



# TRiO Newsletter

July 2015

Wallace Community College

## Talent Search Summer Enrichment

### Special points of interest:

- Talent Search Summer Enrichment
- 2015 Bridge Retreat
- Student Support Services Participants Shadow Local Jobs

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TRiO Educational Talent Search (ETS) on the Sparks Campus has not allowed the conclusion of the school year to leave its participants idle. Two weeks during the month of June were filled with enrichment activities for all Talent search participants entering grades 7-12.

During the middle school enrichment week, participants learned lessons that will be beneficial for the rest of their school years as well as some that will continue to be useful throughout their lives. Mr. Derek Crawford, Wallace Engineering Graphics and Animation instructor, served as a mentor to the students sharing his personal and professional story. He encouraged the students to set goals and take the necessary steps to achieve them.



Ms. Karla Guilford instructs high school ETS students in writing essays for college and scholarship applications.

The week also included a “Writing for College” workshop series. Participants were instructed in essay writing via Skype by Ms. Karla Guilford, English instructor at Tidewater Community College in Norfolk, Virginia. Students practiced research techniques and learned to use graphic organizers to write an essay comparing and contrasting two colleges that they would consider attending. The winning essay, as determined by Ms. Guilford, will receive a Visa gift card. These students were also able to practice for the ACT Explore test that is

taken by all eighth-graders in Alabama public schools.

High school participants experienced an equally productive week beginning with “Speak Up!,” a public speaking session facilitated by Wallace Community College speech instructor, Ms. Shatangi Lane. Ms. Lane worked with the students on proper public speaking practices before assigning topics for them to demonstrate their oratorical skills. This group benefited from the instruction of Ms. Guilford as well. She also guided the ETS high school students in preparing essays that may be used to complete college and scholarship applications.



Talent Search participants from Abbeville, Barbour County, and Eufaula High Schools pause for a picture after completing community service at Eufaula Day Care Center.

## More About Talent Search Summer Enrichment

In addition to other activities, both middle and high school students had some similar experiences. Both groups participated in sessions called “Career Tech & Entrepreneurship” during which the participants explored the potential for success when a technical degree is combined with a great work ethic and sound business practices. In support of students operating at their best, they were introduced to *The 7 Habits of Highly Effective Teens* by Sean Covey and took part in discussions and activities based on the book. To assist the students in applying the principles learned and to help them visualize their futures, they were guided in goal-setting activities during which they created vision boards. The students also acquired a bit of financial knowledge using the FDIC Money Smarts curriculum. Team building exercises and a tour of the Wallace Community College-Sparks Campus completed their enrichment week.

One of the highlights of the middle and high school Summer Enrichment was a community service project. Prior to attending Summer Enrichment, middle school participants received letters asking them to bring paper products to be donated to the Eufaula Day Care Center. Eufaula Day Care Center is a non-profit United Way agency whose mission is to provide safe, affordable, and quality child care for infants to preschool age children. During Summer Enrichment, participants attended workshops on the importance of being involved in community service for self-fulfillment and for applying for scholarships. As the culmination of this component, high school participants visited Eufaula Day Care Center to deliver the donated items and to do physical tasks that are normally paid for out of the center’s budget or done by the staff.

—Buffae Howard



Middle school Talent Search participants with boxes of paper products to be donated to the Eufaula Day Care Center.



Thailana Salary, I'yunna Bedell, Halle Poole, Taylor Hicks, and Ashanti Mayo work on a team building activity.



### Bridge Retreat in Troy, Alabama



The 2015 First-Year College Experience Bridge Class participated in their annual retreat in Troy, Alabama. The students toured Troy University and got a first-hand look at the life of a TROJAN! They also got a little campus history along the way. After the tour they had a fun-filled lunch at Mikata's Japanese Steakhouse where the hibachi chef gave them a memorable show. The students then made their way to Butter and Egg Adventures for an exciting afternoon in the sun. From low ropes course activities to teambuilding, they did it all! By banding together and putting their thinking caps on they conquered every task that was thrown at them and made each moment memorable. The students not only enjoyed the afternoon and each other but learned things about one another as well. The retreat was a resounding success!  
—Jertavia Lyman



More retreat pictures on page 5.

