**Upward Bound Updates:**

- Students now receive $20 for attendance at Back-to-Campus events
- UB has a new face! Chris Hoffman has joined UB as the Outreach Coordinator
- Summer Program planning has begun! The 2013 Summer Trip destination will be Chicago
- UB is working to provide more information to families throughout the year

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**Tutoring Takes Off**

The tutoring program is back in action for the 2012-2013 school year and many students are taking advantage. Bemidji State University students travel to all Upward Bound high schools to work with students on homework and MCA test prep for a few hours after school. Tutors are generally strong in math and science, but are also able to help with the outlining and composition of course papers.

All Upward Bound students are eligible to attend tutoring and encouraged to take advantage of this awesome resource. The student turnout at tutoring has improved this year and seems to be benefiting students in the classroom. Tutoring may be mandatory for students if they meet one of two criteria: 1) they have a course grade below a C- OR 2) they have not passed an MCA math or reading test. While the intent is to help students struggling in an academic area, UB staff encourage all students to participate in tutoring even if they are not needing assistance. Tutoring is a great opportunity for students to work on developing strong study habits that will prove beneficial in college. Students are able to come and go as they please and do not need to stay for a specified amount of time. Tutors are also able to provide transportation for any student after tutoring is over for the evening making attendance easier on parents and guardians. Please support your students and encourage their participation in Upward Bound tutoring!

**Spring Tutoring Schedule**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Location</th>
<th>Dates</th>
<th>Location</th>
<th>Dates</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Bagley</td>
<td>1/17, 1/31, 2/14, 2/28, 3/21, 4/4, 4/18</td>
<td>Mahnomen</td>
<td>1/24, 2/7, 2/21, 3/7, 4/11, 4/25</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bemidji</td>
<td>Every Wednesday (except 3/13, 3/27)</td>
<td>Park Rapids</td>
<td>Every Thursday (except 3/14, 3/28)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Blackduck</td>
<td>1/23, 2/6, 2/20, 3/6, 3/27, 4/10, 4/24</td>
<td>Red Lake</td>
<td>Every Tuesday (except 3/12)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cass Lake</td>
<td>Every Tuesday (except 3/12)</td>
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<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Financing the Future**

It is not news to anyone the cost of a college education is expensive. With decreasing financial support for higher education, the cost of tuition continues to creep upward. Despite the bill associated with college attendance, the long-term benefits outweigh the short-term costs. Over the course of a lifetime, a college graduate will earn on average $1 million more than a typical high school graduate. While statistics demonstrate financial benefits, college debt can still be daunting. There are some steps to take now to help ease anxiety surrounding college debt.

* Make sure your student has started a savings account AND is contributing to it.
* Whether your student is able to put away $20 a month or $200, it is a start and a good habit to develop now.
* Encourage your student’s academic success! High GPAs and ACT scores are crucial to securing scholarships.
* Financial Aid is monetary support provided to students to attend college. While financial aid is likely to help defer college costs, it will not necessarily cover the whole bill. Get an estimate of the financial aid your student will receive. You can do this by visiting: www.fafsa4caster.ed.gov.

For further information regarding college financing visit: www.federalstudentaid.ed.gov or www.getreadyforcollege.org
On Watch: Academic Probation & Your Student

Upward Bound’s mission is to support students in their academic endeavors and challenge them to reach their potential. Kudos are given when students succeed and encouragement is provided when improvement is needed. It is not uncommon for a student to struggle now and again in a class or during a particular term. A consistent struggle to do well however is cause for concern. UB students are expected to attend college following high school graduation and are therefore held to high academic standards. With the first term grades having been posted, some students are finding themselves on UB Academic Probation. Academic Probation is not meant to be punitive, rather is intended to aide UB staff in communicating with teachers and students more intensively to help students turn things around. We would like for our families to be aware of our increased efforts as well as our Academic Probation Policy which is outlined on the right.

*Any student falling below a C- in a course will be placed on the mandatory tutoring list until the end of the term.
*A student with a GPA below a 2.0 for and grading term will be placed on academic probation. The student will be on mandatory tutoring for the following term and communication between UB staff and teachers will become consistent.
*A student whose GPA is below a 2.0 for two consecutive terms will be met with a parent/guardian to discuss academic goals and expectations. The nature of this meeting will be to determine what service or assistance is needed to help the student succeed.
*A student whose GPA is below a 2.0 for three consecutive semesters will no longer be allowed to participate in Upward Bound (a student may present a written petition to stay in Upward Bound barring extenuating circumstances).

Back-to-Campus Schedule

Put us on your calendar!

Back-to-Campus Dates are set for Spring and we would love to see you there!

(There have been a few date changes since publication of the student newsletter-please make note)

January 26, 2013: Tubing at Buena Vista
February 16, 2013: Northern TRiO Day
   (student conference hosted by BSU Upward Bound)
April 13, 2013: Festival of Nations
May 5, 2013: End-of-the-Year Banquet
   (2 family members welcome)