



Presentation to
Waukegan Community Unit District 60 School Board Meeting
by
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Mission

- The Schuler Scholar Program (SSP) prepares high potential students to succeed at selective colleges, through a diverse offering of enrichment and academic programs, individualized guidance and Scholarships.
- We believe that if high potential but vulnerable students have access to academic and enrichment programs while in high school, are well-informed of college options, receive support from family, friends, teachers and mentors, are motivated, and secure financial assistance, they will be successful in obtaining a degree from a selective college or university.



Schuler Scholar Program

- 214 Schuler Scholars Currently Enrolled in High School
 - 11 college graduates
 - 78 in college
- Four* high school partners:
 - Waukegan High School (2001)
 - Round Lake High School (2006)
 - Warren Township High School (2008)
 - TBD HS (2009)
- The avg selectivity of colleges attended by WHS scholars class of '08 was a 91, up from 87 the previous year.

* The partnership with St. Martin de Porres in on hold



WHS Schuler Scholars

Sophomores	39	35%
Juniors	39	35%
Seniors	34	30%
Total	112	
Females	78	69%
Males	34	30%
Hispanic	58	52%
Caucasian	27	24%
African American	11	10%
Asian/SE Asian	13	12%
Other	3	2%



Program Components

Sophomore Year

- **Camp Manito-wish:** During the summer after freshman year, all Scholars spend 10 days in the northern woods of Wisconsin at Camp Manito-wish. The first five days of camp focus on collaborative leadership, while the next 5 days are spent canoeing and camping, putting to good use the skills developed during the in-camp session.
- **Reading Program:** Each Scholar participates in the Schuler Reading Improvement Program, whose purpose is to improve their reading fluency, comprehension and vocabulary skills. The ultimate goal is for Scholars to successfully master the high volume of reading material assigned in college and to become life-long readers. Scholars meet with their Scholar Coaches 40 minutes per week during lunches or after school for reading tutoring.
- **Weekly Cohorts:** Each Scholar participates in mandatory weekly 90 minute cohorts throughout the school year. Cohort topics range from time management, writing improvement to ethics and leadership.
- **Exposures:** Each Scholar is exposed to civic, social and cultural events throughout the year.
- **College Tours:** To begin exposing Scholars and parents to selective colleges, Scholars tour nearby selective colleges during their sophomore year.
- **Summer College Program:** Every Scholar is required to attend a 2 to 4 week summer program at a selective college. Scholars complete a rigorous application process for two selective colleges' summer programs, ultimately choosing which program to attend.



Program Components

Junior Year

- **Reading Seminar:** Each Scholar continues the Schuler Reading Improvement Program. Seminar focuses on deeper analysis of reading material and group discussion.
- **Weekly Cohorts:** Through a partnership with Destination ImagiNation, Inc., the world's largest creativity and problem solving organization, Scholars learn the process, art, and skill associated with problem-solving.
- **Exposures:** Each Scholar is exposed to civic, social and cultural events throughout the year.
- **College Tours:** Schuler staff continues to take Scholars and parents on college trips throughout their junior year, including spring and summer breaks.
- **ACT/SAT Prep Class:** During junior year, all Scholars are required to participate in an 8 week ACT/SAT test prep course. The classes meet for 3 hours once a week.
- **College Counseling:** Schuler college counselors meet with each junior Scholar and family to identify schools that best match the Scholar's interests and academic ability. Individualized family meetings are continued throughout the junior year.
- **International Program:** Scholars who rank in the top 5% of their high school class are eligible to apply to one of our international partner programs: Global Leadership Adventures (GLA), American Field Service (AFS) or The Experiment in International Living (EIL). Selected Scholars attend a 4 week international experience that combines community service with immersion in culture and language.



Program Components

Senior Year

- *Exposures:* Each Scholar is exposed to civic, social and cultural events throughout the year.
- *College Tours-* Schuler staff continues to take Scholars and parents on college trips during their senior year.
- *College Application Process:* Scholars participate in sessions on essay writing, college interviews, the financial aid process and the transition to university life.



Schuler Reading Improvement Program

Objectives

- To increase the Scholar's interest and aptitude in reading, for greater success in high school, college and life
- To increase ACT/SAT scores
- By improving the reading fluency, comprehension and vocabulary skills of our Scholars; this will help Scholars get into top tier colleges
- To increase AP scores, for credit and higher-level placements in college



Schuler Reading Improvement Program

'07 – '08 Vocabulary Results

- Of the 44 students total in the sample, 28 (64%) total had increases in vocabulary percentiles from test 1 to test 2.
- There was a higher percentage and greater movement among lower performers (those with less than 80% at test 1). 8 students were in the 95% or better at test 2 v. 4 students at test 1.

