



What's Up with **GEAR UP**

Oakville Middle and High School

STUDENT-LED CONFERENCES A SUCCESS!



The administration in collaboration with Gear UP decided to pilot student lead conferences for the senior class. Penny Reinitz (GearUp Parent Support Specialist) coordinated the event with the assistance of Mr. Crowley. By now you're wondering, "What is a student led conference"?

We are all familiar with parent conferences, where the teacher shares grades and how the student is progressing in class. A student-led conference is a conference with parents (significant adult) and the teacher, and is led by the student. Students lead parents through a discussion of their academic accomplishments, their goals, and plans for their future.

Why hold student-led conferences?

- Responsibility: It makes students responsible for their school work
- Student Voice: Students can tell their story from their perspective
- Future Planning: Students make plans with their parent(s) for beyond high school. This is an excellent way to start planning early for college and have a plan in place that both parent(s) and student can work towards



Tamara shares her academic portfolio and academic achievements during the student-led conference.



Lindsey shares her plans after high school with her aunt and grandmother. She's planning on gearing up to attend college. Way to go Lindsey!



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SAINT MARTIN'S UNIVERSITY ADMISSION COUNSELOR MEETS WITH SENIORS AND JUNIORS IN MS. CARLSON'S CLASSROOM



Kellen Willis, Admissions Counselor, talks to seniors and juniors about what it takes to gain admission to the university. Five seniors plan on going to Saint Martin's next fall.



OAKVILLE STUDENTS ATTEND NATIONAL COLLEGE FAIR



Casilda, Heather, and Debbie Topel fill their hand bags with College pamphlets, catalogs, and give-aways.

The **Seattle National College Fair**, featured representatives from more than 200 universities, colleges, community colleges, and technical institutes from across the country, internationally, and in Washington state. On Nov 2nd, Oakville students and staff joined an estimated 3,000 juniors and seniors in getting their questions answered about college admissions, cost, scholarships, ACT and SAT college exam score requirements. What a great opportunity for Oakville students to make contact with colleges state wide, locally, nationally and internationally.



Penny R. is on a mission to get updated college materials for the Parent and Student Resource Center.



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NATIVE CULTURE ARTS AND CRAFT CLASS A BIG HIT AMONG STUDENTS

"I think the class is cool"

"It is great to see native crafts in school"

"I like the class, I will continue to take the class whenever I can"

"I liked making moccasins"

"I'm learning how to make cedar baskets and things"

Elaine McCloud is the instructor for the class. She is a Chehalis tribal member and basket weaver.



Todd is showing the dream catcher he made. He made the two ring dream catcher by just looking at a picture. Way to go Todd! Above are native crafts that were made by students.





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7th and 8th Grade Students Can Sign Up For A Four Year Scholarship To Go To College

What is the **COLLEGE BOUND SCHOLARSHIP**? Washington State offers the promise of free tuition and books to **qualifying** 7th and 8th grade students. The scholarship covers the amount of tuition (at public college rates) not covered by other state financial aid, plus \$500 for books!

How Does It Work?

Check and see if you are eligible. To be eligible for the COLLEGE BOUND SCHOLARSHIP, your family income must meet the income eligibility requirements:

- If you have a foster child, you are automatically eligible to apply;
- 7th and 8th grade students complete and sign the application and pledge form while they are in the 7th and 8th grade. The application is online at: www.hecb.wa.gov/collegebound.
- Graduate from a Washington high school or (home school);
- Maintain a high school GPA(Grade Point Average) of at least a 2.0 (a C Average);
- Be a good citizen and stay crime free;
- Be a Resident of Washington State;
- Apply for admission to a 4 year, 2 year, Community College, and Private Colleges and Universities in Washington State when you're a senior in high school.

Is There A Deadline?

The deadline is June 1st of 2008 for 8th graders and 7th graders are encouraged to apply this year too. **What State Agency Is Administering The Scholarship:** The Higher Education Coordinating Board (HECB) is administering the College Bound Scholarship program. Phone: 1-888-535-0747 and they are located in Olympia, Washington. **Who Is Eligible To Apply?** Seventh and eighth grade students from families eligible for free or reduced-priced lunches who sign the pledge may participate. Their family income must remain at 65 percent or less of the state's median income by the time of high school graduation to permit a scholarship award.

College Bound Scholarship Income Eligibility	
If the number of people in your family is:	Then Your 2006 family income must be equal to or less than:
1	\$18,900
2	\$25,400

Reason for the Program

The program is to motivate and prepare low-income students to go to college. Washington ranks 32nd nationally in the percentage of low-income students who attend college. Seventy two percent of the 56,000 low-income seventh and eighth graders are unlikely to enroll or even aspire to attend college. The **COLLEGE BOUND SCHOLARSHIP** program provides hope and incentive for students and families who otherwise might not consider college as an option because of its cost.