

Submitter: Andrew Nerz

On Behalf Of:

Committee: Senate Committee On Education

Measure, Appointment or Topic: SB604

I have had the privilege of working with Destination Western (funded by the Strong Start Grant) since its maiden voyage several years ago. I have seen firsthand how it can help incoming freshman that do not have the privilege of family members who have previously graduated from college. Our program takes a holistic approach to academic success and personal growth; students go through two weeks of content in multiple areas, learn about various resources on campus, visit their teachers during office hours, attend social events, among other considerations. It is a highly valuable program that has continued to grow in popularity with our students and plays a significant role in fostering their success.

I implore you to support the Strong Start Program, as it provides a powerful service for our incoming freshman who need it the most.

Sincerely,

-Andrew Nerz