

Message from the Director Larry Ramos



Graduates Edition

Congratulations to all the graduates and best wishes for a relaxing summer. It is truly a good feeling whenever summer vacation comes around, but for graduates, it is even better because they are officially done with high school. How does that sound?

For many, the thought of ending high school is exciting because they have a plan for the next chapter — college, a job, or some other adventure. Not having a plan and not knowing what to do after high school is a scary thought.

The thought of leaving the safe confines of high school can bring on anxiety and uncertainty.

The counselors at TRIO Talent Search are prepared to work with students on their immediate and long-term goals. Call an advisor to prepare for the next step. It just might be the most important call students make.



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Calendar Events

June

- 06/03 SAT test
- 06/05 Middle School Summer Enrichment Program (SEP) begins
- 06/07 SEP campus visit
- 06/10 ACT test
- 06/14 SEP campus visit
- 06/16 ACT registration deadline
- 06/21 SEP campus visit
- 06/28 SEP campus visit

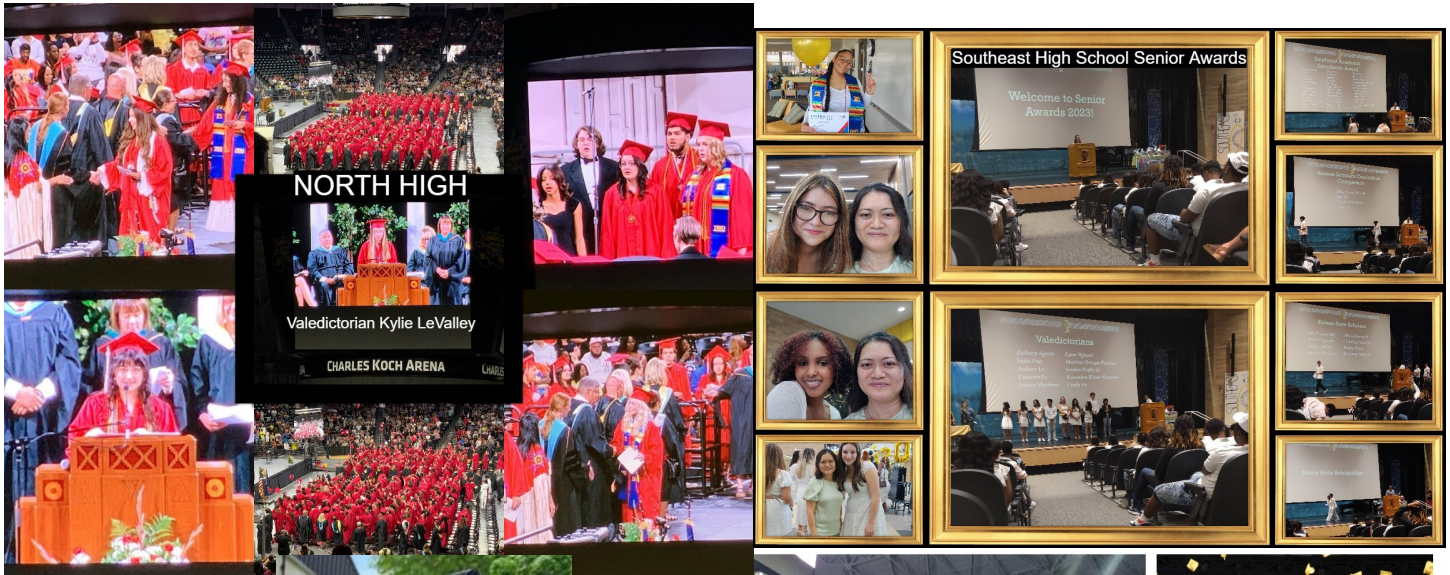
July

- 07/04 Independence Day; No SEP
- 07/05 SEP campus visit
- 07/07 SEP Talent Showcase
- 07/10 SEP KC road trip
- 07/11-07/14 SEP Branson, MO college road trip
- 07/14 SEP ends
- 07/15 ACT test
- 07/28 SAT registration deadline

