



Achiever

January 2008

You Won't Get a Pass Without a Pass

Second semester is about to begin, and that means a reminder about passes out of tutoring. Here are the rules once again:

- If you are going to miss tutoring, you need to turn in a pass **BEFORE** the absence, or have a **parent/guardian** call (816) 501-2438 in case of illness or family emergency.
- Signing in and leaving tutoring without a pass will result in a \$5 deduction in your stipend.
- If you are in a sport or activity that lasts for more than one tutoring session, you may turn in one signed pass with the start and end date of your sport or activity. A new pass is not needed each week for the same activity if one is turned in that covers a prolonged time period.
- If a student is going to a teacher's room to take a test or get help with work, they need a signed pass or note from their teacher **BEFORE** they are allowed to

leave.

- Even if you are excused from tutoring, you need to stop by your tutoring room to pick up the weekly announcements. Please initial by your name so we know you have the announcements.
- Students should make every effort to schedule appointments on afternoons that don't interfere with tutoring.
- Missing tutoring for work is never an excused absence.
- If a student misses tutoring without turning in a pass or if there is no call from a parent stating that a family emergency has occurred, the student will be counted as unexcused. Multiple unexcused absences may result in disciplinary action or dismissal from the program.

These rules are in place for several reasons. The most important is the protection of your student. In case of emergency, we need to have a pass on file so we know

where to locate your student. The pass system also teaches responsibility that will be needed in the



Follow these steps to success with the pass system.

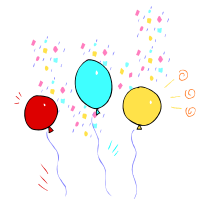
real world. If your child misses a day of work, then calls his/her employer two weeks later, that is not acceptable and he or she would be out of a job. We want students to be able to participate in extracurricular activities to enrich them as people and to beef up their college applications. We also want them to learn to take responsibility for themselves because ultimately their success in life is up to them. Please encourage your child to follow the rules about passes for everyone's benefit. If you have questions about these rules, please contact Kennedy at (816) 501-2439.

Inside this issue:

Farwell: Johnny Turnage	2
Time for Saturday Sessions	2
January Features Talkback Movie	2
A New Look: Probation Policy	3
Senior Spotlight	4

Special Insert
January Calendar

Happy New Year!



FAREWELL: Johnny Turnage

As we enter into the new year, the office has gained some new faces, and with this change old ones say goodbye. Johnny Turnage will be leaving us this Spring, in pursuit of obtaining employment within the TRIO family. Johnny has served as a Tutor, Resident Assistant, Work-Study, and Office Manager for the last two years. His services and warmth will be greatly missed. If you see Johnny around thank him for his service and send him well wishes.

We will keep you posted!



Time for Saturday Study Sessions

Our first Saturday Study Session will be held on Saturday January 26, 2007 from 8:00a.m. to 12:00 p.m. on Avila's campus. Who needs to attend?

- Any student who does not attend tutoring of at least one hour every week. This includes all students participating in sports or a school activity as well as students who have moved to non-target schools.

- Any student with a current trimester or semester G.P.A. below of 2.5 or on Academic Probation.
- Any student with a D or an F on their last report card.

After the first week of tutoring, post-cards will be mailed out to inform you if you must attend. Please remember that all Upward Bound students are welcome to attend if they

feel they need extra help in any academic area or if they just need some extra time to study. Please remember that the Saturday Study Sessions are a way for you to increase your chances of academic success and get the help you need.

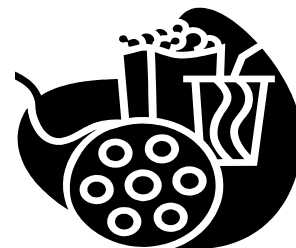


January Features Talkback Movie

Did you ever think that the Upward Bound staff would encourage you to talk during a movie? In January, we will be doing just that. On Saturday, January 26th from 12:00 to 3:00, we will screen a movie that will require some discussion from you. The talkback movie is a Required Activity. The activity will take place immediately after the January Saturday Session. We

know that as high school students, people don't always ask you your opinion. We want to get you talking about our society and some of the problems we face. We want to hear your solutions. Bring a blanket and a pillow to get cozy on the floor, as we will be using a blanket drive-in style of viewing. Bring your brain, bring your opinions, and be ready to share. We will provide lunch and

snacks during the movie viewing. See you at the movie!



