Dear Parents,

As we greet September, the campus is bustling with energy and enthusiasm as our students settle into the activities of fall semester. I hope your student is finding his or her academic courses interesting and challenging, while also taking time to find balance outside the classroom through club activities and student programming.

One activity that all Mountaineers eagerly anticipate is the season opener for our football team. This Saturday, West Virginia University takes on Missouri at noon at Mountaineer Field. We look forward to cheering the team on to victory on the gridiron.

We also look forward to celebrating that victory – in a respectful and safe way. To help create awareness, we will be sharing that message through our social media channels, at the stadium and throughout the campus community.

But we also know that you are our greatest partner in your student’s education. I ask that you gently remind your student, as well, of the ways he or she can celebrate safely this coming weekend and all future weekends:

· Be respectful of others.
· Demonstrate West Virginia hospitality to our visiting guests.
· Be aware of your surroundings. Make smart choices.
· If your student is of legal age, remind them to drink responsibly.
· Take care of one another. If you see another person in trouble, get help.
· Remind your student to download and use the LiveSafe app. They can share safety concerns anonymously, live chat with police and get help when needed.

By talking with your student, together we can remind them of our motto, “Work Smart, Play Smart.”

Thank you for working with us as your student finds his or her path at West Virginia University. I encourage you to call or write with any questions or concerns. And I hope to see you the next time you visit campus.

E. Gordon Gee
President, West Virginia University