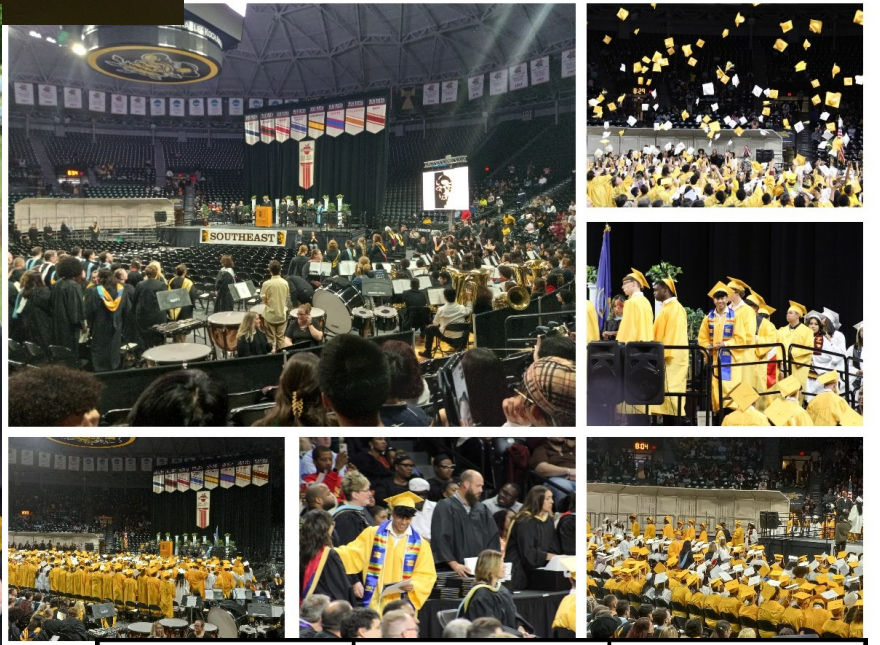
August

- 08/04 ACT registration deadline
- 08/15 First day of School

Graduating Class of 2023



Congratulations



TS Graduates Become TRIO Alumni

Sharon K. Robertson, Administrative Specialist

The Talent Search staff is so proud of this year's graduates and wishes each of them all the best in their future endeavors and hope that they will keep striving for excellence and the rich benefits of a higher education. Don't forget to give the TRIO advisor the most up-to-date contact information so that program staff can keep in touch and track post-graduation progress.

Post-graduation plans may include technical/vocational school or a two-year or four-year college. Stay connected with TRIO by checking to see if college-level TRIO programs, such as Student Support Services or McNair, are offered at the selected college or university. College-level TRIO programs can help with career advice, course selection, financial aid options, tutoring services, and success skill development.

All high school graduates of the TRIO Talent Search Program can also become official members of the National TRIO Alumni Association (NTAA) or the MO-KAN-NE TRIO Alumni group (see above). The national alumni network provides support, resources, TRIO news, events, and valuable opportunities for networking with peers in the work industry who share similar interests. Learn more at <https://trio-alumni.hivebrite.com/>. Talent Search graduates are the lamp light of the future and the testament that TRIO works!



CALLING MO-KAN-NE TRIO ALUMNI!

Complete the MO-KAN-NE Alumni Directory Info form, by scanning the QR Code or by going to bit.ly/3iDNpor

Encourage other TRIO Alumni from a Missouri, Kansas, or Nebraska TRIO program to complete the form.

Contact Edén Tullis (etullis@emporia.edu) or Angela Zarybnicky (angelaz@nwmissouri.edu) with any questions.

TRIO ALUMNI DIRECTORY

Membership Benefits

- TRIO alumni initiatives and COE updates sent via newsletter
- Discounted/free registration for TRIO state & regional events
- Opportunity to be featured via MO-KAN-NE networks
- Opportunity to be selected for TRIO state & regional awards
- Participate in quarterly academic/professional development webinars
- Become a mentor to current TRIO students
- Become an advocacy ambassador for TRIO

How often? What purposes?

