From the Director
Larry Ramos

As we end another school year and begin another fulfilled summer, I'd like to thank all the school personnel who have contributed in making this year a successful one. Without their help, the program counselors would not be able to meet with the students and help them fill out financial aid and college admissions forms. Students wouldn't be able to participate in ACT preparation and career development workshops nor go on campus visits. I would personally like to thank the wonderful guidance office and library staff at South High School who made every effort to ensure that I had access to students. Special thanks to Renae Dixon and Joan Krack for their support of the program. I also want to congratulate all graduating seniors on their accomplishments. These students have made so many people proud. Hopefully, many of them will enroll in college classes this fall to begin the newest chapter in their lives. Finally, I want to commend the Project Discovery staff for their hard work and dedication. Without their contributions, the program wouldn't work as effectively as it has done this year. Most people don't know it, but the program was short one staff member for most of the school year. That will soon change as the newest member of our staff, Romelia Lopez will take over counselor responsibilities at South, East, Metro Meridian, Metro Boulevard, and Stucky Middle School. We look toward next fall with great anticipation when another school year begins.

Summer is coming and so is the Summer Enrichment Program (SEP). Like the weather, changes are coming to the 2004 summer program. This year's program will focus on reading and language arts. We will collaborate with LaTonia Kennedy, the Director of Learning Express, will provide intensive instruction in learning to read fluently, write and spell the English language. The first session runs from June 7th through July 2nd and the second session is from July 5th to July 30th. This year, the first session is for 6th and 7th graders while the second session is for 8th graders.

The deadline to apply for SEP is May 31, 2004 (see insert)
Isn't the year over yet????

by Heather Ybarra, E.D.A.

I can't believe another school year is almost behind us. This year has flown by!! I want to thank each and everyone of you that I have had the opportunity to work with this year. I have set tasks before you and you have met them with flying colors. However, your work is not over; it is just beginning. Whether your future holds a new and exciting freshman year or another year at the same old school, tackle the task with style and grace like I KNOW you can!

To the Educational Talent Search students at Northeast, Northwest, Heights and Midtown have a great and CAREFUL summer. I'll see you in the fall and if you need me you know where to find me.

Seniors

By Stephanie Haynes

Seniors, there are approximately six weeks left before you start on your next journey. Becoming a young adult and facing life as an adult is challenging. Whether you are going off to college, attending a vo-tech, joining the armed forces, or working, remember that if it is to be it will be up to you to make things happen. As you travel along the way keep these tips in mind.

1. Always trust and believe that anything is possible.
2. Weigh every option before making a decision.
3. When you are feeling like you are at the end and on the edge of giving up tell yourself "yes I can".
4. Be open to change.
5. Don't be too AFRAID to ask for help.

Be a Volunteer

By Darryl Neighbor

Have you ever thought about volunteering your time to a local charity or community organization? There are many different reasons to start volunteering:

To help others
To learn about an activity or organization that interests you
To beat boredom
To gain perspective on life

Community service is an important criteria in applying for scholarships. Your reasons for volunteering are as individual as you are, but no matter what your reasons you can get a lot out of volunteering. You can learn about yourself, learn about others and meet a lot of interesting people. You can help others as you help yourself. The following list will give you lots of different ideas for volunteering. Find one that best suits your interests and personality. Here are some places to consider.

1. Homeless shelters
2. Food banks
3. Ronald McDonald House
4. Special Olympics
5. Habitat for Humanities
6. City recreation programs
7. Helping Others Learn to Read
8. Public libraries
9. Senior citizens centers
10. Political campaigns
Spring Cleaning
March bustles in on windy feet
And sweeps my doorstep and my street.
She washes and cleans with pounding rains,
Scrubbing the earth of winter stains.
She shakes the grime from carpet green
Till naught but fresh new blades are seen.
Then, house in order, all neat as a pin,
She ushers gentle springtime in.
Author: Susan Reiner

Community Colleges Always a Viable Option
By Earl Vore

One of the best bargains for a college education may well be a two-year community college first then go on to a four-year college. Community colleges offer a better bargain for the money. Most community colleges give scholarships to area students with good grades. With a scholarship and a Pell grant a student can live at home and attend college for much less money. Several community colleges in Southeast Kansas were contacted to find out what a student could expect regarding cost, programs and campus life. This is what we found:

Coffeyville Community College in Coffeyville says about 90 percent of their students receive scholarships or other forms of financial aid. Often the cost for tuition, fees, and housing are covered by scholarships and grants.

Other area community colleges including: Labette, Independence, Neosho, Allen, and Ft. Scott report the same types of support when asked the same question.

Often, students can take senior level classes at community college campuses offered by Pittsburg State University and other four-year colleges and universities. Actual classes and programs offered are determined on an ongoing basis. Students interested should contact their high school counselor or their local area community college for details.