

ALSO IN THIS ISSUE:

A BRIGHT SMILE AND
HARD WORK GET THE
JOB DONE

SUMMER 2007
SCRAPBOOK

CONGRATULATIONS
GRADUATES!

ANNOUNCEMENTS

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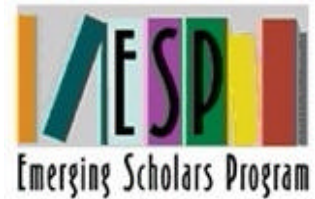
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THE MISSION OF EMERGING SCHOLARS PROGRAM (ESP) IS TO PROVIDE AN ACADEMIC AND SOCIAL ENRICHMENT PROGRAM FOR A DIVERSE GROUP OF STUDENTS WHO, WITHOUT FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE, COULD NOT CONSIDER AN INDEPENDENT SCHOOL EDUCATION. ESTABLISHED BY A CONSORTIUM OF NORTHERN VIRGINIA INDEPENDENT SCHOOLS, ESP'S PROGRAM INCLUDES ACADEMIC, SOCIAL, AND EMOTIONAL SUPPORT TO PREPARE STUDENTS FOR SUCCESS IN INDEPENDENT SCHOOLS AND BEYOND.



ESP GRADUATES 3RD CLASS

ESP was pleased to graduate its third class of student leaders on August 10 as the culmination of a week of activities marked by four special events.

The International Potluck Dinner and Talent Show and the senior field trip have become tradition at ESP. This year, two new activities were introduced. Judging by the success of the "Arts in Literature" project and the very special senior dinner, these will quickly become new ESP traditions!

The International Potluck Dinner and In-House Talent Show showcased talent and provided food from around the world. Students were encouraged to participate



MEMBERS OF CLASS 3 CELEBRATE AFTER GRADUATION

through dance, music or other creative endeavors. As part of graduating from ESP, students are required to write a five-paragraph essay about their ESP experience. Listening to the graduates read their work stimulated proud emotions from parents in the audience.

(con't. page 4)

ESP ANNOUNCES GOALS FOR THE FUTURE

Research indicates that ESP could place between 35 and 40 students annually. However, the quality of the program, as measured by the performance of ESP graduates and the success of those graduates in their school careers, takes precedent over the number of placements. In order to meet the ultimate objective of placing the maximum number of the most highly qualified

students in independent schools, ESP has set the following goals for 200-2009:

A. Enhance the existing program by:

1. Addressing transportation needs of students.
2. Employing additional teachers and tutors.
3. Providing a fund for special student needs.

B. Expand recruiting and admissions by:

1. Achieving a significant

increase in the number of applicants.

2. Matching the locations of the applicants' homes with the locations of the placement schools in order to enroll students from the areas served by these schools.
3. Ensuring consistent evaluation criteria for all applicants.
4. Ensuring sufficient ESP staff to fully evaluate candidates during an expanded recruiting effort.

(con't. page 4)

A BRIGHT SMILE AND HARD WORK GET THE JOB DONE



MADISON WITH HER FATHER
AT THE ESP PICNIC IN JUNE.

"THE IDEA OF MADISON
HAVING AN OPPORTUNITY ON
THIS SCALE WAS MORE THAN
WE COULD DREAM FOR OUR
DAUGHTER."

MRS. KIMBERLY WHITE
MADISON'S MOTHER

"When Madison was moved from the wait list and into the ESP program last June we felt like Charlie in the movie *Willie Wonka* we had the golden ticket! I cannot tell you how thrilled we were. The idea of Madison having an opportunity on this scale was more than we could dream for our daughter."

"As the summer of '06 progressed, we were all sobered by the demands of the program and the intensity of the commitment. Eric and I became aware that this was no free lunch for any of us. Each day required a new level of fortitude and patience. We have never had a goal of this significance that required our entire family's participation and willingness to take a risk. Gone were the days of being able to send Madison to her room to do her homework alone. The challenges presented

by the quality of work and the investment of time and energy demanded that Eric and I walk Madison through all of the emotional ups and downs—we are doing this as a family."

"We saw her character being challenged and shaped in ways that I wanted for her and each of my children. I did not know all that was required to see her character so meaningfully and positively shaped; I now know that without ESP and the many hands involved in getting us all to the finish line it probably would not have been done so deeply, comprehensively and well."

"Although the relatively abstract goal of gaining admission to a top tier independent school is a great motivator for Eric and me, it is not always a strong enough incentive for Madison. What has made

the difference for her is the teachers. Their encouragement and enthusiasm lights her up, fills her with confidence and gives her the extra push when she is frustrated with us or with herself. ESP has become a family to her; she is empowered by ESP's commitment to her. Her confidence has soared in the past six months. Thank you for setting the bar so high. Thank you for drawing excellence out of her and teaching her not to shrink away from difficulty or shy away from rigor. You tapped into her resolve and helped develop it into something that she will use to her advantage her entire life. This is more of a golden ticket than we knew."

*Letter to ESP from Madison's
mother Mrs. Kimberly White*

CONGRATULATIONS, GRADUATES!

