

BEST PRACTICES

TACOMA SCHOOL DISTRICT

GAULT IS COLLEGE BOUND

The teachers and administrators at Gault Middle School are aggressively marketing the College Bound Scholarship program. Some of their creative ideas include:

- ✓ Visiting every class to explain the program and answer questions.
- ✓ Launching a community-wide T-shirt drive requesting new or gently-used college T-shirts for their students.
- ✓ Holding monthly parent seminars through May to answer questions and encourage parents to sign up on the spot with their student.
- ✓ Posting pictures on one of the auditorium walls of students (in their college T-shirts) who have taken the College Bound pledge.
- ✓ Holding a college dance where students wear their new college T-shirts.

TRACKING STUDENTS

Under the direction of Miguel Villahermosa, Director of Middle School Education, the principals of the middle schools in Tacoma track the students who have completed CBS applications and compare them with the number of eligible students from each school. This is an ideal way for the schools and the HECB to share useful data and ensure that all eligible students apply. If you would like information contact Christina Richmond at 1-888-535-0747.

TOUTLE LAKE SCHOOL DISTRICT

Toutle Lake School District, home of the *Fighting Ducks*, now has a link from their Web site to College Bound: <http://www.toutlesd.k12.wa.us>

LIBRARY LINKS

King County and Pierce County libraries have links from their Web sites to College Bound:

<http://www.kcls.org/teens/websites/college.cfm>
http://www.kcls.org/weblinks/show_subcategories.cfm?Startrow=11&parentid=56
<http://www.kcls.org/websites/>

SOUTH CENTRAL WASHINGTON/YAKIMA VALLEY

PARTNERING WITH GEAR-UP

This area of the state has been very successful in signing up eligible students. In fact, Mabton Jr. High, home of the Mabton *Vikings*, was the first school to send in applications in early November. By partnering with GEAR UP and outreach counselors from WSU and using mobile computer labs, the whole area – from Mabton to the Tri-cities has been noteworthy in its commitment to making students and parents aware of the program. Hats off to Principal John Tyus, his fellow teachers and administrators, and Loeta Johnson for taking the initiative!

NORTHEASTERN WASHINGTON

KUDOS TO BRIDGEPORT MIDDLE SCHOOL

Bridgeport Middle School, in Douglas County, has submitted 79 online applications! Teachers and administrators assisted their students with the online application at school, sent the signature page home with the students for their parents' signatures, and then mailed the entire packet to HECB.

REMEMBER~

Whenever it is possible, please encourage online submission of applications. It is quicker and more accurate.

When you are distributing paper applications, please ask families to complete *both sides* of the application – the signature page is on the back.

We have materials in Spanish.

We welcome your success stories – email them to betha@hecb.wa.gov or christinar@hecb.wa.gov.

COLLEGE BOUND SCHOLARSHIP AND PLEDGE

You qualify for the *College Bound Scholarship* (because you are eligible for free or reduced lunch) and therefore a lot of money for technical college, community college, or a 4 year public college or university. Failure to complete the pledge and application can literally cost you your future!

Please complete all portions of the form and return it to Mrs. Beckwith by Wednesday, March 19. If you or your parents have questions, please call me at 571-4183 or visit the Web site, www.hecb.wa.gov/collegebound about this scholarship. Don't pass up this great opportunity!