



# TRIO TALENT SEARCH E-NEWSLETTER



## Director's Message

On February 25, 2017, the nation celebrated National TRIO Day. A congressional resolution in 1986 designated the last Saturday in February to “commemorate the annual achievements of the Federal TRIO programs across the country.”

Wichita State University is proud to host nine TRIO programs, including Talent Search. Talent Search alum Billy Dempsey was honored on February 21, 2017 at the National TRIO Day banquet and awards ceremony.

Dempsey entered the Talent Search program in 2003 as a seventh grader and remained with the program until he graduated from high school.

In 2008, he entered WSU, majored in computer science and worked as a tutor for Talent Search, tutoring middle school students in math and other subjects.

Stephanie Haynes promoted him to lead tutor and appointed him to be in charge of the program's webpage. In addition, he was the in-house IT specialist, resolving a host of computer and other technological issues.



NTD Honoree Billy Dempsey

Currently, Dempsey is the application support analyst for INVISTA-Koch Industries, providing systems analysis in the U.S. and abroad. He is a shining example of the impact TRIO Talent Search has had on numerous students over the years.

## Important Dates

### March

- 3 ..... ACT registration deadline
- 11 ..... ACT prep workshop; SAT test date
- 12 ..... Daylight Saving time begins
- 17 ..... Newman University campus visit; St. Patrick's Day
- 20-24 ..... Student spring recess (No school)

### April

- 1 ..... April Fools' Day
- 7 ..... SAT registration deadline
- 8 ..... ACT test date
- 11 ..... Kansas State Organization Conference
- 14 ..... Conference Release Day (No school)
- 16 ..... Easter
- 17 ..... In-service Day (No school)

### May

- 5 ..... ACT registration deadline
- 6 ..... ACT prep workshop (Math only); SAT test date
- 9 ..... SAT registration deadline
- 14 ..... Mother's Day
- 17 ..... Last day of school
- 20 ..... Armed Forces Day
- 19-21 ..... Girls in STEM Conference
- 23 ..... SEP Parent Meeting
- 29 ..... Memorial Day observed

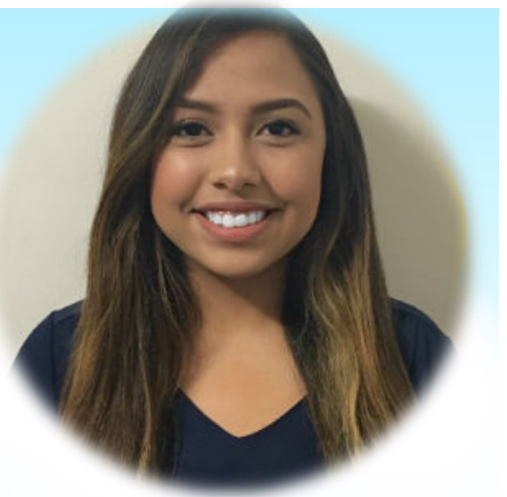
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## Student Spotlight: Deborah

Miguel Sabas, Program Educational Advisor

TRIO Excellence



Deborah is a seasoned TRIO Talent Search (TS) participant. She has been in the program since her freshmen year of high school. During her time with TS, she has taken full advantage of the opportunities presented to her.

As a senior at Wichita North High School, Deborah is actively involved with TS, several community service projects, organizations and clubs at her school, including the softball team, BioMed program, National Honor Society and Hispanic Honor Society.

These activities have complemented Deborah's academic achievements. She proudly boasts a cumulative GPA of 3.94 and an ACT composite score of 23.

On track to graduate in the top five percent of her class as a Kansas Honor Scholar, Deborah has also lettered all four years in academics.

Her goal is to become a doctor. She successfully applied to the B.A. / M.D. Accelerated Program at the University of Missouri-Kansas City where she was extended an interview invitation. She will find out in April if she is to be admitted to the program.

The rigorous curriculum, as part of the BioMed program, has laid a healthy foundation to prepare her for life as a medical student and doctor. Her ability to fluently speak Spanish will undoubtedly help her to communicate with non-English speakers and give her greater ability to serve a wider audience.

She is a firm believer that education plays a key role in being successful. Pursuing a post-secondary education will move Deborah closer to her dream job in medicine one day. This in turn means that Deborah will not only be able to provide a better future for her family but will also serve as a role model for the people around her.

