# The Early Identification Program

"Where Everything Is Possible"

## **2010-11 FACTS AND FIGURES**

### **STUDENT ENROLLMENT**: 649

**BREAKDOWN**: 151 students in the 8<sup>th</sup> grade; 498 students in grades 9-12 from the following school divisions:

Alexandria Arlington Fairfax Falls Church Manassas City Manassas Park City Prince William

## **DEMOGRAPHICS**

 48%
 Hispanic

 35%
 Black

 10%
 Asian

 5%
 White

 2%
 Other

## **PROGRAM COMPONENTS**

Summer Academy (grades 9-12), weekly tutoring/mentoring program, Math & Science Power Aid (MSPA) a review of mathematical and scientific concepts), Strengthening the Family Workshops, and a variety of weekend events centered around cultural, academic, and social development.

## **PURPOSE**

The Early Identification Program (EIP) is George Mason University's college access program which supports the academic, career, and personal/social development of first-generation college bound students in Northern Virginia.

## VISION

Produce civically engaged first-generation college bound students who value learning and are actively pursuing higher education.

## MISSION

EIP will inspire students towards higher education and the development of professional goals. Using a holistic approach to educate students EIP strives to maximize student potential and academic achievement. In partnership with local school divisions, private sector, and the Mason community our goal is to improve students' access to higher education and quality of life by providing academic enrichment, personal development, and community engagement; thus, ensuring students are equipped with the knowledge and skills to become productive and responsible global citizens.

## ACCOLADES

- As of 2010 EIP's alumni base has reached over 1000.
- 100% of the students from the class of 2010 have been accepted into college for the Fall semester.
- 75% of the 44 students accepted to Mason in the Fall of 2010 graduated high school with a 3.0 GPA or higher.
- 16 of the 30 incoming students attending Mason in 2010 received scholarships.
- Alexandria City Schools recognized the Early Identification Program with the 2010 Partners in Education Award.
- In 2008 EIP was recognized with the Magna Award for its partnership with Prince William County Public Schools.

Interested in donating or learning more about EIP please call 703-993-2120 or visit us at: http://eip.gmu.edu



#### **Summer Academy**

A three-week academic enrichment program, the Summer Academy offers students a preview of the academic material that they will encounter during their fall semester. Students receive instruction from certified public school teachers in math, science, and writing. All core academic courses follow the Virginia's Standard of Learning (SOL) standards. Additional courses in computer technology are also offered. These courses encourage students to be active class participants, and teach them how to think critically. Students also participate in a series of special activities. These activities consist of the following: guest speakers, team building, SAT and college preparation, social and leadership development activities, career day, resume preparation, and professional shadow day. The Summer Academy is held at both the Fairfax and Prince William campuses of George Mason University. These facilities allow for students to take advantage of the advanced computer and lab resources and expose students to a college environment. Over 400 students attend the Summer Academy.

#### Math and Science Power Aid (MSPA)

Math and Science Power Aid is a six-session course offered on Saturdays throughout the academic year. It is designed to help students in Algebra 1, Geometry, Algebra 2, Trigonometry and Upper level math courses by strengthening their understanding of mathematical concepts. Students are strongly encouraged to participate and complete a contract agreeing to attend all sessions offered. Due to high demand, the number of classes per session has increased 80%. The average size class is 25 students.

The science component focuses on high school science subjects such as Chemistry, Biology, and Physics. The objective is to provide resources for students who have difficulty in these areas of science. These sessions enable students to gain a firm grasp on scientific concepts and excel in their classes. Sessions are held on the same day as Math Power Aid courses.

#### **Academic Tutoring**

Students who are first generation college bound and low income, may find difficulty in finding strong mentors and receiving academic assistance at home. Therefore, to help overcome this obstacle, EIP offers after-school tutoring and mentoring for program participants. Students are required to attend tutoring throughout the academic year. There are 30 after-school tutoring sites located at selected schools throughout the participating public school districts. These sites are hosted by George Mason University undergraduate and graduate student tutors and teachers affiliated with the program.

#### Strengthening the Family (STF)

Proactive parental involvement is an essential element in promoting a strong academic environment for students to succeed. STF explores issues teens may be encountering during their educational experience and helps to provide meaningful solutions to overcoming communication barriers that may occur. In addition, STF informs parents on how the secondary and post-secondary educational system works and teaches them how to become strong advocates for their children. This session is offered in English and Spanish and is a required course for both parents and students in EIP.

## Early Identification Program Prep (for 8<sup>th</sup> graders)

In addition to providing support to high school students accepted into the EIP program, EIP also provides academic support for eighth grade students. Students are required to attend tutoring throughout the school year. In addition to receiving academic support, students attend workshops that focus on goal setting and gaining effective study skills. Students who successfully complete EIP Prep gain entrance into the program's high school component.

