



Tassel Talk

PEAK Week!



a call to college

THE PEAK PROGRAM

Volume 9, Issue 3

May 2018



Second graders at John Clem had the wonderful opportunity to learn about A Cappella music and college during a College Comes Into the Classroom event thanks to the Denison student-run singing group, DUwop.



Second graders complete their own "Imagine My Future" workbooks. These students from Hillview are dreaming about their high school graduation in 2028!

Thanks to Denison lecturer, Suzanne Baker, and her enthusiastic education students, 18 second grade classrooms had the opportunity to learn about the brain and talk college during the month of April. Second grade students at Ben Franklin participated in a special activity with Denison Men's and Women's basketball teams, while the students at John Clem were able to enjoy a concert, courtesy of the talented A Cappella singing group from Denison called DUwop. In addition to these special PEAK activities, other college-related events included second graders creating an "Imagine My Future" workbook and celebrating Alma Mater Day with their teachers.



Students at Ben Franklin enjoyed a showcase put on by Denison's Mens and Womens basketball teams. Second graders were reminded by this group of athletes how important it is to be a good student if you want to be an athlete in college.



This student from Cherry Valley shows off her special present given to students at the end of the lesson. A stress ball in the shape of a brain!

Return of Reality Store

For the ninth straight year, every 8th grader will experience a hands-on reality check about how much it costs to live as an adult. PEAK will again sponsor Reality Store, a financial literacy simulation game, in each middle school on May 11, 18 and 23. These

all-day events will be made possible by the generous assistance of nearly



Grants from State Farm Insurance have generously supported the financial literacy components of PEAK's fourth and eighth grade programming for the past six years.

100 volunteers from State Farm, Park National Bank, Denison, COTC/OSUN, and community members. Those students assigned to role-play

a high school dropout find out very quickly that their monthly earnings do not go very far, and that education pays off! 🦋



At the Transportation Needs table, students decide what type of car they want to purchase for themselves. They are assisted by Bill Jones, a volunteer from State Farm, who has been a part of Reality Store for the past 8 years!



Liberty students let us know how they feel about running out of money during the game. They realize our PEAK phrase is true; The More You Learn, The More You Earn!

Wizard Once Again Wonderful @ The Works®



Craig Montgomery, Museum History Directory of The Works, helps students plan their high school graduation party. Their fall PEAK lessons taught them how to prioritize, stick to a budget and be savvy spenders!

For the seventh year, every fourth grader went to The Works to see an amazing, live theatre performance, The Wonderful Wizard of College. Four Ohio State students reprised their roles and the play was directed by Mary Borgia, one of three gifted teachers at Newark City Schools.

Three half-day field trips occurred in late February and early March with all seven elementary buildings. The Works education staff crafted multiple hands-on sessions for the students to experience the facility: artistic scene

investigation, first floor exploration and a financial literacy lesson. 🦋



This student is enjoying exploring one of the many wonderful things The Works has to offer as part of the rotation students do on their field trip.

'Cats in College – The Inside Scoop

This past fall nearly 220 Newark High School graduates headed off to over 60 different colleges across the country with a Last Dollar Grant from A Call to College helping them pay for their post-secondary schooling. Let's meet one of these students in depth:

Brittany Butler is a 2016 NHS graduate who will receive her Bachelor's of Early Childhood Education from The Ohio State University-Newark in 2020.

What were the 3 most important things you did in school to make going to college a reality?

I stayed on top of my grades, attended college visits, and asked lots of questions about the colleges I was considering.

What tips would you give current Wildcats and their families in terms of preparing financially for college?

Don't be afraid to ask for help, apply for scholarships and fill out the FAFSA. Completing the FAFSA is not as difficult as you might imagine.

How is college different than high school?

You are in charge of making your schedule. School is the number one priority, but there is a way to schedule your classes and still have a part time job. You are able to choose classes that apply to your major, and elective classes that are REALLY interesting. College also offers a greater level of independence. Teachers don't offer reminders or credit for late work. I've found this has forced me to be more disciplined in order to get everything accomplished.

What tips would you give to a current NHS Senior about how to get the most out of college and be successful?

Don't hesitate to utilize the services on campus - they are there for your benefit! Ask questions, especially if you are struggling in a class. Professors are there to help you succeed.



Brittany in front of The Ohio State University-Newark amphitheater.

What has been one of your most satisfying involvements in college?

My major is early childhood education so one of my most satisfying involvements has been getting the chance to gain experience in the classroom. I was lucky enough to be placed in a kindergarten classroom at Carson Elementary and a second grade classroom at Licking Valley Elementary. During both experiences, I gained a lot of knowledge from the two teachers that I will apply to my future classroom.

Along the way, who do you feel was most helpful in keeping you on the path to college?

My parents were my biggest support system all along. Even now, I am in my second year of college and they are still supporting me every step of the way.

Where do you see yourself five years from now?

In five years, I see myself graduated from college with a job and living in an apartment with my corgi puppy. 🐾

A Fond Farewell!



In 2009 Janet Schultz, our PEAK pioneer, rolled out the initial phase of our early awareness program (PEAK). Under Janet's direction, this arm of A Call to College has grown to serve over 2,000 2nd, 4th, 6th and 8th grade students each year in Newark's three middle and seven elementary schools. Janet's energy is infectious, and her commitment unwavering. Her actions have left a legacy for countless students in the Newark City School district. Thank you, Janet, for the many ways you have empowered our students to dream big! We can't wait to see what adventures await you!



"One can never consent to creep when one feels the impulse to soar." - Helen Keller