



December 2017 Newsletter

# GEAR UP to GO ON



Gaining Early Awareness & Readiness for Undergraduate Programs  
Aim High, Make a Plan, Get Ready, GO ON

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### Meet the New TriO Representative!



Ivonne Martinez-Alfaro is the new TRIO ETS Specialist serving Homedale High School. As a first generation student and TRIO ETS Alumni, Ivonne, understands how important it is to have someone to help guide students through the college process. She is excited to be part of a program that gives students the support to continue and accomplish their goals. Ivonne obtained a Bachelor's in Visual Art with an emphasis in painting and drawing from Boise State. Prior to that, she attended and graduated from the College of Southern Idaho. She also spent a year studying at the University of New Mexico. She is a Californian transplant, and although still not used to the winter weather, she enjoys everything the Treasure Valley has to offer! You can find her exploring new local places and all the natural splendors Idaho has to offer! She has an abnormal love for coffee, plants, animals, books and art.

Ivonne visits Homedale High School on Tuesdays and is available to students in the guidance counselor office. She attends college nights and is an important asset and resource for all HHS students. Applications to join TriO are available in the guidance counselor's office. You may contact Ivonne by e-mailing her at [ivonnemartinez@boisestate.edu](mailto:ivonnemartinez@boisestate.edu)

## Scholarships:

Seeking scholarships is a wise way for students to contribute to the financing of their post-secondary education. At Homedale High School we provide help and support for students interested in scholarships. The Career Information System or CIS is a website that student may log into and do scholarship searches and sorts. **Click the following link: [CIS website](#).** Click the following link for information about scholarships that are available for HHS students: [HHS Scholarship Information](#). We post all scholarships that come to us at [HHS Online Scholarship Posts](#). We update this information frequently as scholarship information comes in through email and fax. We also have a drawer of scholarships in the guidance counselor office of scholarship opportunities that are mailed to us. Students are encouraged to check this out.

**HHS Local Scholarships 2018!** Local scholarship applications are now available. Seniors may visit the guidance counselor's office and get copies of the applications or click on the links below. The deadline for local scholarship applications is April 10th. Local scholarship applications are to be turned in to Mrs. Debbie Flaming.

[HHS Local Scholarship Description](#)

[Lions Scholarship Application](#)

[HHS Local Scholarship Application \(pdf\)](#)

[Deward Bell Scholarship Application](#)

## Idaho Opportunity Scholarship:

Recognizing the need for a well-educated workforce, Governor C.L. "Butch" Otter and the Idaho Legislature established the Opportunity Scholarship to remove barriers to higher education and prepare college/university graduates to enter the workforce. The Opportunity Scholarship awards eligible applicants up to \$3,500 per year and is renewable for up to four years.

The scholarship funds are available per school year; recipients must re-apply each year and are eligible to receive the scholarship for a maximum of four years.

Eligibility:

**To qualify for the scholarship, a student must meet *all* of the following criteria:**

- Have an unweighted, cumulative GPA of 3.0 or above
- Be an Idaho resident
- Be a graduate from an **Idaho high school** or its equivalent (GED/HSE from Idaho)
- Complete the State Board of Education scholarship application by March 1
- Complete the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (**FAFSA**) by March 1
- Maintain satisfactory academic progress for financial aid purposes.

**Click the link below start the Idaho Opportunity Scholarship:**

[Idaho Opportunity Scholarship Application](#)



## GEAR UP Scholarship:

To qualify for the GEAR UP scholarship, a student must meet all of the following criteria:

The GEAR UP Idaho Scholarship is available to students who participated in the GEAR UP program and graduated high school (or its equivalent) in 2012, 2013, and 2014.



- Applicants must be less than 22 years old at the time they receive their first scholarship award.
- Applicants must possess a secondary school diploma or its recognized equivalent.
- Applicants must have completed and submitted the initial scholarship application prior to graduating from high school.
- Applicants must have completed and submitted the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA). The FAFSA priority deadline was on or before February 15 of the student's graduation year.
- Applicants must be enrolled or accepted for full-time enrollment in a program of undergraduate instruction at an eligible institution of higher education that is located within Idaho's boundaries. Accepted institutions include any Idaho public regionally accredited institution under the general supervision and governance of the Idaho State Board of Education, and any private, non-profit, regionally accredited institution, as listed below.

