

Come Join Us

For a presentation by:

David Carson

Author of

Survival Guide for College
Bound L.D. Students

Hear about his trials and tribulations and how he came to value himself. He will discuss how you can help guide **your** college bound child to be successful.

When: November 10, 2009

Time: 6:30pm

Place: Washington High School Gym

201 Allison Ave

Washington, PA 15301

Dave Carson and his *Survival Guide for College-Bound L.D. Students*

Jamie A. Brown

Dave Carson, a 1975 graduate of Upper St. Clair, is not afraid to tell anyone about his failures. He has even presented them in his self-published book, *Survival Guide for College-Bound L.D. Students*.

He's not afraid to tell people he flunked out of three colleges, including IUP, Edinboro and Ohio University. He's not afraid to say that he gave up the chance to attend and play football at both Duke University and NC State. And he's not afraid to express the troubles he went through when he finally graduated from LaRoche College.

In fact, all these trials and tribulations would teach him to value himself and the intelligence he had all along.

Dave Carson learned, at the age of 25, that he has a Learning Disability and is cross dominant with visual tracking deficits. He also has a written expression disability.

These disabilities hampered Carson's ability to excel in the classroom, but more importantly, they hindered Carson's his belief in himself. He didn't go to Duke University, not because of a secret hatred for the Blue Devils, but because he didn't feel he belonged in that environment with such "intelligent" people.

Now that Carson has finished college and has successfully completed two further diplomas, both in respiratory care, he can

see where he went wrong when he first tried (three times) getting through school.

Carson's perspective is genuine, his goal sincere—he truly wants to help young adults who are heading to college. He wants to help them succeed. He wants to help them believe in themselves.

Carson writes a strong, useful guidebook for any L.D. student, at any level who is motivated to succeed. He uses personal stories, tips on classroom etiquette, Do's and Don'ts for the L.D. student and sample questions to ask a professor... before signing up for class. With this material he hopes high school students learn some of the lessons he learned without having to go through the same painful, frustrating process.

Knowing the difficulty many L.D. students have in reading books, Carson has formatted this book in a simple manner:

- Paragraphs are spaced out and easier to follow.
- Much of the material is in bullet form.
- He uses powerful quotes.
- He incorporates vivid, touching personal stories.

With this format, Carson makes the book much more user-friendly for the L.D.



Dave Carson

student, increasing the likelihood that the information is not only read, but understood and absorbed.

L.D. students or parents of an L.D. student should read this book. It gives hope to suffering students and parents alike, and helps all readers to better understand the constraints of learning disabilities and it helps inspire practical and effective coping methods.

Beyond his book on learning disabilities, Dave Carson is also available as a speaker and a tutor. ■