospective candidate. Learning to trust others, work together and give and accept ideas are great skill to have.

7

Respectfulness

Companies want individuals who show respect to fellow employees by being team players, showing up to work on time, meeting deadlines, and being polite.

3

Positive Attitude

Maintaining a positive attitude is a plus for the workplace. Perceiving, evaluating and responding appropriately to one's own emotions and the emotions of others makes the workplace a more conducive environment to work.

8

Leadership

Employers are looking for individuals who want to build a career with the company, who are not afraid to make mistakes, try new ideas, and manage others.

4

Adaptability

Employers want employees who are open to exploring new ideas and trying new concepts, who do not shy away from adapting to changes in the workplace and are willing to embrace change and learn the new skills that are required to adapt to the ever-changing market.

9

Computer Skills

Having a basic understanding of the various programs available on the computer and using them to make presentations is a valuable asset. Due to COVID-19, many companies are giving their employees the option to work from home or the workplace. The familiarity of arranging meetings via zoom, doing presentations, using excel spreadsheets and charts will help a job candidate stand out from the rest of the applicants.

Source: pushfar.com and topresume.com

MISSION STATEMENT

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

TRIO Talent Search

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Notice of Funding:

TRIO Talent Search is 100% funded by the United States Department of Education and is hosted by WSU.

Calendar

September 2023

9/4-5 | Labor Day; No School
9/7 | SAT Registration Deadline
9/9 | ACT Test
9/23 | ACT Registration Deadline

October 2023

10/5 | SAT Registration Deadline
10/7 | SAT Test
10/10-13 | No school
10/12 | ESU Campus Visit
10/26 | WSU Tech Campus Visit
10/28 | ACT Test
10/31 | Halloween

November 2021

11/2 | SAT Registration Deadline;
KSU Campus Visit
11/4 | SAT Test
11/9 | KU Campus Visit
11/11 | Veteran's Day; No School
11/23 | ACT Registration Deadline
11/23-24 | No School; Fall Recess
11/25 | Thanksgiving



Program Staff

Clockwise: Sharon K. Robertson, Administrative Specialist; **Larry Ramos**, Executive Director; **Mani Souriya**, Associate Director/Statistician; **Stephanie Haynes**, Middle School Director; **Thip Phichith**, Program Educational Advisor/ACT-SAT Coordinator; **Emily Roets-Estevez**, Program Educational Advisor/Financial Literacy Coordinator; and **Suresh Menon**, Program Educational Advisor/Mentoring Coordinator