

DEF - CCAP GEAR UP



OCTOBER 2007

GEAR UP

Gaining Early Awareness & Readiness for Undergraduate Programs

Delmarva Education Foundation

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We're on the Web!

CRISFIELD HIGH/WASHINGTON HIGH/WICOMCIC HIGH

It's Football Season! The Sallie Mae Fund, a charitable organization, has partnered with former Philadelphia Eagle, Vince Papale "to increase access to a postsecondary education for America's students."

"In 1976, at the age of 30, Vince Papale attended an open tryout and made the Philadelphia Eagles football team, becoming the oldest rookie in the history of the NFL. His story is told in the film *Invincible* starring Mark Wahlberg.

As a frequent presenter of The Sallie Mae Fund's *Paying for College* workshops, Vince Papale has spent many years encouraging high school students to dream for college. Through The Sallie Mae Fund's 'Hold Fast to Dreams' tour—inspired by the Langston Hughes poem often cited by Coach Vermeil in the Eagles locker room—Vince shares with students the importance of higher education in his life. Before he was a football legend, he was the first in his family to attend and graduate from college. He grew up in a working-class neighborhood where getting a job was a struggle and kids had trouble staying in school. Vince believes a higher education is the key to opening the door to more life opportunities. **On average, a high school dropout earns less per year than a high school graduate and about \$1 million less over a lifetime than a college graduate.** Vince encourages young people to hold fast to their college aspirations and offers his *playbook for college.*" (at right) Your DEF-CCAP and GEAR UP staff are enthusiastically ready to help you as much as possible, but you have to give it your all too. The most important and

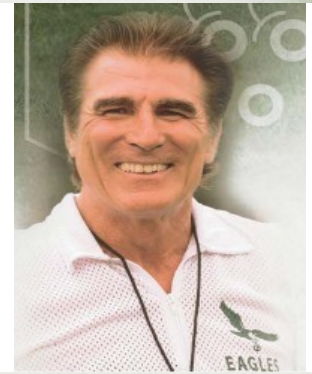
valuable service we're providing for you is that your advisor is available to work one-on-one with you to help you on the path to a successful future.

At Wicomico High School (WiHi), Ms. Anna Carter, an AmeriCorps volunteer, joins Ms. Rhonda Elswick as your DEF-CCAP advisors. Ms. Elswick also divides her time to help out at the two high schools in Somerset County. **At Crisfield High School (CHS), Ms. Christina Sykes, another AmeriCorps member, joins the DEF-CCAP advisor staff. Also Ms. Tonya Lewis is staying on as advisor at Washington High School (WHS) with AmeriCorps and DEF-CCAP for another year.** We're available to help all of the students in grades 9-12 at these schools with an added focus on GEAR UP.

We're here to help you with career exploration and prep; college searches and college fair visits; challenging school work and preparing for standardized tests; essay, college application, and resume writing; and finding scholarships and financial aid.

The steps to "Win Your Way to College" by Vince Papale tell you to take advantage of the help that's available from mentors and other supporters like your DEF-CCAP advisors. **Push yourself to do extra, do your best in school and activities, take challenging AP courses, follow advice and directions, meet deadlines, explore options in choosing a career path, find a college that's a great match, and most of all—believe in yourself as we believe in you... and do what it takes to reach your goal!**

The Sallie Mae Fund® Presents
"Vince Papale's 5 Plays to Win Your Way to College"



#1 Be a standout at training camp

- Develop a stat sheet of challenging classes and unique talents
- Be your own biggest fan

#2 Put together a solid offensive line

- Identify a mentor
- Build a network of supporters

#3 Study the film

- Select reach schools and safety schools
- Track deadlines

#4 Tackle tuition

- Know the difference between "sticker price" and the actual price
- Study up on the financial aid process
- Complete the FAFSA

#5 Score the extra point

- Learn how to qualify for scholarships
- Research scholarships early
- Apply for as many as possible
- Beware of scams

Ask your advisor for more details:

SAT -reg. by Oct 30th for Dec 1st Test
SU & UMES - application fee waivers
Barnes & Noble /DEF Education Day - Nov. 3rd-students can sign up now to participate and earn service hours
AP Parent/Student Night -Oct 25,WiHi
Real Deal game-for GEAR UP students- Oct 29 at WHS/Oct 30 at CHS
College Visits - CHS/WHS-Must see advisor re: permission to participate!

"Hold fast to dreams, for if dreams die, life is a broken winged bird that cannot fly." Langston Hughes, poet



Now is the time to Ask for Help! Get to know us. We're here to help you successfully pursue your dreams. Stop in at school to see us or email us.

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You can also call or visit DEF's office in the Wicomico Public Library.