'07 – '08 Comprehension Results

- Results were even more pronounced for lower performers on comprehension. Again, 28 of 44 students showed increases.

'07 – '08 Combined Reading and Comprehension

- Overall, 33 (75%) of students made progress from the 1st to 2nd test. Of those 33, scores increased considerably



Schuler Scholar ACT Prep Program

All junior Scholars are required to participate in an eight week ACT/SAT prep class; classes meet once a week for three hours.

- Schuler compares pre-post (actual) test changes
- Class of 2009 scholars: 6 had no gain, 7 had 1 pt. gain, 8 had 2 pt. gain and 7 and 5 showed 3 pt. and 4 or more pt. gains respectively.
- WHS Avg. Composite score for all students is 16.9

Schuler Scholar Scores

	Pre-test	Actual Test
Avg. Composite Score	22.2	24.3
Highest Comp Score	27	29

On the pretest, 4 scholars scored a 27.

On the actual test 2 scholars scored a 29, 3 scholars scored a 28, and six scholars scored a 28.



Colleges and Universities Visited by SSP During Summer and Fall 2008

CA: Claremont McKenna, Pitzer, Pomona, Harvey Mudd, Occidental,
Stanford University, Santa Clara University

CO: Colorado College and U of Denver

IA: Cornell College

IL: Northwestern University, Bradley University, Illinois Wesleyan University

IN: Valparaiso University

LA: Tulane and Loyola University of New Orleans

MA: Brandeis University, Boston College, Wellesley College

MD: Johns Hopkins University

MN: Carleton College & Macalester College

OH: Case Western Reserve University

PA: Bryn Mawr, Lafayette, Haverford, Lehigh, Swarthmore

TN: Vanderbilt University

TX: Texas Christian University, Southwestern, Trinity

WI: Beloit College



Colleges and Universities Visiting WHS Schuler Scholar Program in 2008

Amherst College

Beloit College

Bentley College

Carleton College

Christian Brothers University

Claremont McKenna College

College of St. Benedict/St Johns University

Colorado College

Cornell College

Davidson College

DePauw College

Drake University

Emory University

Georgetown University

Haverford College

Illinois Wesleyan University

Kalamazoo College

Knox College

Lafayette College

Middlebury College

Mount Holyoke

Pitzer College

Skidmore College

Tufts University

Tulane University

Union College

University of Chicago

University of Denver

University of Tulsa

Vanderbilt University

Wabash College

Wellesely College

Wesleyan University

Westmont College

Williams College

Wittenberg

Yale University



Schuler Scholar Program Financial Support Provided to WHS

\$ spent per scholar in high school* = \$23,000/3 years

\$ spent per scholar on Scholarship = \$20,000/4 years

Total \$ spent per scholar = \$43,000/7 years

Schuler \$'s invested in WHS Students:

Scholars currently at WHS - $112 \times \$43,000 = \$4,816,000$

78 WHS scholars already in college** = \$1,560,000

College Financial Aid (on avg for class of 2008) = \$124,000/4 years

*based upon cost of programming as of 2008-2009 school year

**only includes scholarship investment



Schuler WHS Partnership Strengths

- Dr. Hamlin understands and values the Schuler Scholar Program.
- Athletic and some other extra-curricular depts. making every effort to collaborate with and support Schuler programs and Scholars.
- Schuler staff serve on multiple building committees.
- The Schuler Community project resulted in the launch of Bulldog, Inc.
- The teachers and other faculty members who support the Schuler Program are collaborating with the Schuler staff in an effort to enhance opportunities for ALL WHS students.
- The Hewitt Center and Schuler Dir. of College Counseling are collaborating to increase the # of colleges and universities visiting WHS and ensure ALL WHS students have access to these visits.
- Classmates/friends of Schuler scholars who are not enrolled in the Schuler program are receiving information and becoming more engaged in the college selection and application process thus, slowly creating a college bound culture among other groups of WHS students.



Schuler WHS Partnership Opportunities

- Lack of student support services, including social work, guidance counseling, college counseling (due to overloaded caseloads and/or disengaged staff).
- Lack of academic departmental collaboration in most cases, ranging from open hostility to passive non-responsiveness. Includes overt rudeness to Schuler staff and outside providers by WHS staff. Especially the case with the Communications Dept.
- Basic skills not being mastered before students progress through classes. This is especially evident in grammar and math. A senior Schuler scholar recently admitted to not knowing the multiplication tables.
- Need for sufficient, and efficient space for Schuler administrative functions and programming. Permanent space would be helpful in both buildings. (We have begun providing input to WHS official space planner).
- Lack of Schuler involvement in SLC development for next year. It would be most helpful if we could be involved with the 2 CSP houses' on-going meetings where appropriate to build relationships with the core teachers.