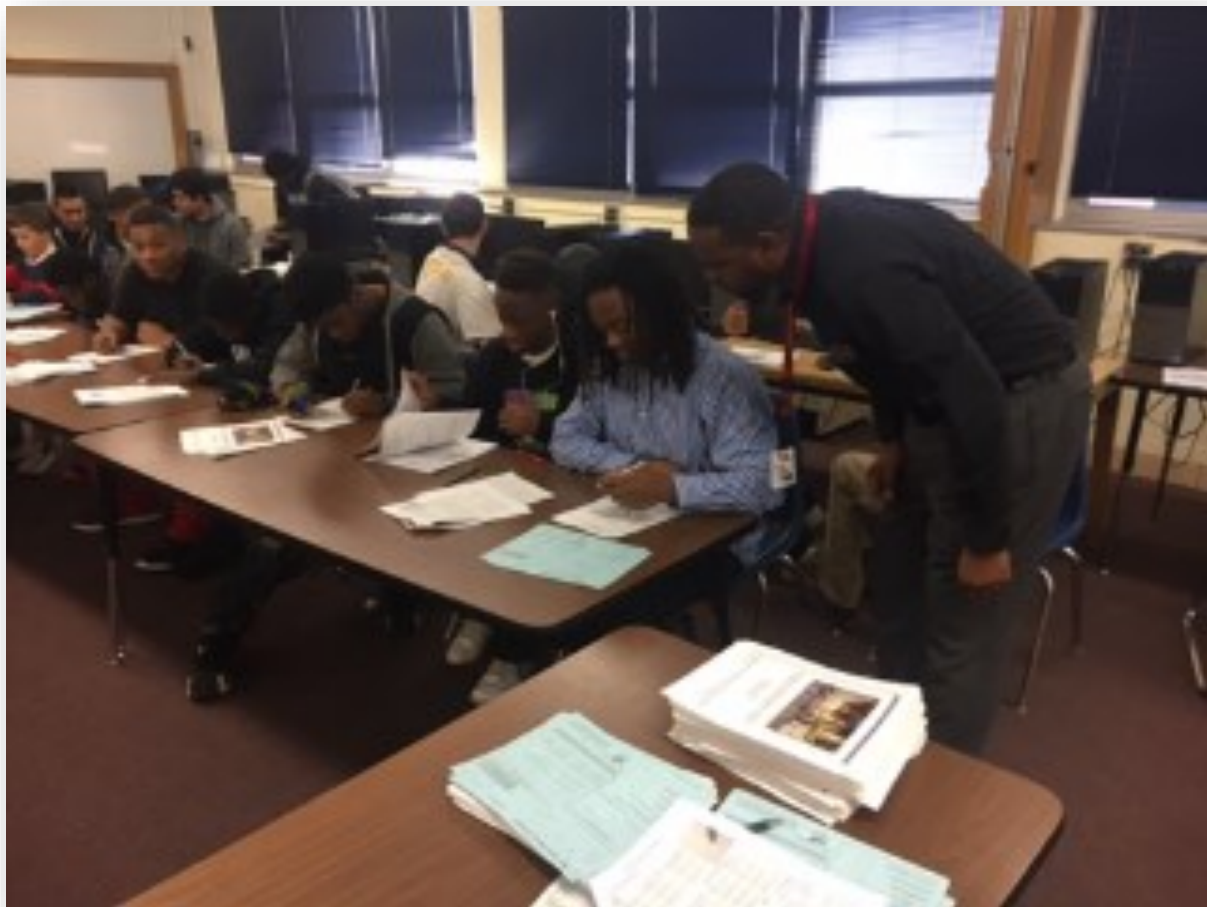
Through Deborah's involvement and strong initiative, there is no doubt she will continue to be successful and be a proud advocate for TRIO. She will continue to positively influence her community and go on to achieve great things.



## Career Workshop at West High

Myron Richard, Program Educational Advisor

TRIO Talent Search would like to thank and recognize Freshman Success Academy Counselor Jill Terhune and Secretary Denise Banks for collaborating with Myron Richard to host a college and career workshop at West High School. Richard's presentation included self-assessments on extroversion and introversion, sensing and intuition, thinking and feeling, judgement and perception. Participants indicated a better understanding of how learning influences decision-making regarding colleges and careers.



