



Vol 4 • Issue 1 • October 2022

# K-12 COLLEGE & CAREER READINESS and GEAR UP

Fort Wayne Community Schools

**Attention High School Seniors and Parents/Guardians of High School Seniors:**

Financial aid makes education after high school more affordable, but first, students **MUST** apply by filing the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) at [www.studentaid.gov](http://www.studentaid.gov). The FAFSA filing season opened on October 1, 2022 for the 2023-2024 academic school year. This free government application uses financial information from you and your family to determine your financial aid award from the federal government to pay for college. If you plan to attend college next year, you **MUST** complete the FAFSA.

Each year, millions of students who are eligible for aid dollars are unable to complete the FAFSA, leaving money on the table that could have helped them pursue postsecondary education. We do not want you to miss out on receiving these funds.

We realize that completing the FAFSA can be a daunting task for some individuals. Your Guidance Office and the K-12 College and Career Readiness Office will host various **FREE** events throughout the academic year to help you complete the FAFSA.

Please review this newsletter to learn about upcoming events.

**Shenita V. Bolton, Ed.S.**  
**Director of K-12 College and Career Readiness**  
**Phone: (260) 467-7257**  
**Fax: (260) 467-1974**  
**Email: [shenita.bolton@fwcs.k12.in.us](mailto:shenita.bolton@fwcs.k12.in.us)**



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## COLLEGE GO WEEK HIGHLIGHTS

Contact Allen Coultas (260) 467-7290 or  
email [allen.coultas@fwcs.k12.in.us](mailto:allen.coultas@fwcs.k12.in.us)  
for more information







## NATIONAL GEARUP WEEK HIGHLIGHTS

Contact Amelia Pflieger (260) 467-2121 or  
email [amelia.pflieger@fwcs.k12.in.us](mailto:amelia.pflieger@fwcs.k12.in.us)  
for more information





# WHAT DO WE OFFER?

- Individualized College and Career Planning
- High School College and Career Prep Program
- Middle School College and Career Exploration Program
- Elementary College and Career Exploration Program
- Twenty-First Century Scholars Program
- Gaining Early Awareness and Readiness for Undergraduate Programs (GEAR UP Program)
- College Application, College Essay and FAFSA Assistance
- College Visit Programs
- College Fair Programs
- SAT/ACT Prep
- Career Internship/Job Shadowing Programs
- College and Career Readiness Community Outreach Programs
- Volunteer Programs
- Traditional and Athletic Mentorship Programs
- Parent Workshops
- College and Career Resource Area
- Pathways, Pipelines and Career Clusters
- Dual Credit, AP & IB and High Ability
- Mentorships & Tutoring
- b Instrumental
- K-12 Athletic Alignment
- Continuing Education

# Community Programs



<https://fortwayneschools.org/studyconnection>



A great way for parents to get involved in their child's education is by volunteering with Fort Wayne Community Schools. By volunteering, parents and family members get to know their students' schools, teachers and staff. Anyone who would like to volunteer in a Fort Wayne Community School should talk with the school first to see what kind of volunteer opportunities are available.

Once a volunteer talks with the school, the volunteer should contact The Office of Community Programs. The Office of Community Programs supports Fort Wayne Community Schools by coordinating all background checks for volunteers in our schools.

In order to volunteer with Fort Wayne Community Schools, all volunteers must undergo a background check every three years. There are two types of background checks. A "limited" background check enables volunteers to work with students with immediate supervision from FWCS employees. A "comprehensive" background check enables a volunteer to be responsible for students without immediate supervision from an FWCS employee.

To obtain a new background check, or renew an expiring background check, volunteers should contact the Office of Community Programs at 260-467-8811 or email us at [communityprograms.mailbox@fwcs.k12.in.us](mailto:communityprograms.mailbox@fwcs.k12.in.us). The information that Community Programs collects from volunteers for a background check includes first and last name, email address, phone number, date of birth and the school they would like to volunteer at. After collecting this information, Community Programs will send the volunteer an email with a link to our background check vendor Safe Visitor Solutions, who will conduct the background check.

Once a volunteer submits their information to Safe Visitor Solutions, it takes 5-15 business days to complete the background check. When the background check is complete, Safe Visitor will email volunteers letting them know they are able to volunteer with FWCS.

Background Checks are good for three years in any school in the district.

**For more information, contact Zach Washler at (260) 467-8811 or email [zachary.washler@fwcs.k12.in.us](mailto:zachary.washler@fwcs.k12.in.us)**



# FWCS Mentorship Program

<https://www.fortwayneschools.org/mentored>



## WHY MENTOR?

Mentors build stronger communities by simply spending time with students.

Mentoring is an act of generosity that impacts students not just now but throughout their lifetime.