A New Look: Probation Policy

If a student does not meet these grade requirements, he or she will be placed on probation. The student will remain on probation for the entire next semester. For example, if a student who has been in the program since the 2005-2006 school year gets below a 2.5 during the fall semester of 2007, he or she will be placed on probation for the spring semester of 2008. At the end of this semester, it is expected that the student will have achieved a 2.5 GPA. If this is not the case, the student will be reviewed using the following criteria on the probation progress report:

If the student has not made satisfactory effort as determined by the probationary semester criteria, he or she will be released from the Upward Bound program. However, if the student has made a good faith effort to improve his or her grades as indicated by the probation progress report, he or she will be allowed to remain in the program. He or she will, however, remain on probation until a 2.5 semester goal is reached.

There is no limit to the number of times a student can be placed on probation. As long as a student maintains a 2.5 semester G.P.A., he or she will be allowed to remain in the program.

Students on probation will be **required** to attend all Saturday Study Sessions during their probation to help them to improve their grades. If a student does not attend a Saturday session while he/she is on probation, he/she WILL NOT RECEIVE A STIPEND FOR THE MONTH OF THE MISSED SATURDAY.

If a student is on probation during the second semester, he/she will be required to give a copy of his/her grade card for the second semester to the Upward Bound office before he/she can attend the Summer Excellence Institute. It is the responsibility of the student on probation to take the steps needed to get a copy of her/his grade card to the Upward Bound staff. If a student does not produce his/her grade card **before** the Summer Excellence Institute begins, he/she will not be allowed to attend the summer program and will be dismissed from the Upward Bound program.

Students who are new to the Upward Bound program will not be placed into the academic probation system until after the first Summer Excellence Institute during which they are enrolled in the program. (This policy applies to students even if they must miss the Summer Excellence Institute for summer school.) This gives students time to become acclimated to the Upward Bound program and start to receive help to raise their grades. Please remember that Upward Bound students are required to attend the Summer Excellence Institute every summer. After the Summer Excellence Institute ends, these students will be eligible to be placed on probation if they do not maintain a 2.5 GPA.

	Fall Semester 2007	Spring Semester 2008	Fall Semester 2008	Spring Semester 2009
Students who were enrolled in UB prior to the 2006-2007 school year	2.5	2.5	2.5	2.5
Students who were first enrolled in UB during the 2006-2007 school year	2.25	2.5	2.5	2.5
Students who will be enrolled in UB for the first time during the 2007-2008 school year	No requirement for new students until after SEI 08	No requirement for new students until after SEI 08	2.25	2.5

Avila University Upward Bound

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**Best wishes
for a
successful
academic
year!**

«FIRST NAME» «LAST NAME»
«ADDRESS»
«CITY», «STATE» «ZIP»

Senior Spotlight

It's time for the FAFSA! Here's what you need to do.

- Complete your taxes ASAP if you intend to file. This is for students and parents alike.
- AS SOON AS POSSIBLE get a PIN number from www.pin.ed.gov. You want to apply for a PIN so that you can access your information once you fill out the FAFSA on the web.
- Fill out the Pre-Application Worksheet that was sent home with the senior announcements. The questions are in the same order as they are presented



It's time for financial aid. Get the money you need to be ready for the fall.

on FAFSA on the web. Please fill this out as completely as you can before attending the Saturday session on January 26, 2007.

- Come to the Saturday session January 26, 2007 in the Whitfield Center, and we will help you complete FAFSA on the web.
- Remember that you will not get a financial aid package from a college until you have been accepted for admission by that college.
- Also remember that you want to get your FAFSA in as soon as possible. Institutional scholarships and federal money are awarded on a

first come, first served basis. Students who have been accepted to a university and file their FAFSA early have the best chance of getting the best financial aid packages.

If you have questions about any part of the college application or financial aid process, please don't hesitate to contact Michaela at 816-501-3719. She will be happy to help you understand this lengthy and sometimes confusing process. Just remember that when you are sitting in a classroom in the fall, all the effort will have been worth it. Don't slow down now! Make your college dreams come true.