The end of another school year is fast approaching, and as your daughter returns home for the summer I recommend you take some time to talk to her about the kinds of experiences she wants to get out of her college career. During the past two years with the Wal-Mart College Success grant, one of our goals was to educate our first generation students about all the opportunities that college has to offer them. This year we offered workshops in study abroad, internships, and undergraduate research to answer students’ questions about these experiences. We also have numerous volunteer opportunities, leadership roles and trainings, and employment experiences. It is up to the students to take the next step, what do they want to experience before they graduate?

I encourage you to take some time over the summer to talk about what opportunities your daughter has learned about at CSB/SJU and what she would like to take advantage. It may be helpful to ask what she hopes to get out of the experience by doing it. She might surprise you!

For those families who’s daughters are current first year students, we used an article from an on-line source in last years newsletter on Advice from a College Mom...Summer College. This article has some great tips and advice for handling the transition from having your first year college student return home for the summer break. It can be found on our web site at: www.csbsju.edu/documents/CSB%20First%20Generation/newsletters/parent%20newsletter%20mid-april%202009.pdf

May you all have a safe and happy summer break. It has been my pleasure to get to

**First Generation Events**

The First Generation Program co-sponsored a trip to Powder Ridge on February 18. We had the whole area to ourselves, and the staff even did a bonfire for us. For the second year in a row, we had our March social at the El Paso Sports Bar and Restaurant. The women bowled together and had pizza. We are ending the year with a BBQ where students who signed up will be receiving a First Generation T-Shirt.

We also held a closing dinner for students who had a faculty or staff first generation mentor this past year. We had 19 students take advantage of this opportunity.
All returning students living in Lottie, Margretta, Brian, the campus apartments and the campus houses are strongly encouraged to return to campus on Monday, August 23 or Tuesday, August 24.

If you choose to return on Sunday, August 22, you may not move in or pick up your keys until after 2:00 pm. You are not permitted to move in prior to 2:00 pm due to the approximately 515 new first year students who will be moving in between 8:00 am and 1:00 pm on Sunday, August 22. Parking will be extremely limited and traffic into campus on that Sunday will be significant. We ask that you respect the 2:00 pm timeline for returning students to provide for the best possible (and least stressful) move in experience for both new and returning students and their families.

Please note if you (or your coach/supervisor) submitted an early arrival request you should have received a separate e-mail with instructions on what to do when you arrive.

Things to Keep in Mind If Arriving on Sunday, August 22
- Do not arrive prior to 2:00 pm
- Parking will be extremely limited & traffic will be significant
- Please use the south entrance on College Avenue to access campus on this day
- Please do not attempt to drive to Mary Commons as the road and cul de sac will be reserved for first year move in

More information will be sent to your student via e-mail and available on the Residential life website this summer.

Feedback needed!

As you may or may not know, this spring ends our grant from the Wal-Mart College Success Program. The college is working on a plan for how to continue the First Generation Program, and we need your feedback on our quarterly newsletters to know if we should continue them. Please either send an email to mthomas@csbsju.edu with answers to these questions or mail them to:

College of Saint Benedict, 37 South College Avenue, St. Joseph, MN 56374, Attention: CSB First Generation Program.

1. Did you read the quarterly First Generation Parent newsletters? Why or Why not?

2. What articles did you find most helpful?

3. What articles do you wish you had read about in the newsletter?

4. Would you be willing to share an email address to save mailing costs to receive future newsletters?

5. Any other feedback you would like to share?

Be sure to check out the college's parent website every month for resources and updates on your daughter's college experience!

http://www.csbsju.edu/parents/