## BENEFITS FOR STUDENTS



Increased high school graduation rates and lower drop-out rates



Healthier relationships and lifestyle choices as well as a better attitude about school



Higher college enrollment rates and higher educational aspirations



## WE'RE PREPARING STUDENTS FOR THE DAY AFTER GRADUATION

### CONTACT US

Jessica Hanna,  
*Coordinator for Mentorships  
and Partnerships*

[jessica.hanna@fwcs.k12.in.us](mailto:jessica.hanna@fwcs.k12.in.us)

**260.467.7288**

[fortwayneschools.org/mentored](https://www.fortwayneschools.org/mentored)

# Indiana's 21<sup>st</sup> Century Scholars Program

## Setting our Students up for Success!

### 21<sup>st</sup> Century Scholars Program

Indiana's 21<sup>st</sup> Century Scholars Program provides qualified students with up to four years of their undergraduate tuition at Indiana colleges and universities.

#### Middle School Students

In order to receive the 21<sup>st</sup> Century Scholarship, students **MUST** enroll no later than the end of their 8<sup>th</sup> grade year. We strongly encourage all 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> grade students to enroll. Students who meet the income eligibility requirements, will benefit from this scholarship.

#### ENROLL IN THE PROGRAM TODAY AT

<https://learnmoreindiana.org/scholars/enroll> or see your counselor or K-12 College and Career Readiness Student Advisor for a 21<sup>st</sup> Century Scholars Worksheet.

#### High School Students

High school students must complete three Scholar Success Program activities each year, graduate from an Indiana high school with a minimum of a Core 40 diploma, earn at least a cumulative (overall) grade point average of 2.5, not use illegal drugs or alcohol or commit a crime or delinquent act, complete their FAFSA by April 15, and be accepted into an Indiana college or university.

### Scholar Success Program

GRADE	REQUIRED ACTIVITIES		
09	Create a Graduation Plan <sup>1</sup>	Participate in an Extracurricular or Service Activity	Watch "Paying for College 101"
10	Take a Career Interests Assessment	Get Workplace Experience <sup>2</sup>	Estimate the Costs of College
11	Visit a College Campus	Take a College Entrance Exam (ACT/SAT)	Search for Scholarships <sup>3</sup>
12	Submit Your College Application	Watch "College Success 101"	File Your FAFSA



**For more information contact:**  
**Martin Murphy**  
**K-12 College and Career Readiness**  
**Coordinator**  
[martin.murphy@fwcs.k12.in.us](mailto:martin.murphy@fwcs.k12.in.us) or  
(260) 467-2655

# K-12 Music and “b Instrumental” Program

**WE  
MAKE  
MUSIC**



## **b Instrumental**

The b Instrumental program provides new or slightly used band and string instruments to Fort Wayne Community School students beginning in grade 7 to use through high school.



**FREE INSTRUMENT TO USE**



**FREE SUMMER MUSIC CAMPS**



**FREE SMALL GROUP INSTRUCTION**



**INDIVIDUAL INSTRUMENT LESSONS**

**SEE THE MUSIC TEACHER AT YOUR SCHOOL FOR MORE DETAILS**

To Apply, please visit  
[fwcs.info/binstrumentalapp](http://fwcs.info/binstrumentalapp)