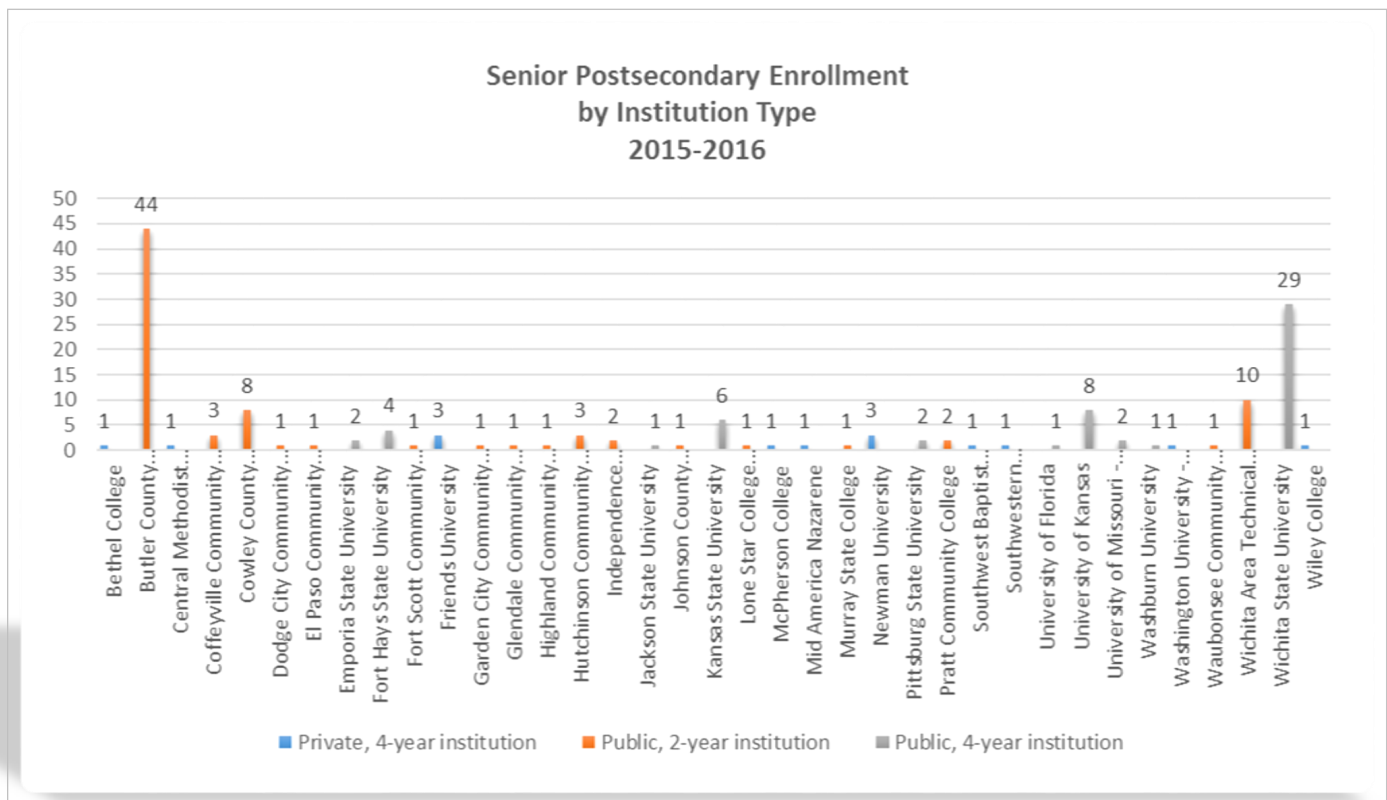
**WICHITA**  **WEST HIGH**

# Talent Search Graduates: Postsecondary Enrollment

Mani Souriya, Associate Director

One of the main objectives of the TRIO Talent Search program is to enroll 65 percent of its participants, who graduated with a regular secondary school diploma, in postsecondary education.

During the 2015-2016 academic year, Talent Search worked with 226 senior participants. Out of those 226 served, 223 (98.67 percent) graduated and 152 (68.16% percent) of those graduates enrolled in postsecondary education. The graph below illustrates the names of post-secondary institutions and the distribution of participants who enrolled in each institution.



