PARENT NEWS LETTER

September 2013

Your eighth grader is now a freshman in high school. It’s a fact that they are going to want their privacy. This might mean not asking about their grades every time they walk in the door, or it might mean giving them their space on weekends instead of making them participate in family outings. Even though they want and need their privacy, it is still important to make the effort to talk to your kids and be involved in some fashion. Reading emails and texts is the wrong way to go, however. Avoid the cliché "How was school?" They can answer, “Fine,” or simply shrug. Open the conversation with questions that cannot be answered with yes or no. Your child will generate a response and in turn, you can generate another question. Try saying, “How did you and Mary solve the problem you were having with your chemistry experiment?” rather than asking, “Did you and Mary solve your problem?” Being open to the conversation is the most important thing.

GEAR UP Team for 2013-14 Attend the UNITED Conference at

Shirley Brozzo, Director NMU (uniting neighbors in the

Tiara Garland, Student Coordinator experience of diversity) Sept 23-25.

Meredith Waara, Student Coordinator A complete schedule is available at

[www.nmu.edu/United](http://www.nmu.edu/United) Here are the top three careers for when your student graduates high school in 2017.

[Network Systems and Data Communications Analysts](http://www.careerexplorer.net/computer/computer-networking)   
**Ten hottest careers rank: 1**  
**Salary Range: $42,800 — $116,120**

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The network systems and data communication analyst career field is projected to grow by 30 percent from 2008 - 2018. The rapid spread of computers and technology has demanded an increase in highly skilled workers to develop and maintain systems for new technologies. Analysts typically solve problems related to computer technology to meet organizational needs.

[Physician Assistant](http://www.careerexplorer.net/medical-healthcare/physician-assistant)   
**Ten hottest careers rank: 2**  
**Salary Range: $55,880 — $115,080**

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Demand for physician assistants is expected to grow by 39 percent by the year 2018. Physician assistants are formally trained to provide healthcare services (diagnostic, therapeutic and preventative) as delegated by a physician. Many physician assistants work in primary care specialties including: pediatrics, family medicine and general internal medicine.

[Medical Assistants](http://www.careerexplorer.net/medical-healthcare/medical-assistant)   
**Ten hottest careers rank: 3**  
**Salary Range: $20,750 — $39,970**

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The medical assistant career field expects to see a 34 percent increase in growth by the year 2018. Medical assistants typically perform administrative and clinical tasks for physicians, podiatrists, chiropractors and other health practitioners to help keep their offices running smoothly. Assistants who have specialized duties may include: casting of feet (*podiatric*) and testing eye muscle function (*ophthalmic*).

Source: [BLS Occupational Employment Statistics](http://www.bls.gov/oes/current/oes319092.htm)  
Source: [BLS Occupational Employment Outlook](http://www.bls.gov/oco/ocos164.htm)

To help your student be best prepared for these top three careers, your student should get A’s and B’s in their math, biology and/or chemistry classes. It is also helpful for them to take classes in Sociology, or other classes which will improve their interpersonal/communication skills.

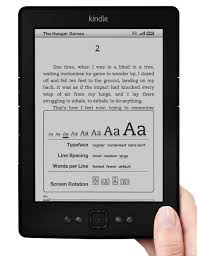
Other careers in the top ten include: Medical Records and Health Information Technicians, Computer Application Software Engineers, Physical Therapist Aides, Fitness Trainers and Aerobics Instructors, Database Administrators, Veterinary Technologists and Technicians, and Dental Hygienists. For more information on these careers today, go to [www.nmu.edy/gearup](http://www.nmu.edy/gearup)

Congratulations!

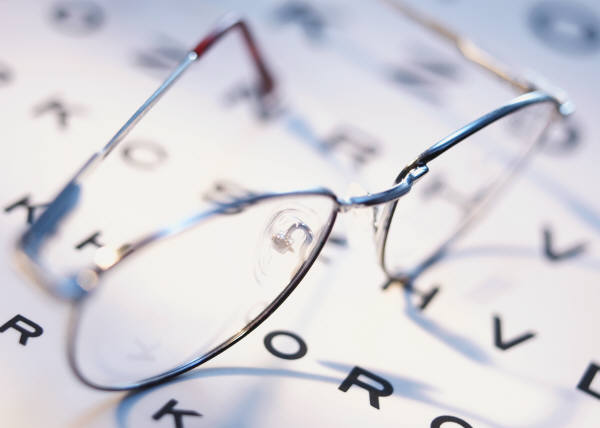
GEAR UP was at North Star Academy’s Open House held August 29. There was a drawing for a $20 Holiday gas card for any parents/guardians who showed up with their students. The winners were:

1.  Becky Bandman
2. Tina Jackson
3. Theda Ritari
4. Phyllis Wickstrom

GEAR UP has provided a Kindle reader to each Freshman student this year. Your students will now be using them in the Language Arts classes and if they choose to take place in the book club that is being started this year.



Helpful Hint:

Are you fighting with your student about having to wear glasses or needing to get glasses? Remind them that they have to be able to see to pass their driving test! That could make all the difference. 

Need to provide a hot meal for your family? Here are some places where you could do that.

Place Address When

St. Peter Cathedral 311 W. Baraga, MQT Last Friday of month

St. Paul’s Episcopal 201 E. Ridge, MQT Last Wed. @ 6 pm

Church

First United Methodist 111 E. Ridge, MQT Second Wed. 5-6:30 pm

Church

Agape Café at Faith in 101 Oakridge, MQT Breakfast, M-F 8-11 AM

Christ Church Lunch Sat/Sun @ 1 pm

Dinner Friday @ 5:30

Hope Free Evangelical 795 N. Lake Dr., ISH Fourth Sunday @ 5 pm

Lutheran Church

Wesley United Methodist 801 Hemlock, ISH Last Friday from 5:30-6:30 pm

Church

Messiah Lutheran Corner of Magnetic & First Wed @ 5:30

Church 4th St, MQT

