Educational Talent Search
NORTHEASTERN ILLINOIS UNIVERSITY

Dunbar Vocational Career Academy *Newsletter*

Spring | Summer | Fall 2025



DVCA Black History Parent Game Night

February 28, 2025

NEIU TRIO Talent Search hosted a themed game night just for parents, staff and other external partners at DVCA. With its Black History theme, parents could take pictures in front of its Black History backdrop. Parents also were able to learn about Trio Talent Search and its support to their children at DVCA (Dunbar Vocational Career Academy). There were several games and team building activities. And parents also had the privilege of having pizza and snacks.



DVCA Smores, Hot Cocoa & Chill Event

February 12, 2025

Students at DVCA receive a sweet reward for meeting the 86 percent attendance goal mark. Students were rewarded with sweet rewards such as Smores and Hot Cocoa as well as raffle prizes from NEIU TRIO Talent Search such as a TRIO Talent Search Hoodie And water bottle. Students also received the opportunity to get assistance with filling out applications for CCC Dual Enrollment, After School Matters and Early College Arts.

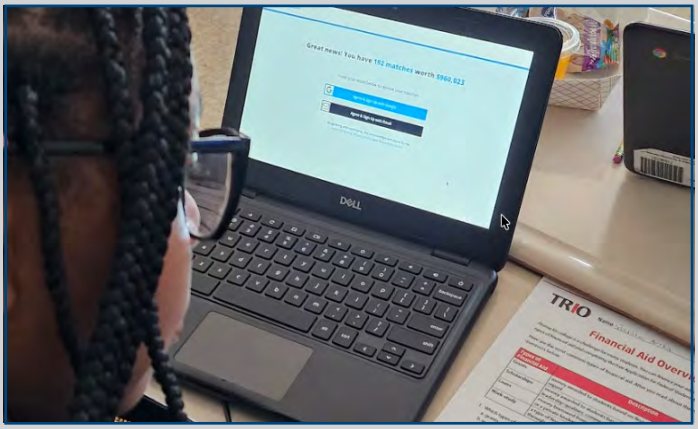


Grand Valley State University Tour

March 18, 2025

Dunbar students from 9th through 12th grades received the opportunity to visit Grand Valley State University with Northeastern Illinois University TRIO Talent Search. Students received an admissions presentation and asked a variety of questions regarding their programs, transportation, financial aid, and student support services. They also toured the campus as well as the dorms and ate lunch on campus courtesy of Grand Valley State University.

Alicia Jasper, a senior from Dunbar who got accepted to GVSU really enjoyed the campus and thought the school was great and a possible fit. Arayia Smith, another senior, said she learned that GVSU offers internships to first-year students. The students enjoyed their visit, from seeing the dorms to learning about their admissions requirements.



Financial Aid Workshop
March 20, 2025



Decision Day
May 15, 2025



Freshmen Connection
July 7, 2025

Freshmen Connection supports students in their transition to high school by introducing them to staff and classmates, familiarizing them with graduation requirements and academic expectations, and equipping them with study strategies and stress management techniques.



NEIU College Tour and Teambuilding
July 24, 2025

Students learned about Northeastern Illinois University's rich history, values, goals, majors and minors, departments such as clubs, organizations, sports and so much more.



DVCA to Feed My Starving Children
November 4, 2025

NEIU TRIO Educational Talent Search and Ada S. McKinley teamed up to take 9th through 12th grade students to the Feed My Starving Children facility in Schaumburg, Illinois, where they joined volunteers in packaging food for those in need across the globe. Together, the group helped pack 125 boxes of meals, with their team's contributions specifically headed to Haiti.

The experience offered students more than just community service hours—it was a lesson in teamwork, empathy, and global awareness. As music played and friendly competition filled the air, students worked side by side, scooping, sealing, and stacking food packages, each box representing hope for a family in another part of the world.

By the end of the session, students walked away not only proud of their accomplishment but also inspired by the impact a couple of hours of service can make.

“Today’s trip was fun and inspiring. I enjoyed packing the food and working with my team,” said Leana Murdo, a 9th grade student participant.

For More Information, Please Contact:

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