



# Project GRAD Newsletter



## What's the Plan???

Project GRAD Lorain's plan for district wide implementation:

### Ongoing

Campus Family Support/Joining Forces – a full-time social service worker has been placed at each



Project GRAD school in the Southview feeder pattern. As always, workers are available to assist students and their families

with social, emotional and material needs. The Social Service Workers are also trained Ohio Benefits Bank Counselors and are able to meet with parents to help them apply for various benefits and pro-

grams across the county at one location. Parent and student workshops will also be offered.

Success For All literacy program has been implemented district wide.

College Access Coordinator – the College Access Coordinator's role in support of the students will continue at Southview, as a means of helping them meet the requirements for the scholarship.

Summer Institute – students will again be given the opportunity to attend this program as part of the Project GRAD scholarship requirements. Specific

details will be available soon.

### New

College Access Coordinator-A College Access Coordinator has been assigned at Admiral King to sign up students for the Project GRAD scholarship and also to assist all students in college preparation and the search process.

### Coming

Social Service Worker support district wide.

Summer Bridge Program for eighth graders going into ninth grade

Classroom management/discipline program

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## It's Time

We are now two months into the school year and there is plenty of work ahead for Project GRAD Lorain. I am extremely pleased to inform you that there are over 560 students in the Project GRAD Lorain family at Southview who have signed scholarship contracts.

These students and their parents have made the

commitment to graduate in four years or less with a 2.5 GPA, pass the OGT, attend Summer Institutes, take the ACT, and attend the college of their choice. For this, Project GRAD Lorain will provide a \$1,000 per year scholarship for up to four years of college.

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## Special points of interest:

- The Plan
- Scholarship Contracts Update
- Project GRAD Partners
- New Address

## Inside this issue:

What's the Plan	1
It's Time	1
Project GRAD Partners	2
Walk for Success Review	2

## Our Project GRAD Partners

### From Project GRAD Lorain Board President, Len Deluca



My recent attendance at the Project Grad national meeting served to remind me what a great program Project Grad is and share ideas with other GRAD sites. We should be proud in Lorain because our district graduated the highest number of Grad scholars. We are also the first site to go system wide. The passage of the higher education bill that included Project Grad will also serve to strengthen our financial base for the future.

### From College Access Coordinator, Idalyse Rivera, Lorain Southview High School, Project GRAD at Southview High School

It's been a busy month at Southview. On October 4<sup>th</sup> we had our annual "Walk for Success". We visited the homes of all the freshman and sophomore students enrolled at the school. As of today, we have 65 freshman contracts and 45 sopho-

more contracts signed. We are currently visiting all the freshman and sophomore English classes to explain the program to the students. An information packet with scholarship agreements was handed out to the students with a request for 100% participation. Some of the teachers also motivated their students by offering "academic rewards" for bringing in a signed agreement.

### From College Access Coordinator, Tony Richardson, Lorain Admiral King High School

On Saturday, December 13, 2008, Project GRAD Lorain will be holding a WALK-IN-SUCCESS for freshmen students and parents at Lorain Admiral King High School. The ceremony begins at 1:00 p.m. and ends at 3:00 p.m. Our goal is to have each student and their parent sign a Project GRAD contract, which, among other things, includes a \$4,000 scholarship to attend higher education. For more information please contact Anthony Richardson, College Access Coordinator, at (440) 282-9191.

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## Walk for Success Review

**THANK YOU to all who supported the Walk For Success on October 4, 2008**



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*...ensuring a quality public school education for all at risk children in economically disadvantaged communities so that high school graduation rates increase and graduates are prepared to enter and be successful in college.*



**The Project GRAD Lorain Newsletter** is published on a bi-monthly basis. Please contact the Project GRAD Lorain office if you would like to submit information to be considered for the newsletter.

All requests and comments should be forwarded to [mrsjackson.projectgrad@gmail.com](mailto:mrsjackson.projectgrad@gmail.com)

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## From the Director's Desk



It is hard to believe, but Project GRAD Lorain has grown from a dream in Texas to a thriving program. We have two classes of GRAD scholars currently attending college. We were able to graduate 110 GRAD scholars from the class of 2007 and 120 from the class of 2008.

I would like to welcome new staff and changes in personnel at Project GRAD Lorain. Ms. Tawana Jackson has come aboard as the new Executive Assistant. Allyn Duplaga is still with us as the College Scholarship Manager and I would like to welcome Saunjula Staton as our new Fund Development Consultant. Project GRAD Lorain also welcomes two new College Access Coordinators, Idalyse Rivera at Southview High School and Tony Richardson at Admiral King High School.

*Mrs. Latoya Caver-Jackson*