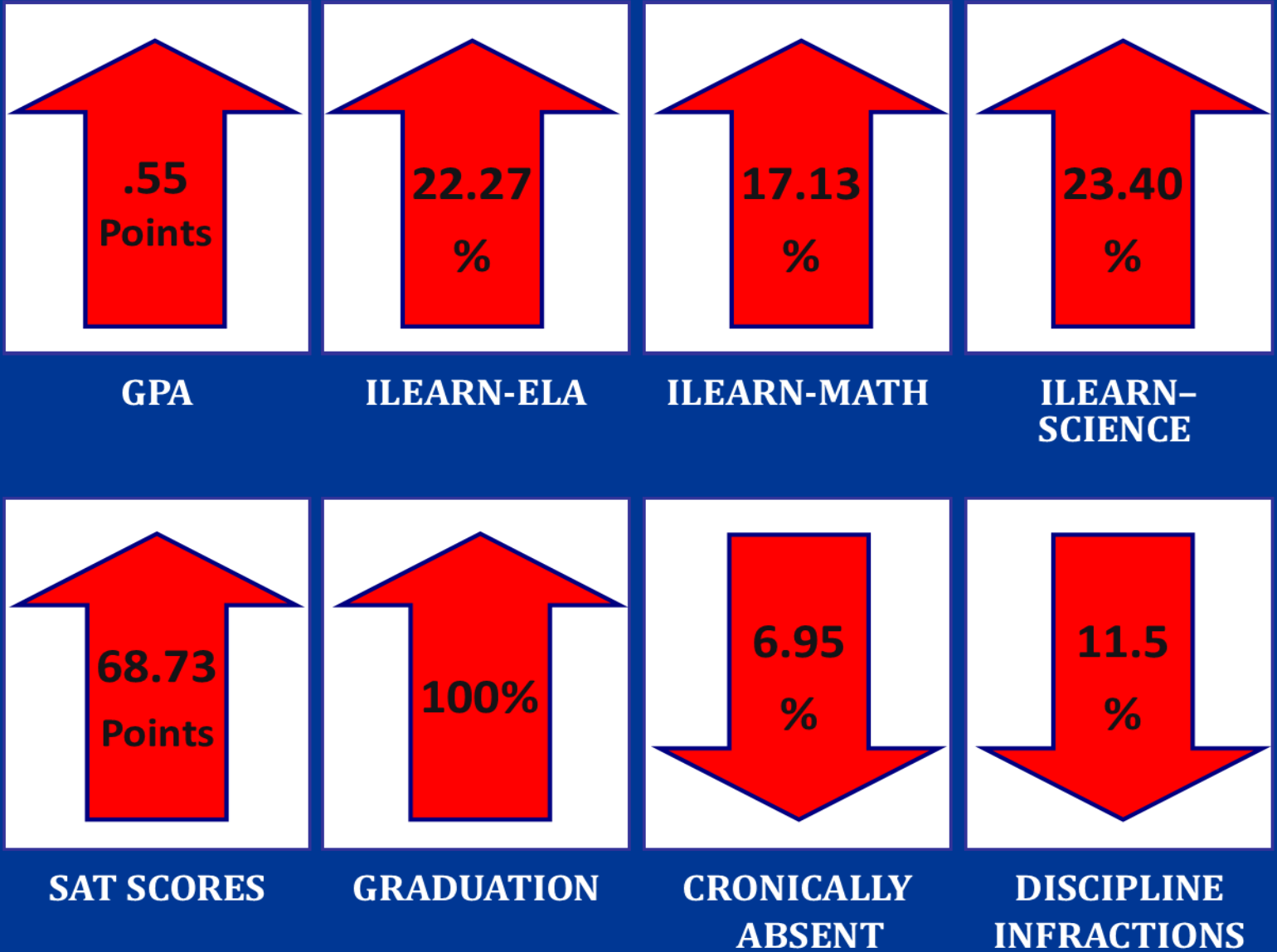




# b Instrumental

*Making Music and Academic Excellence Accessible to ALL*

The b Instrumental program is more than a instrumental music program. The b Instrumental program is an academic excellence program. On average students in the b Instrumental program do better academically than their peer students with higher GPA, Standardized Test Scores, Graduation Rates while having lower Chronic Attendance and Discipline Infractions.



The b Instrumental program provides new or slightly used band and string instruments to Fort Wayne Community School students beginning in grade 7 through high school.



SEE THE MUSIC TEACHER AT YOUR SCHOOL FOR MORE DETAILS  
To Apply, please visit [fwcs.info/instrumental](http://fwcs.info/instrumental) or scan the QR code





# FWCS K-12 College and Career Readiness

**K - 2ND GRADE WORKSHOP**

**OCTOBER 29, 2022  
8:30 A.M. - 10:00 A.M.**

**3RD - 5TH GRADE WORKSHOP**

**OCTOBER 29, 2022  
10:30 A.M. - 12:00 P.M.**

## **LOCATION:**

**Wendy Y Robinson Family and Community Engagement Center  
230 East Douglas Avenue, Fort Wayne 46802**

## **TO REGISTER:**

**Pick up a permission form in the Main Office or call  
Allen Coultas, K-12 College and Career Readiness  
Manager to register at (260) 467-7290**

Join us for hands-on activities with the K-12 College and Career Readiness Team. This is an excellent opportunity to explore college and career readiness through multiple interactive and engaging life skills activities.

A certificate will be awarded at the conclusion of Camp!





# FWCS K-12 College and Career Readiness

## 6TH - 8TH GRADE WORKSHOP WITH GENERAL MOTORS

**OCTOBER 29, 2022  
1:00 P.M. - 4:00 P.M.**

### **LOCATION:**

**Wendy Y Robinson Family and Community Engagement Center  
230 East Douglas Avenue, Fort Wayne 46802**

### **TO REGISTER:**

**Pick up a permission form in the Guidance Office or  
call Allen Coultas, K-12 College and Career Readiness  
Manager to register at (260) 467-7290**

Join us for hands-on activities with the K-12 College and Career Readiness Team. This is an excellent opportunity to explore all the options available to you. Students will receive an in-person workshop experience with General Motors (GM) and a chance to see the newest GM Truck!

A certificate will be awarded at the conclusion of Camp!