## TRiO Student Support Services Participants Tour Keystone Foods Facility

On Wednesday, July 8<sup>th</sup>, twelve participants toured the Keystone Foods Chicken Plant. The tour began with a presentation from the plant's General Manager, Shaun Morris. He discussed the plant's vision, mission, and the core values of Keystone Foods. He was also excited that Keystone provides some of the world's finest consumer brands with high-quality, fresh and frozen animal protein products including poultry, beef, fish and pork. The tour included visiting the live and processing plants and experiencing the administrative departments such as Human Resources and Medical Services. Participants were very impressed with the valuable information received. They were even more in awe of the employee drawing for a brand new car when the plant reaches a certain number of "safety" hours. The SSS participants complimented the staff on a well organized tour and especially on the cooked chicken samples which included Pizza Hut wings, Wendy's chicken nuggets and spicy chicken filets.



## TRiO Student Support Services Partners With Farmers Exchange Bank

Farmers Exchange Bank welcomed SSS participants, Jaleah Kennedy and Natori Tyson, to their place of business on Thursday, July 9<sup>th</sup>. The two plan to pursue a Bachelor's degree in Business Administration and Accounting. The students interviewed the President/CEO, Mr. Greg Faison, Bucky Porter, EVP/Senior Lending Officer, Sheryl Wolfe, Branch Manager/Loan Officer, Amy Gover, Marketing, Gerry Ingram, Branch Administration, and Pat Ivey, Customer Service. The bank offers services that include:

- Personal and Business banking
- Personal and Lending Services

Participants received a wealth of detailed banking information. They also toured the lending office where all loans are processed. The students were very impressed that the staff, especially the President/CEO took time out of their busy schedules to explain their duties and responsibilities and to encourage them.



Natori Tyson and Jaleah Kennedy are pictured with FEB Marketing Representative, Amy Gover.

## TRiO Student Support Services Participants Job Shadow At Eufaula Day Care Center

On Monday, June 22nd, Latasha Jackson and Lakita Davis shadowed pre-K teachers at the Eufaula Day Care Center. Latasha will complete her general studies and transfer to Troy University in fall 2016. Lakita recently "got the tassel" and enrolled at AUM. Both are pursuing Early Childhood Education degrees. The participants were very excited about their experience at the day care center.

—Terri Ricks



Lakita Davis teaches students puzzle activities.



Latasha Jackson reads "The Foot Book" by Dr. Seuss.





TRiO on the Wallace Community College Sparks and Dothan Campuses is made up of three programs: Student Support Services, Upward Bound and Talent Search. They are federally

funded programs by the U. S. Department of Education that provide support and opportunity for eligible students-middle school through college. To reach any person on this list, call 983-3521 or 687-3543 and then the extension below:

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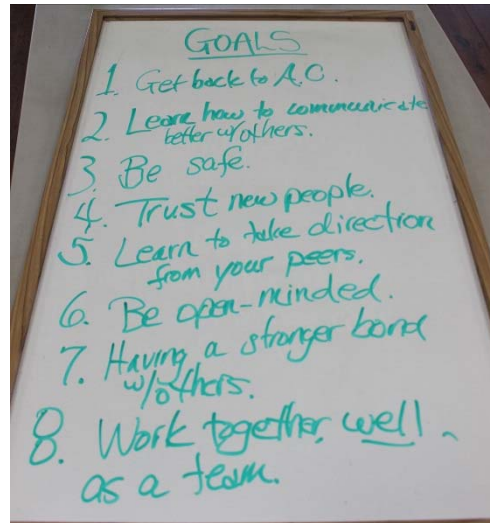
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*“Happiness is not the absence of problems; it’s the ability to deal with them.”*

*—Steve Maraboli*



**TRiO FYCE-Bridge Retreat**

The Bridge Retreat was about setting goals, learning about the other participants and yourself, and accomplishing goals through teamwork.

