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### **B.E.S.T. Program Participants Visit Gardner-Webb Campus This Week**

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# B.E.S.T. Program Participants Visit Gardner-Webb Campus This Week

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Office of University Communications

July 23, 2014

## *Annual Event Brings Executives, Students Together*

BOILING SPRINGS, N.C. — Local high school students are learning professional skills from business leaders this week during an annual free program at Gardner-Webb University. The GWU Godbold School of Business presents the 9th annual B.E.S.T. (Bringing Executives and Students Together) Program beginning July 23 through July 25.

The program gives rising 10th, 11th and 12th graders an opportunity to learn from entrepreneurs and other community leaders. This year's B.E.S.T. Program activities include workshops on business, finance and marketing; GWU campus tours; outdoor activities; opportunities to meet new friends; and guest speakers from local businesses and civic groups. Past guest speakers include leaders from Wal-Mart, Shelby Police Department, The Star newspaper and the Cleveland County (N.C.) commissioners.

B.E.S.T. offers teens a chance to develop career skills in a fun atmosphere, according to Jasmine Brown, who participated in the program the past two years. "I learned about how to dress when going to a job interview and things I can do that will better prepare me for college," she reflected.

GWU is hosting B.E.S.T. participants from 8:30 a.m. to 2 p.m. each day. "We try to add to the value of what these students are already learning at their high schools, taking those principles outside the classroom and teaching the students to apply what they know," said Dr. Anthony Negbenebor, dean of the Godbold School of Business.

Transportation from local high schools to Gardner-Webb is provided, along with a light breakfast, snack and lunch each day. At the conclusion of the program, each participant will receive a B.E.S.T. certificate.

*Located in Boiling Springs, N.C., Gardner-Webb University offers a comprehensive academic experience that introduces students to the diverse world of ideas and to the people who think them, preparing them for professional success and for productive citizenship.*