# FWCS K-12 College and Career Readiness

## 9TH GRADE WORKSHOP WITH GENERAL MOTORS

**NOVEMBER 5, 2022  
9:00 A.M. - 12:00 P.M.**

### **LOCATION:**

**Wendy Y Robinson Family and Community Engagement Center  
230 East Douglas Avenue, Fort Wayne 46802**

### **TO REGISTER:**

**Pick up a permission form in the Guidance Office or  
call Allen Coultas, K-12 College and Career Readiness  
Manager to register at (260) 467-7290**

Join us for hands-on activities with the K-12 College and Career Readiness Team. This is an excellent opportunity to explore all the options available to you. Students will receive an in-person workshop experience with General Motors (GM) and a chance to see the newest GM Truck!

A certificate will be awarded at the conclusion of Camp!



# GEAR UP Day at INDIANA TECH

**NOVEMBER 5, 2022**  
**10:00 A.M. - 3:00 P.M.**

## **ITINERARY:**

- Tour Indiana Tech's Campus
- Games
- Swag/Giveaways
- 1 Academic Session of your choice

**Parents are encouraged to attend!**

**See contact information below!**

## **ACADEMIC SESSIONS:**

**Choose which hands-on academic session you would like to attend!**

1. Biology
2. Criminology
3. Biomedical Engineering
4. Electrical Engineering
5. Business Marketing and Entrepreneurship

Pick up a permission form from your GEAR UP Student Advisor or the Guidance Office. Any parents/guardians riding the yellow school bus **MUST** get a background check via FWCS protocols. For more information contact [angeliki.benge@fwcs.k12.in.us](mailto:angeliki.benge@fwcs.k12.in.us) or call (260) 467-7296



WE ARE YOUR SCHOOLS



# KICK-OFF

**GET HELP FILLING OUT THE FAFSA**

***SATURDAY, OCTOBER 22, 2022***

***10:00 A.M. - 3:00 P.M.***

***WENDY Y. ROBINSON FAMILY & COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT CENTER  
230 EAST DOUGLAS AVENUE, FORT WAYNE, IN 46802***

- FREE ASSISTANCE COMPLETING THE FAFSA
- SCHOLARSHIP INFORMATION
- SPEAK WITH COLLEGE ADMISSIONS REPRESENTATIVES
- GIVEAWAYS
  - *Drawing for \$50 Visa Gift Card*
  - *Drawing for three \$1,500 PFW Scholarships*
  - *Drawing for College and University Gift Baskets*
  - *and More*



# FAFSA COMPLETION ASSISTANCE



## YOU'RE NOT ALONE!

WE CAN HELP!

### Get help from the Office of K-12 College and Career Readiness

Join us for one of our monthly FAFSA Completion Days at the Wendy Y. Robinson Family and Community Engagement Center located at 230 East Douglas Avenue from Noon - 7 p.m.

Wednesday, October 26, 2022  
Wednesday, November 9, 2022  
Wednesday, December 14, 2022  
Wednesday, January 11, 2023  
Wednesday, February 8, 2023  
Wednesday, March 8, 2023  
Wednesday, April 12, 2023

Questions? Call or email, Martin Murphy at (260) 467-2655 or [martin.murphy@fwcs.k12.in.us](mailto:martin.murphy@fwcs.k12.in.us)

# MARK YOUR CALENDARS



## 2022 - 2023 ACT & SAT DATES



Test Date	Deadline	Late Deadline	Test Date	Deadline	Late Deadline
September 10, 2022	August 5, 2022	August 19, 2022	August 27, 2022	July 29, 2022	August 16, 2022
October 22, 2022	September 16, 2021	September 30, 2022	October 1, 2022	September 2, 2022	September 20, 2022
December 10, 2022	November 4, 2022	November 11, 2022	November 5, 2022	October 7, 2022	October 25, 2022
February 11, 2023	January 6, 2023	January 20, 2023	December 3, 2022	November 3, 2022	November 22, 2022
April 15, 2023	March 10, 2023	March 24, 2023	March 11, 2023	February 10, 2023	February 28, 2023
June 10, 2023	May 5, 2023	May 19, 2023	May 6, 2023	April 7, 2023	April 25, 2023
July 15, 2023	June 16, 2023	June 23, 2023	June 3, 2023	May 4, 2023	May 23, 2023

**Contact Us!**



**Shenita V. Bolton, Ed. S**  
**Director, K-12 College and Career Readiness**  
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**Fax: (260) 467-1974**  
**Email: [karen.kill@fwcs.k12.in.us](mailto:karen.kill@fwcs.k12.in.us)**



**Amie Ter Molen**  
**K-12 College and Career Readiness Secretary**  
**Phone: (260) 467-7292**  
**Fax: (260) 467-1974**  
**Email: [amie.termolen@fwcs.k12.in.us](mailto:amie.termolen@fwcs.k12.in.us)**