



# Eastern-in-the-News



## 60 STUDENTS EARN GED® IN PROGRAM HOSTED BY EASTERN

**Moorefield — June 26, 2012** — “Life’s journey is a like a road map. Different individuals can take different roads and still arrive in the same town.” So began Robert Eagle’s keynote address to the 2012 GED® graduation ceremony held in Petersburg June 7.

Eastern WV Community and Technical College manages the high school equivalency program for Hardy, Grant and Pendleton counties, and hosted the ceremony in its Technology Training Center at the Grant County Industrial Park.

Of the 60 total program graduates for 2012, 24 attended the ceremony along with family and friends. “The course you took is even more difficult than receiving a high school diploma,” Eagle, the college’s Dean for Academics and Student Services, told the audience of more than 140.



“And now that you have sipped from the cup of knowledge and education, did that quench your thirst?” he asked. “For some, maybe it has— for others, it may have spiked the thought of what might be: do I want to climb higher?”

For student speaker August Parker, the answer was a definite “Yes!”

“Getting my GED meant the world to me. After attending ABE classes off and on for eleven years,” she said, “I finally earned my diploma. That day was an awesome day for me.

“I now have the confidence in myself with anything I put my mind to.” Since passing her GED test, Parker has enrolled at Eastern and is taking college classes this summer.

The GED tests are designed so that only 60-percent of graduating high school seniors nationwide are able to attain passing scores. And each year, one of every 20 college freshmen holds a GED Diploma.

“None of this could have been possible without the help of my instructor and instructional aide,” Parker emphasized. “They both have given me the hope and courage to work hard and stay focused.”

During the ceremony, Adult Basic Education instructors Vera Shockey and Amanda Barger presented special awards to those who achieved high scores in specific areas:

- **Language Arts, Writing:** Kimberly Teter and Saprina Souza
- **Science:** Channing Eye, Rachael Sites, Joseph Winebrenner, Saprina Souza and Anthonee Llewellyn
- **Social Studies:** Lyndel Haller, Jacklynn Lowe, Elizabeth Ludeker and Saprina Souza
- **Language Arts, Reading:** Heather Shanholtz, Channing Eye, Lyndel Haller, Jacklynn Lowe, Rachael Sites, Elizabeth Ludeker, Saprina Souza, Heather Gray, Josh Evans, Anthonee Llewellyn and Dustin Adolphson
- **Mathematics:** Saprina Souza

Eastern awarded a one-year scholarship to Saprina Souza for achieving the highest GED Overall Score among all the graduates.

GED graduates who attended the ceremony:

**From Hardy County:** Aklil Abebe, Justin Brown, Stewart Cullers, Josh Evans, Anthonee Llewellyn, Tyler Llewellyn and August Parker, all of Moorefield; Dustin Adolphson, of Baker; Heather Gray, of Purgitsville; and Whitney Huffman, of Wardensville.

**From Grant County:** Channing Eye, Sally Hall, Lyndel Haller, Jacklynn Lowe, Elizabeth Ludeker, Daniel Wimer and Joseph Winebrenner, all of Petersburg; Christopher Goldizen, Samantha McDonald and Heather Shanholtz, all of Maysville; and Veronica Tinger, of Cabins.

**From Pendleton County:** Saprina Souza, of Franklin; Kimberly Teter, of Seneca Rocks; and Ryan Mowery, of Upper Tract.