

Breaking Boundaries

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November 2020

UPCOMING SATURDAY MEETING FOR EVERYONE

We will meet in Landrum 110 on Saturday, November 7. We will NOT provide lunch that day, but we will have you sign for stipends and we plan to have snacks and bottled drinks. Because of space limitations, we are splitting into two groups by grade level:

Saturday, November 7

9:30–11:30 a.m. ~ Seniors

1–3 p.m. ~ Juniors and Sophomores

Again, if you work, let your supervisor know about this commitment as soon as possible (as we said at the end of September).

If NKU closes because of a surge in COVIE-19 cases, then we will go to online. If that happens, we will text you the meeting information for Zoom.

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KEEP YOUR GRADES UP

We know this is a very difficult time for many people economically as well as socially. Many of our students are working jobs to help out at home. However, remember that as first quarter grades become available, students with grades lower than a C need to spend time on homework and doing a better **job** in class if they are serious about going to college. Notice the word 'job' because that is the student's primary role in high school even if you need to work to earn money. If you want higher pay in the future, make better grades now.

Students with grades lower than a B need to spend time on finishing assignments and participating in class whether online or in person if they're serious about being considered for scholarships to pay for college.

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SENIORS—IGNORE THIS & LOSE \$20,000

The Dell Scholars Program is looking for *Upward Bound* seniors to apply. Judy and Eric spoke about this scholarship at the September meeting. The scholarship gives up to \$20,000 to complete a bachelor's degree. **Go online at www.dellscholars.org now to apply.** You must be a senior, have at least a 2.4 GPA, be in Upward Bound, and planning to enter a bachelor's degree program at a college/university in fall 2021. The application part of the website opened on October 1 at midnight. When it asks for college preparatory program, it's Northern Kentucky University Upward Bound. You can write either Eric Brose or Judy Welsh as the Upward Bound counselor or advisor. *Deadline is December 1, 2020.*

Dell Scholars Semi-finalists are selected by mid-December. Seniors that are selected will need a recommendation at that point. Let Judy or Eric know if you need a recommendation. Talk to your teachers, counselors, supervisor, and priest/pastor now if you'll need recommendations from them for this and other scholarship applications. Seniors that can't be bothered won't get money. Don't sleep through online deadlines—we've had that happen in the past.

YOU CAN GO TO COLLEGE (and what we mean by College)!

Judy and I have heard a lot of reasons over the years for students not going to college and here they are—with our comebacks! **N.B.: By College, we mean vocational training programs, on the job training programs, two year degrees as well as four year degrees.**

"I don't need college. I can earn (and learn) just as much going right to work."

WRONG! Many jobs include training, but higher paying entry level jobs require education beyond high school and many employers won't consider applicants without it. A college degree (vocational training, on the job, two year/four year degrees) may not mean more money right now, but it does more easily guarantee opportunities, promotions, and options for students to do what they really want. If there's a profession you know you'd love and it requires vocational training or a two year degree, then you need to enroll in a program and pursue it.

"I'm not sure what I want to do so it's a waste to go to college now."

WRONG! College is where you can figure out just what you want to do. Most students start out as undeclared or undecided. Students go to college to grow, figure out opportunities, and then declare a major at the end of the sophomore year.

"I've been saving money, but I don't think I can afford college."

WRONG! You've been keeping up your grades so you're earning KEES money. There are lots of internet scholarship search sites to check out now (juniors will register in the spring). Judy and I work with seniors and their parents October through April to secure free federal student aid. NKU, UKI, U of L, UC and other institutions offer grant opportunities, while Berea's tuition is free. Two year colleges offer entry level courses that are cheaper than four year colleges to think about those as an option. Also, even if you must take a student loan, the college degree is worth it.

"I've taken the ACT three times and I can't get in to college."

WRONG! Different colleges have different admissions criteria. If you have a lower ACT score, consider the following options: the Gateway to NKU program, or another community or technical college. You'll either have a two year degree or career training or you can transfer for a four year degree with even more options. This year many colleges do not require ACT scores. (continued on page 3)

STUDENT SPOTLIGHT



A junior at Lloyd Memorial High School, Haylee Taylor is a creative person who enjoys making others smile. She also says that:

If I had an extra \$50, I'd . . . buy Dunkin' Donuts and shop.

I've been known to consume large quantities of . . . Hot Cheetos.

In my earlier days, I was known as . . . Stormy Rayne.

My friends enjoy me because I'm . . . oddly weird (in a good way).

Once people get to know me, they're probably surprised to find I . . . get sad.

My family is . . . fun and sticks together.

A positive influence in my life and why has been . . . my grandfather because he shows me how to be successful.



YOU CAN GO TO COLLEGE (continued from page 2)

"I'm taking a year off and then I'll go to college or I'll stop out of college after a year and go back later."

WRONG! Our alumni who take off more than a year rarely go back to college. Why? Life happens and other things grab students' focus. If a student has to take time off from enrolling full-time, then she or he needs to take at least one class. Students who stop going to college completely or quit a training program are fooling themselves if they think they'll return.

"I'm pregnant. I need to stay home or get a job and look after my baby."

WRONG! Having a child is an **enormous** adjustment to a student's life, but now there is a great motivation to be happier in your professional goals and earn more money. It's essential to get help from the baby's father, your family, his family. Your dreams are now your family's dreams. Don't give up on them. You'll hate yourself if you do and your child won't be too happy about it either.

College takes TIME, GREAT EFFORT, and MONEY, but students need to consider LONG-Term goals (40–50 years) and not just what seems right for the next six months to a year even with the COVID-19 pandemic. Judy and I can't tell you how many times a year out of college turned into five or more. Sure, a few of our alumni returned after military service as well as some others who wanted promotions or careers that really engaged them, but many who left college or a training program are just making do. Forty years is a long time to 'make do' when four or five years could have led to Making You the Difference We Need in the world tomorrow.

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[inside.nku.edu/
upwardbound.html](https://inside.nku.edu/upwardbound.html)



SENIOR TO DO LIST:

1. Check your email for your FAFSA Student Aid Report (Thanks if you have done this.) Make any necessary changes.
2. Apply to NKU even if it is not on your list of college choices. Sometimes the money you are offered from various schools changes minds and causes you to rethink your plans. Eric has sent a list to the Admissions Office for fee waivers, but if you apply before Nov. 15, there is no admission fee. If you plan to attend NKU and have already done this and received your acceptance with your student ID number, go ahead and set up your myNKU account. Directions are on NKU's website. If you have problems with process, please call the All Card Office at 859-572-6016 or email allcard@nku.edu.
3. Request tax transcripts from the IRS. You'll need those for both students and parents if both filed taxes in 2018 (Bridge summer) and 2019 (Fall 2021 semester).

To request a tax transcript call 800-908-9946. Neither your tax form nor the printout received from a tax preparer will be accepted. Don't wait to do this because it can take a couple of weeks to receive it and you may miss a deadline for submission.

4. Before Dec. 1, apply to any college that you are seriously considering.