

POTTSTOWN CITIZENS FOR Enlightened LEADERSHIP

Foundation boosts college-bound

Thirteen of the students who graduated from Pottstown High School June 2 have a head start on college, paid in part or in full by the Foundation for Pottstown Education.

The students earned college credits from the Montgomery County Community College at the same time they were juniors and seniors at Pottstown High School. Depending on students' financial need and their grade point average, the Foundation paid for either half or all of their tuition.



Commentary by
Tom Hylton

The credits are accepted by state colleges and many

private colleges.

Some students had already finished a full year of college (30 credits) by the time they received their diplo-

ma.

Operating out of a rent-free office in the Pottstown School District administration building, the Foundation is otherwise self-sustaining.

The Class of 2021 earned a combined 287 credits at a cost of \$54,817. If these same classes were taken at the colleges and universities these students will attend, the credits would have cost \$322,519.

Not all students who enroll in both Pottstown High School and the Community College receive a subsidy.

Only those who are accepted in the Early College program, demonstrating financial need, a 90 percent or above grade point average at the high school, and a good attendance record qualify.

In the nine years the Foundation has offered the program, 82 students have had all or part of their dual enrollment college credits paid for at a total cost of nearly \$435,000.

College Cohort	Number Enrolled	Start date	Graduate PHS	Completed Early College Program
Cohort I	9	Spring 2014	2015	9
Cohort II	11	Fall 2014	2016	11
Cohort III	14	2015	2017	11
Cohort IV	20	2016	2018	14
Cohort V	12	2017	2019	9
Cohort VI	15	2018	2020	15
Cohort VII	14	2019	2021	13
Cohort VIII	14	2020	2022	
Cohort IX	12	2021	2023	
TOTAL				82

Colleges/ universities attended by Foundation-funded graduates				
Albright	East Carolina	Jefferson	Penn State	U of the Sciences
Alfred	Eastern	Lebanon Valley	P.S. Berks	U of Virginia
Alvernia	Emory	Lynchburg	Shenandoah	Ursinus
Cairn	Florida Tech	Lycoming	Thad. Stevens	Utica
Cheney	Gwynedd Mercy	Montco CC	Susquehanna	West Chester
Dickinson	Haverford	Millersville	Temple	Widener
Drexel	Howard	Moravian	Temple- Japan	Villanova
Duke	Indiana of PA	New York	U San Diego	York