

TRANSITION ALLIANCE PROGRAM (TAP) NEWSLETTER!!

November 24, 2014

Thanksgiving Day!!

As Thanksgiving approaches, it is a time to reflect on what we are thankful for whether it is a simple pleasure or a more complex one. Here are some responses from our TAP students and staff around the Senior High when they were asked, "What are you thankful for this Thanksgiving season?"

Family, friends, sports, good food, Jesus Christ, pets, relatives, jobs (new and old), clothes, shelter, good hunting, car, bowling, health, peace, military, church, and having a few days off from school!

What are you thankful for?

TAP Students Learn Interview Skills

The TAP students met in the Little Theatre on November 17th to discuss and learn about basic interviewing skills. A few of the skills we covered were having a firm handshake, a strong voice, eye contact, good posture, and dressing appropriately. We also covered basic information needed for filling out job applications. We will continue to emphasize these basic skills as we meet with the TAP students since it is such an important part of not only getting a job, but just interacting with people on a day to day basis. Please take a moment and ask your son/daughter what they remember from this presentation. As one student put it, "Dress nice, don't bring food or drinks to your interview, don't put any marks on your application, and for sure don't cross out any words on your application."

DATES TO REMEMBER:

November 26-28- No school (Thanksgiving)
December 2- ICCC Culinary Tour
December 5- ICCC Senior Visit Day
December 8- Marion Home Volunteer
December 10- Early Dismissal
December 15- Matt Wagner Guest Speaker
December 17- Childcare Discovery Tour
December 22-31- No School (Christmas Break)

Top 10 budgeting tips:

1. Focus on savings
2. Use cash
3. Cut bad habits
4. Share the responsibility
5. Pay down debt
6. Keep your receipts
7. Balance your checkbook
8. Analyze your spending
9. Special accounts-necessary
10. Be flexible

10 ways to be successful in life:

1. Smile
2. Help make your environment look nice
3. Be honest
4. Use your wit
5. Have integrity
6. Work hard
7. Remain calm
8. You don't have to have an opinion about everything
9. Mind your own business
10. Be open minded



Let it snow, let it snow, let it snow!

“Do one thing everyday that scares you!” -

Eleanor Roosevelt

“It’s never to late to be what you might have been!”-

George Eliot



TAP (Transition Alliance Program)

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Bowling Party

TAP had a Bowling Party on November 18th at Ridgewood Lanes from 1:15-3:00 pm. Bowling and pizza were enjoyed by all in addition to all the socializing amongst friends. Many of the TAP students in attendance not only had a great time bowling, but played other games as well. Lets just say many stuffed animals found new homes that day!! If you were unable to attend, we will have other activities in the future for you to sign up for.

COMPASS Testing

Many of our TAP students will be attending college after they graduate from high school. With this endeavor, there are certain admission requirements to be met. In order to successfully assist a student with their coursework and goals, one of the following tests is used for admission: ACT, SAT, COMPASS, ALEKS, or Iowa Assessments. Our college TAP students have been taking the COMPASS and ALEKS tests in order to meet this requirement. Just a reminder, not all college programs require these tests, for example, the Culinary Program at ICCC does not. Part of our services is assisting our TAP students with the completion of this necessary paperwork in order to pursue a college degree. This can often times be overwhelming, but we can help.

Driver's Permit and License Practice

Our TAP students have been practicing for their driver's permit and driver's license online in the library during October and November. These will be once a month scheduled meetings for any TAP student who is interested. We have provided the students a "free" website (iowadot.gov) that they can access at any time from home or school which asks them similar questions to the actual test. This is a great way to practice prior to taking the test. There is no limit on how many times you can access the site, in fact, you are highly encouraged to do it frequently and consistently before testing. As with anything, if you do not use it, then you lose it.