North Idaho College	Idaho State University
Lewis-Clark State College	College of Western Idaho
College of Southern Idaho	College of Idaho
Eastern Idaho Technical College	Northwest Nazarene University
University of Idaho	BYU Idaho
Boise State University	

## GEAR UP SCHOLARSHIP APPLICATION

### College Application Week was November 6<sup>th</sup>-9<sup>th</sup>:

November 6th-9th was College Application Week at Homedale High School and throughout the state of Idaho. Mrs. Flaming and the new TriO representative Ms. Ivonne Martinez visited the Senior Leadership and Economics classes to help seniors apply to colleges. Click on [Idaho Colleges Cost Comparisons](#) to compare the cost of tuition, room and board for Idaho colleges. If you are not



sure where to find Idaho college applications click on the following link: [Links to Idaho College Applications.](#)

Seniors planning to attend an out of state college should check to see if the school offers Idaho students in-state tuition by visiting the Western Interstate Commission for Higher Education website at <http://wiche.edu/wue>. Seniors are encouraged to apply to all the colleges they are considering attending as soon as possible.

Visit Mrs. Flaming's webpage for college application help and support at [HHS College Application Week Webpage](#)

### A Special Thanks to S.I.L.O.

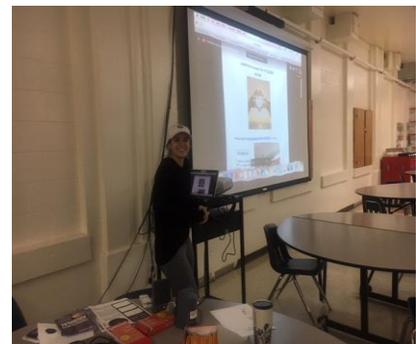
S.I.L.O. or the Southwestern Idaho Legacy Organization donated \$600.00 to the HHS Sources of Strength program. The organization was created in 1976 with the mission to provide funds for projects that benefit residents of Canyon and Owyhee County. The funds are designated for Red Ribbon Week, S.O.S. Spirit Week in the spring, and for any additional funds needed for campaigns throughout the year.



**S.O.S. Thankfulness Challenge Week:** November 13th-16th Sources of Strength Sponsored a Thankfulness campaign. Sources of Strength president Nallely Gonzalez and vice president Ember Christensen did a presentation with HHS students during advisory highlighting the power of being thankful and expressing gratitude to others. They



showed a video demonstrating how being grateful not only helps the person receiving the encouraging message, but improves the happiness of the person expressing their gratitude. Students were encouraged to write a thank you card to a trusted adult who had made a positive difference in their lives. Brain research has found that a person who makes a conscious effort to think about three things that they are grateful for each day for 21 days can change their brain chemistry to create more feelings of well-being and to help them have a more positive outlook. Students were given a Thankfulness Journal to chronicle three things they were thankful for the next 21 days.



## Sources of Strength Booster Training at Homedale Middle School November 13<sup>th</sup>:

On Monday November 13<sup>th</sup>, Homedale High School S.O.S. peer leaders Alicia Raine, Nallely Gonzalez, Rylan Hall and Wyatt James and Suicide Prevention Action Network Trainer Mrs. Debbie Flaming went to the middle school to conduct the S.O.S. booster training. Ms. Topmiller, the new middle school counselor plans to continue the program for the 2017-18 school year. 35 students middle school students attended the training along with six adult advisers. Students learned about impacting the school with positive messages, the importance of having a relationship with a trusted adult. The training ended with students choosing an adult advisor and planning with a team of fellow student's, campaigns to spread messages of Hope, Help & Strength throughout the school and community. For more information about S.O.S at the high school click the link to visit the [HHS S.O.S Webpage](https://www.homedaleschools.org/sos).



For more information about the national Sources of Strength organization, visit <https://sourcesofstrength.org/>

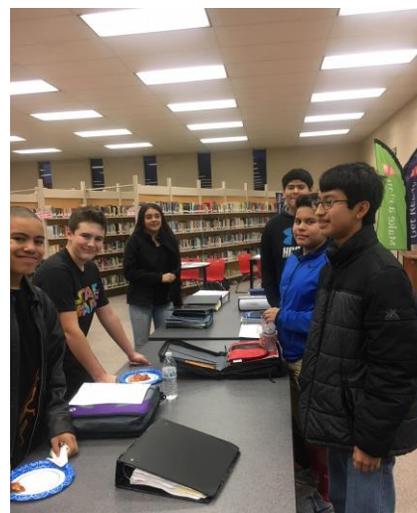
**FAFSA HELP NIGHT was Monday November 13<sup>th</sup> during Parent/Teacher Conferences:** Mrs. Flaming, Javier from the College of Western Idaho and Ivonne from TriO provided one on one help for seniors and their parents with their FAFSA applications on November 13<sup>th</sup>. Parents may email [dflaming@homedaleschools.org](mailto:dflaming@homedaleschools.org) to set up an appointment with Mrs. Debbie Flaming to help with FAFSA application process. Parents will need to bring their 2016 1040 Federal Tax returns. Please click on the link for more information about items needed. [List of items needed for completing the FAFSA](#) [FAFSA & FSA ID Information](#)



