

# The EAC GEAR UP Times



Safford High School GEAR UP

Fall 2017

## National GEAR UP Week!

September 18<sup>th</sup> - 21<sup>st</sup> was National GEAR UP Week for our SHS Sophomores. Our students took part in celebrating by creating “Dream Walls” where students indicated their future college and career dreams.

The GEAR UP students also created several video clips and announcements about National GEAR UP week activities and career information. Big thanks to Owen Ticer and several of his classmates who worked with him as actors/actresses in creating the videos. The videos were shown on the Safford HS SBNN announcements. Big thanks to Mr. Murphy and the Film/TV classes for their assistance.



### COMING in NOVEMBER: “ACT Aspire Practice Test”:

All 10<sup>th</sup> graders will be taking the ACT test prep assessment which will help prepare them for the college entrance exams (ACT/SAT). Thank you to the SHS administration, SIT Committee, and teaching staff for helping our 10<sup>th</sup> grade students prepare for their futures. See additional information on a later page.

## Statistics:



1. By 2018 - 22 of the top 25 in demand jobs in Arizona will all require a bachelor's degree or higher.
2. While nearly all parents believe college is an investment in their child's future, only one-third have a plan to pay for college.
3. Children with any college savings are 6 times more likely to attend a 4 year college than children with no dedicated college savings account.
4. College Savings information visit: [www.waz529.gov](http://www.waz529.gov)

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FROM YOUR GEAR UP COORDINATOR

## TIPS FOR SUCCESS

Help your child make their journey to college successful and affordable by following these tips provided by the Arizona Commission for Postsecondary Education:

- Make college the expectation, talk about it early and often
- Start saving early with a 529 college savings plan and involve your child

The Arizona Family College Savings Plan is a state sponsored 529 plan designed to provide a parent, grandparent or future student an opportunity to save for educational expenses in a tax-deferred manner. The State of Arizona also provides an annual Arizona state income tax deduction for 529 plan contributions of up to \$2,000 for individual tax filers, and up to \$4,000 for married couples filing jointly.



- Help your child build their volunteer resume
- Take your child to visit your friends' workplaces to provide firsthand experience about varied careers
- Apply to college early
- Explore tuition reduction options
- Encourage your child to declare their major sooner rather than later to avoid taking unnecessary classes and incurring excessive expenses
- Fill out the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) as a first step in the financial aid process and access to many scholarships

## WHY START SAVING NOW?

### Education Pays:

According to the U.S. Census Bureau, college graduates earn an average of \$1 million more than high school graduates during their careers. The value of your investment in a college education will continue to grow for a lifetime. It will pay for itself both personally and professionally.

### Learn More & Earn More Average Annual Income High School

#### Education

High School Diploma	27,963
Associate Degree	36,399
Bachelors Degree	48,097
Masters Degree	58,522
Doctorate Degree	80,776
Professional Degree	87,775

*Median earning in 2008 for year-round workers 25 years old and over. Source: U.S. Census Bureau, Current Population Survey, 2009 Annual Social and Economic Supplement*

### How Much Do I Need to Save?

Over the past 20 years, college costs have risen much more than the general rate of inflation. For many parents, funding their child's college education will be one of their largest and most significant expenses. Therefore, saving money for a college education requires foresight and planning. To start planning, a savings goal should be established.





# (Free Trial Period)



Dear Parents / Students,

Safford High School and EAC GEAR UP has provided you with access to Method Test Prep, an online course that helps students build their SAT and ACT test prep skills.

To use the program, you will need to set up an account by clicking on the following link and filling in the signup information:

<https://app.methodtestprep.com/SaffordHighSchool/signup>

**You will need to use the Referral Code: tkn.13784233 when setting up your account.**

*When setting up your SHS account use: your SHS email, username will be your SHS student ID#, and password - your blue#.*

**Make sure to include the entire code—including tkn. (tkn.13784233)**

## Guest Presenter: Marc Mero - "Champion of Choice"



**“CHAMPIONS MAKE CHOICES, CHOICES MAKE CHAMPIONS.”**

Marc Mero’s “Time is Now!” Presentation at Safford High School addressed the issues of bullying, suicide prevention, substance abuse, goal setting, dreaming big, making positive choices and achieving your highest potential. A former WWC and WWE Wrestling Champion, Marc has an extraordinary ability to connect

with students and people of all ages from all walks of life.