## ACT or SAT: Consider Both

Tahmina Rahman, Program Educational Advisor



Many students who choose to take the ACT are not satisfied with their ACT score. Such students should consider taking both the ACT and SAT because there are significant differences between the two.

For example, the SAT is comprised of three sections: writing and language, reading, and math. In comparison, the ACT consists of four sections: reading, English, science, and math. Such differences could potentially impact a student's score and determine which test is better suited for the student.

Though both the ACT and SAT consist of a math test, the SAT is comprised of more algebra questions while the ACT contains more geometry and trigonometry questions.

Another contrast is that the ACT allows students to use a calculator throughout the duration of the math test; whereas, the SAT does not.

The SAT only allows students to use a calculator for a portion of the math test (i.e. students must answer around 20 questions without the use of a calculator). However, the SAT does provide the necessary formulas to assist with the math test. The ACT does not.

While both tests contain a reading section, most of the passages on the SAT are in chronological order, not so with the ACT.

When asked about a passage on the SAT, students are often told which line the question is referring to, not true with the ACT.

Bottom line: A student should strongly consider taking the SAT if: 1) The student is more comfortable with algebra than geometry/trigonometry; 2) S/he is not good at memorizing formulas; and/or 3) The student has a hard time remembering details.

If this is the case, the SAT may be a better choice.

Source: [collegeboard.org](http://collegeboard.org) and [blog.prepscholar.com](http://blog.prepscholar.com)

**TRIO students are eligible for 2 ACT fee waivers and 2 SAT fee waivers.**



# Summer Learning Fun

Stephanie Haynes, Middle School Director



Students who are transitioning from middle school to high school next year are encouraged to join the Middle School Summer Enrichment Program (SEP) for a summer well-spent.

Although summer recess is generally considered a time when students rest and relax, studies show that a few months off could do more harm than good.

Currently, just under 10 percent of students nationwide participate in summer school or attend schools with non-traditional calendars. This means that 90 percent or more students in America are potentially at risk for “damaging” summer learning loss.

Math is one of the major problem areas. On average, during summer break, students lose nearly three months worth of grade level equivalency in mathematical computation skills.

The Summer Enrichment Program offers the opportunity to enrich students’ skills in math, English, computer technology, science, language arts, and financial literacy. In addition, students can participate in campus visits to learn more about college life, admissions requirements, housing and financial aid. Cultural events and community service days are included, as well as an awards and recognition ceremony that showcases the students’ unique talents.

The Summer Enrichment Program runs from June 12-July 21, Monday –Friday, 7:45am- 2:15pm. A healthy breakfast will be provided, along with snacks and lunch. Applications will be available soon.

**Enjoy summer time fun with TRIO!**

# Tutor Limelight: Emily

Sharon Robertson, Senior Administrative Assistant



Emily Jones was a Talent Search participant during her senior year of high school. Now, she is a sophomore at Wichita State, tutoring Talent Search middle school students in English, math, social studies, and science. Emily is currently majoring in pre-art and design. After next semester, she will pursue a BFA in studio art with an emphasis in applied drawing. She has to complete a portfolio assessment before declaring a definite major.

Emily plans to graduate in May 2019, then teach elementary or high school art. Her goal is to eventually work for the Cartoon Network as a character designer. Emily has been on the Dean's list two semesters in a row and she is a member of the Student Ambassador Society. Her message to students: "You can get through anything. It might be hard and frustrating and it may make you want to smash things, but it will be over sooner than you know it."



## TRIO TALENT SEARCH

1845 Fairmount Street, Campus Box 96  
Wichita, KS 67260-0096

Phone: 316.978.3127

Fax: 316.978.3527

Email: [webs.wichita.edu/talentsearch](http://webs.wichita.edu/talentsearch)

## MISSION STATEMENT

The mission of the TRIO Talent Search Program is to identify, encourage and assist low income and potential first generation college students to complete a secondary education, enroll in post-secondary education, and complete a postsecondary program.



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### Back:

Larry Ramos,  
Myron Richard and  
Miguel Sabas

### Front:

Tahmina Rahman,  
Sharon Robertson,  
Mani Souriya and  
Stephanie Haynes

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