## AVID Parent Night at HHS was Wednesday November 29<sup>th</sup>:

The middle school and high school AVID students, instructors and counselors sponsored a parent night to showcase what AVID is all about. At the event a pizza dinner was served followed by stations set up for parents and younger siblings to visit and experience AVID activities.

It is estimated that by the year 2020, two-thirds of all jobs will require some level of postsecondary education. AVID prepares students for 21st century careers each day by providing the academic and behavioral skills necessary to succeed in the workplace. Organization, time management, critical thinking, collaboration, and problem-solving are strong components of the AVID System. AVID includes career exploration in its secondary



curriculum. For the 2017-18 school year, Homedale High School will have three AVID classes. One class for freshmen, sophomores and juniors. AVID, Advancement Via Individual Determination, is a global nonprofit organization dedicated to closing the achievement gap by preparing all students for college and other postsecondary opportunities. Established more than 35 years ago with one teacher in one classroom, AVID today impacts nearly 1.5 million students in 46 states and 16 other countries/territories. [View the AVID Snapshot.](#)

### Friday December 8<sup>th</sup>, HHS Student Support Day

#### Senior Leadership Presentations:

Starting on Monday December 11<sup>th</sup> seniors who have been in the Senior Leadership class 1<sup>st</sup> semester with instructor Mrs. Kristie Dorsey will be giving their presentations. A schedule of the presentation times will be posted on the HHS senior leadership webpage.

[HHS Senior Leadership Webpage](#)

#### ACT Test for Seniors December 9<sup>th</sup>:

The next ACT will be on Saturday **December 9<sup>th</sup>**. The students will be taking the test either at the College of Idaho or Caldwell High School. **THEY MUST HAVE THEIR PHOTO ID & ADMISSION TICKET or they will not be allowed to test.** Arrival time is 7:45 a.m. Students are to bring two #2 pencils, an approved calculator, a **photo ID**. ACT test prep has been planned during advisory classes. Student may begin preparing for the ACT by logging into <http://march2success.com>. A new ACT and SAT test prep website is <https://www.prepfactory.com/uz594A>. Want to know more about college entrance exams, dates, deadlines for Homedale High School students?...visit the link below. [http://studentservices.accountsupport.com/hhs\\_college\\_bound\\_tests.html](http://studentservices.accountsupport.com/hhs_college_bound_tests.html)



[ACT Registration Log In](#)

**Juniors and the ACT Test in February:** The end of December we will be registering all HHS juniors to take the ACT February 10<sup>th</sup>. Following is a link to an excellent, new ACT test prep website. <https://www.prepfactory.com/uz594A> Junior's, please check it out, and start preparing yourself for the upcoming college entrance exams. Every moment you spend preparing is like putting money in a bank account towards your future. Better ACT scores mean better scholarship offers...If you have any questions, please stop by my office for a visit.

#### Tracking Graduation Requirements on Lumen Now Available:

Lumen has been updated and now provides accurate graduation requirement information. Log into Lumen and in student view, click on your students "Transcripts" link in the navigation bar. Find **Diploma(s)** and **req** and click on the view link. If you have any questions, please email Mrs. Debbie Flaming at [df flaming@homedaleschools.org](mailto:df flaming@homedaleschools.org).

**1<sup>st</sup> Semester Test Week December 17<sup>th</sup>-20<sup>th</sup>**

**Thursday, December 20<sup>th</sup>, End of 2<sup>nd</sup> Quarter/1<sup>st</sup> Semester.**

If you have any questions or would like to know more about the Gear Up to Go On & Academic College & Career Counseling services at Homedale High School, please visit Mrs. Debbie Flaming's website at <http://studentservices.accountsupport.com/index.html> or e-mail [df flaming@homedaleschools.org](mailto:df flaming@homedaleschools.org) or call Homedale High School (208) 337-4613 ext 224.