We want to thank Kathy Grimes and the Graham County Substance Abuse Coalition in conjunction with EAC GEAR UP for sponsoring Marc to come in to deliver his powerful message. Safford High School appreciates the opportunity to help our students learn, love, and heal.

## Required High School Courses

### Credit Requirements:

The table below summarizes the minimum credit requirements for high school graduation in Arizona for the graduating **class of 2013 and beyond**. Please note that school districts and charter schools may, at their discretion, establish additional graduation credit requirements for their students.

- English 4 credits
- Math 4 credits
- Science 3 credits
- Social Studies 3 credits
- Physical Education/Health 1 credit
- CTE/Vocational Ed. or Fine Art 1 credit
- Electives 8 credits

**Total 24 credits**



## EAC GEAR UP - FIELD TRIP

In September, students had the opportunity to attend a field trip to Eastern Arizona College for the Graham County Substance Awareness and Leadership Conference. Below are some pictures from the various events. Additional photos can be found in the photo album on the SHS GEAR UP webpage. Great Job to the GU Leadership Team on their conference “Social Media” presentation.





Safford High School GEAR UP

Gaining Early Awareness and Readiness for Undergraduate Programs

**MONSTER MASH DANCE**

AT

**OCTOBERFEST**

OCTOBER 30<sup>TH</sup>, 2017

5:00-8:30PM

**SAFFORD MIDDLE SCHOOL**

Appropriate Costumes Welcome

2 Tickets

Sponsored by Link Crew, United Way, and GEAR UP



**EAC GEAR UP – COMMUNITY SERVICE OPPORTUNITIES**

Gear Up students who are looking for community service opportunities:

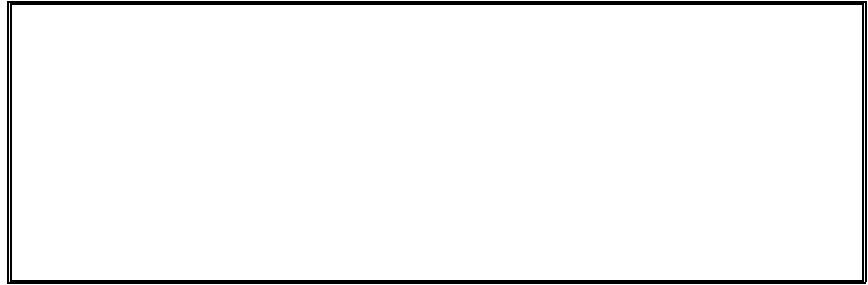
October 30<sup>th</sup> – Clean up after [Octoberfest](#) at SMS – 8:30-10:00pm

November 14<sup>th</sup> – Prepping bags for [Turkey Trot Race](#). Time TBA

\*See Ms. Wack for details and sign up.



Safford High School  
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Safford, AZ 85546



**EAC GEAR UP is a federally-funded program on high school campuses through the direction of Eastern Arizona College, Thatcher Arizona Campus.**

**Dear Parents/Guardians and Students:**

Can you believe the class of 2020 is in their second year of high school? Time is flying fast and before we all know it high school will be over for our GEAR UP students. Now is the time to take advantage of the resources available to help each student to be prepared, to be successful now and in the future.

First: GEAR UP TUTORING - We have hired teachers, as well as several EAC college tutors assisting students and peer tutors helping this year **Monday–Thursday at lunch 12:40-1:15 then 3:10-4:10pm and Friday Mornings from 7:40-11:45am. All open to any 10<sup>th</sup> grader in GU.**

Second: Free online website to help students to prepare for ACT Aspire practice test in hopes students score better on the college entrance exams. This has never been free for any SHS student prior to this opportunity so take advantage now. This is available to all SHS Students so if you have a Junior or Senior they can take advantage of this helpful resource as well.

I am excited to be working with your amazing students in the GEAR UP program. Please contact me with any questions you or your student may have I am here to help.

Sincerely,

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