This summer, our theme was "Reach For the Stars" to represent REACH, FIT, and SAFETY!
RISING SENIOR ACADEMY
To kick off the summer experience, rising seniors from Preston and Grafton High Schools joined us for a 2-week commuter camp. They rounded off week #2 with a trip to the WVU Outdoor Education Center with Adventure West Virginia, where they conquered the Alpine Tower, Giant Swing, & Odyssey Course!

During Rising Senior Academy, students learned about the impact that their identities and values have on their education and future career; explored ways to practice physical, mental, and emotional health; prepared to take the SAT/ACT; practiced their resume building and interviewing skills; were introduced to financial aid concepts; and worked on budgeting exercises! They also refined their time management skills and practiced setting SMART goals.
RISING SENIOR ACADEMY
The summer in numbers:

- 38 students served
- 200+ hours of activities
- 1,000+ miles traveled
High school students of all ages joined us for a three-week residential intensive experience! Students took daily math, science, Spanish, and English classes; participated in morning wellness sessions; and spent the afternoons in their elective classes. In the evenings, students enjoyed a variety of activities hosted by our awesome team of RAs!

By taking classes across WVU’s Downtown and Evansdale campuses, students got to experience a taste of the college experience! Classes were held in multiple buildings on campus to simulate a real college experience. Most days, students caught the bus from Evansdale to Downtown and walked to the Life Sciences Building to attend their afternoon science class!
New this summer: electives!

Students attending the residential program chose one of four elective courses to participate in. Students had a blast exploring new interests!

The four elective choices were:

- Japanese
- Raspberry Pi coding
- Creative writing
- World music
TRIP TO LAMBERT RUN

Throughout the residential program, students learned about environmental science. To put their classroom lessons and labs to work, we traveled to Lambert Run in Harrison County, WV to test the water and locate the macroinvertebrates of a stream formerly impacted by acid mine drainage.
On the final day of our residential program, WVU's Career Services hosted an etiquette dinner for our staff and students! We learned how to practice proper etiquette when in formal dining scenarios; such as job interviews, business meetings, weddings, and more!
KENTUCKY TRIP

For the final week of our summer program, we took a trip to Kentucky and made some wonderful memories; visiting amazing colleges, engaging in fantastic cultural experiences, and enjoying good food. Our students also built great relationships with each other and with our staff.
COLLEGE EXPLORATION

AT UNIVERSITY OF LOUISVILLE, STUDENTS VISITED THEIR TRIO OFFICE, WHICH HOUSES STUDENT SUPPORT SERVICES!
Students enjoyed a trip to Churchill Downs, the very track where the Kentucky Derby takes place!
Our visit to the Muhammad Ali Center was "the greatest"!