- Seek to reach out to alumni once a month.
- Alumni can connect through MO-KAN-NE social groups, i.e. LinkedIn, Facebook
- Access to alumni information
 - MO-KAN-NE leaders & alumni committee members
 - Regional & state officers & directors
 - National TRIO Alumni Association

Info Collected

• First and Last Name	• Current City/State	• Company and Job Title
• Personal Email	• TRIO Alumni Institution(s) & Program Affiliation(s)	• Recommended Alumni Referral
• Phone Number		

Student Spotlight: Chasity

Stephanie Haynes, Middle School Director



*...the one thing people
can't take away from you
is your education, and it
is worth the investment."*

- Former First Lady
Michelle Obama

Chasity is an eighth-grade AVID student attending Gordon Parks Academy STEM Leaders in Applied and Media Arts. She is participating in the Middle School Summer Enrichment Program and plans to enroll in East or Heights high school. For college, she would like to go to Berkeley College of Music and then continue her education at Julliard. She would like to earn a bachelor's degree in performing arts and major in music production and business management.

Her hobbies are playing instruments, sleeping, reading, making beats in audio production, and conversing with friends. The most important things in Chasity's life are education and the future. She aspires to be the best and nothing less. She is dedicated, ambitious, hardworking, and plans to succeed. She believes that a person can do anything as long as they are motivated and chases after their dreams. Her advice to other students is to make their dreams a reality.

Summer Tips for Juniors To Prepare for Senior Year

Suresh Menon, Program Educational Advisor

Enroll in summer school to get ahead or make up classes, take courses on-line or enroll at a community college.

Visit the local library. Check out a book to improve reading, writing and vocabulary skills. A librarian can help find books on careers to pursue.

**Consider taking the pre-
ACT or PSAT tests.**

Get a part-time job or volunteer. This builds confidence, looks good on a resume, and improves communication and leadership skills.

Learn the importance of managing money and preparing a budget.

Uncover potential career interests:

- **List all the ways free time is spent.** Think of activities enjoyed throughout a typical day and which ones are motivational.
- **Determine which subjects are of greatest interest.** Create a list of favorite high school subjects and courses where grades are the highest. This can help inspire students to align their interests with their skills.
- **Identify strengths.** Ask teachers, counselors, friends and family what they think and be open to feedback. Take career aptitude tests to assess what profession is best suited for the student considering their personality, skills, interests, and values.
- **Explore the Occupational Outlook Handbook (<https://www.bls.gov/ooh/>)** to gain information on various types of jobs, training and educational requirements, working conditions, job outlook, and earnings.
- **Explore trends.** The U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics usually lists the top fastest-growing occupations along with salary information. This can help to narrow down career options and identify a list of potential careers to explore further.
- **Engage help.** Get advice on career options from the high school counselor, a college career counselor, or a TRIO Talent Search program educational advisor.

Research colleges, technical schools, and internships.

Pay attention to size, location, admissions requirements, if they offer courses of interest, housing options, social climate, and overall atmosphere. Utilize services offered by TRIO Talent Search or contact a college career counselor to learn more. Don't forget to ask about financial aid.



Volunteering for Scholarships

Emily Roets-Estevez, Program Educational Advisor

Even when school is not in session, there are still ways to prepare for scholarship applications. Most scholarships first consider a student's grades (i.e. GPA), but there are other factors that scholarship committees look at when deciding who to give funds to. One of these factors is volunteer service.

When a student volunteers, they demonstrate a desire to give back to their community. By volunteering over the summer, a student also shows that they are willing to utilize their own free time to help others, which can set them apart from other students who stay home over the break.

A resource for finding local volunteer opportunities is the United Way Volunteer Center (<https://unitedwayplains.galaxydigital.com/need/>).



This online tool lets volunteers search for opportunities based on their skills and interests and connects them with the event's organizer. This website also tracks volunteer hours, so students can download a PDF of their service to attach to scholarship applications.