ESP is proud to
present its Cohort
3 graduates:

Daniel Baskin
Lucinda Brown
Daisa Michelle
Harris
Jheena Johnson
Sarah Kashef
Makena Murugu
Anthony Skaff
Madison White

The following independent schools currently
participate in ESP:

Alexandria Country Day School*
Browne Academy*
Burgundy Farm Country Day School*
Capitol Hill Day School
The Congressional Schools of Virginia*
Edmund Burke School
Episcopal High School (will accept for grade 9)*
Flint Hill School*
Green Hedges School*
Highland School
St. Andrew's Episcopal School
St. Patrick's Episcopal Day School
St. Stephen's and St. Agnes School
Wakefield School

*Indicates ESP founding school

Summer 2007 Scrapbook

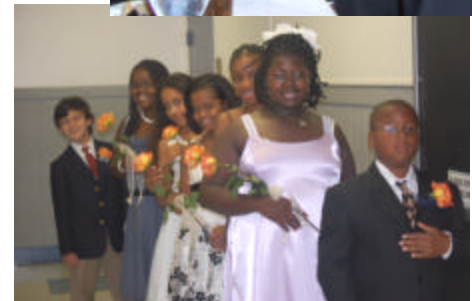


STUDENTS AND COUNSELORS POSE FOR A PHOTO AFTER DINING AT THE CHART HOUSE.



"AFTER ATTENDING GRADUATION, I HAVE NEVER BEEN AS IMPRESSED BY A GROUP OF STUDENTS...THE MATURITY AND GROWTH....I CANNOT WAIT UNTIL MY DAUGHTER HAS HER OPPORTUNITY."

ESP Class 4 parent



EMERGING
SCHOLARS
PROGRAM



I CAN ACCOMPLISH
ANYTHING I SET MY MIND
TO. I HAVE CREATED MY
OWN LEGACY HERE AT
ESP.”

Sarah Kashef
Valedictorian
Class 3

ESP...

**Educating Children,
Shaping Lives,
Preparing Leaders**

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ROAD
OAKTON, VA 22124

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**CAMPAIGN... TO ENSURE THAT ESP REACHES ITS FULL POTENTIAL...
SO OUR SCHOLARS CAN REACH THEIRS.**

CON'T. FROM PAGE 1

C. Carry out a proactive post placement program with all ESP graduates during their academic careers. The initiative will include:

1. Tracking
2. Counseling
3. Mentoring

D. Increase the number of students ESP places annually, to approximately 24, by:

1. Recruiting an additional ten placement schools.
2. Expanding the recruiting focus to include the new placement schools.
3. Planning for a second section with an additional 18 students enrolled for

summer 2010.

E. Execute a funding campaign that will raise cash and pledges by Dec 31, 2008 to:

1. Provide operating funds through 2009.
2. Provide a six-month cash reserve.
3. Provide for the cost of a significant expansion in the development program.

CLOSING CEREMONY...

CON'T. FROM PAGE 1

In the spirit of ESP's mission to teach students about their peers' cultures, parents brought traditional dishes to share. As always, food brings people together!

On Tuesday, Class 4 students experienced a day of "Art in Literature" while graduates enjoyed their final field trip, a day at Cameron Run Water Park.

The senior dinner provided graduates the opportunity to dress up and join their teachers, counselors, staff and president of the Board of Trustees for a delicious meal and a fun evening at the Chart House in Alexandria, VA. Graduates departed themselves with the very best manners and dining etiquette.

Graduation ceremony, followed by a lovely reception, was held at Flint Hill School. ESP would like to thank Flint Hill for hosting this very special event.

Congratulations to the following students on their awards: Anthony Skaff – Mathematics, Technology, and Leadership; Madison White - Language Arts and Leadership; Makena Murugu and Daniel Baskin – Most Improved.

Valedictorian Sarah Kashef opened her graduation speech with, "My time at ESP was astounding. I have learned so many things that have helped me to become successful. I feel like I am a leader and I can accomplish anything I set my mind to. I have made my own legacy here at ESP. I will cherish the lessons and memories I have gained my whole life."

For the graduates, there was an air of trepidation mixed with anticipation knowing that they would be moving on to their new schools, new friends and new surroundings. Excited to have parents, families, friends, and ESP trustees and staff on hand to share their triumphs, the day quickly became celebratory!

For ESP, Sarah represents the type of leader who can be a productive force for our country's future. She is but one example of a wonderful child who simply needs the opportunity to show her potential to herself, her family, and her peers.

Guest speaker ESP President Patricia Harden captured it well when she observed, "ESP students are our future." She challenged students to always do their best not just for others, but, more importantly, for themselves.

That is what ESP is all about.....helping to make a better future for all of us by preparing tomorrow's leaders of character today!

Written by Betty Tomlinson, ESP staff

ANNOUNCEMENTS

A special thank you to:

- Tori Cole**, (Daylan's mother) and **Courtney Evans** (Colby's mother) for teaching "Arts in Literature" to Class 4 while Class 3 was on their senior field trip...
- Carl Lowe, Narcisus Ridgley, and Nick Savage** for their inspirational stories and penetrating insights...
- Hank Berg and his team** at Highland School for leading the canoeing adventure on the Shenandoah River...
- Flint Hill School** for hosting Summer 2007...
- ESP's committed **benefactors** without whom this program would not be possible.

ESP is seeking candidates for Class 5 to begin in June 2008. Please contact ESP if you know of bright boys and girls in the fourth grade who could benefit from ESP.

ESP welcomes visitors! Please call if you would like to stop by Saturday classes to see our scholars at work...and at fun!