However, a volunteer does not need to utilize this website to track their volunteer hours; instead, they can keep a running Word document with the date of volunteer service, the number of hours of service, the name of the organization, a quick description of the service performed, and the contact information of the event organizer. Have a safe and productive summer break and reach out to an advisor for assistance with finding volunteer opportunities.



Understanding the ACT

Thip Phichith, Program Educational Advisor

The ACT is the American College Test. This standardized test is used by most colleges and universities to determine admissions qualifications. It contains four sections of multiple-choice questions, including English, math, reading, and science.

The full test is around three hours long. Students that are currently enrolled in 10th, 11th or 12th grade can take the ACT. Taking the ACT makes students more visible to colleges and gives them an edge for scholarship competitions across the country.

TRIO Talent Search can provide up to four fee waivers for eligible students. Fee waivers cover registration and late fees for either the ACT test with a writing test or the one without writing.

Students who are most likely to meet eligibility requirements include those enrolled in 11th or 12th grade and those who meet one or more of the indicators for economic need; for example, those participating in a free or reduced school lunch program (based on the income levels established by the U.S. Department of Agriculture).

For more information, visit www.wichita.edu/talentsearch or contact ACT-SAT Coordinator Thip Phichith at 316-978-6754 or email her at thip.phichith@wichita.edu.

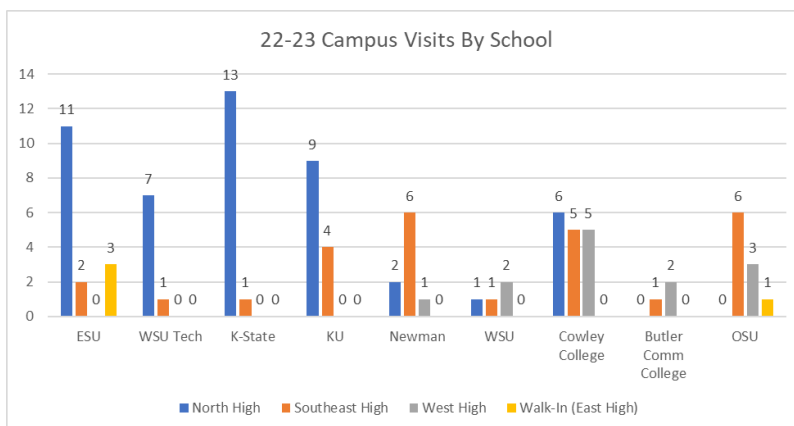
The ACT offers a college admissions test, college course placement, and a career planning component.

2023-2024 National ACT Test Dates and Registration Deadlines

ACT Test Date	Registration Deadline	Late Registration Deadline
June 10, 2023	May 5, 2023	May 19, 2023
July 15, 2023	June 16, 2023	June 23, 2023
September 9, 2023	August 4, 2023	August 18, 2023
October 28, 2023	September 22, 2023	October 6, 2023
December 9, 2023	November 3, 2023	November 17, 2023
February 10, 2024	January 5, 2024	January 19, 2024
April 13, 2024	March 8, 2024	March 22, 2024
June 8, 2024	May 3, 2024	May 17, 2024
July 13, 2024	June 7, 2024	June 21, 2024

2022-2023 Campus Visits Manivone Souriya, Associate Director/Statistician

Talent Search offered nine campus visits to the students this year, including Emporia State University, WSU Tech, Kansas State University, University of Kansas, Newman University, Wichita State University, Cowley College, Butler Community College, and Oklahoma State University. Students were exposed to four-year public and private as well as two-year colleges. Students were provided with a buffet and boxed breakfast before each campus visit. There were a total of 93 campus visit attendees. Below left is a chart of student attendance for the 2022-2023 academic year.



Oklahoma State University

Talent Search Is Here to Serve!

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 post-secondary program.



Program Staff

Clockwise: 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; **Suresh Menon**, Program Educational Advisor/Mentoring-Career Coordinator; **Sharon K. Robertson**, Administrative Specialist; and **Larry Ramos**, Executive Director



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WICHITA STATE UNIVERSITY

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