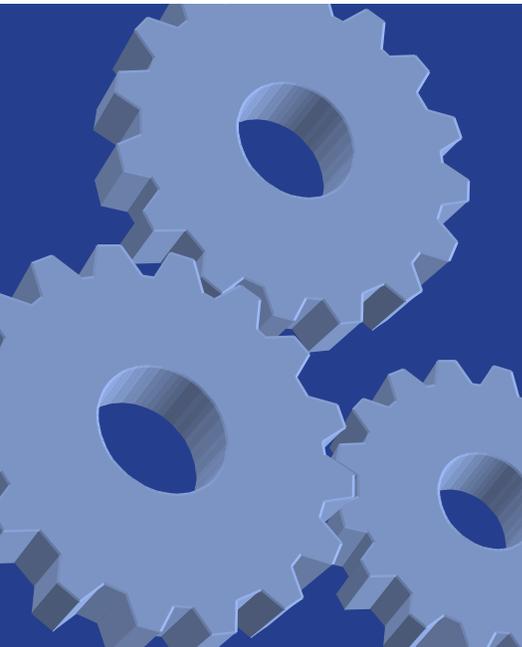




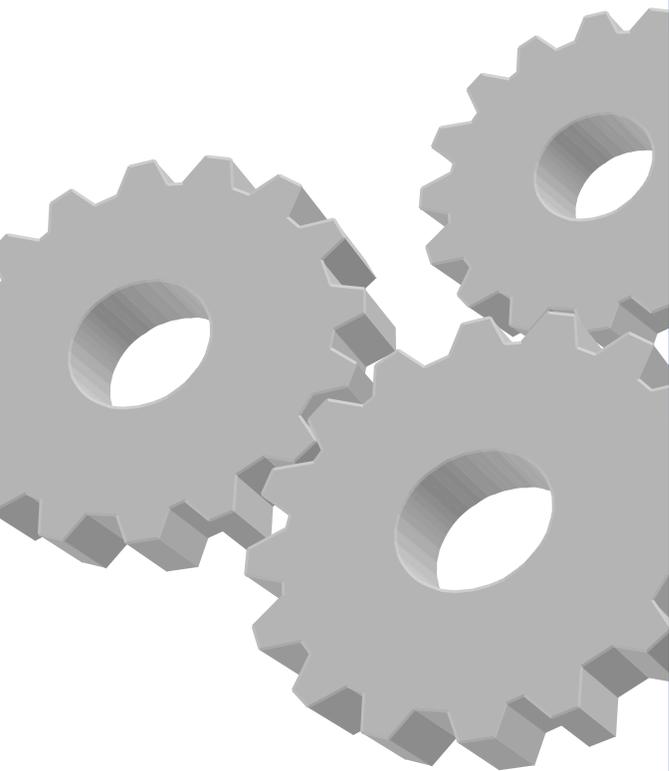
Celebrating SUCCESS

Final Report 2002-2008



Oregon
GEAR UP

Gaining Early Awareness
and Readiness for
Undergraduate Programs



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From the Governor

Dear Fellow Oregonian:

Oregon GEAR UP has been a tremendous asset to our state over the past six years. I am proud of the work the teachers, counselors, staff, administrators and volunteers have done to increase college access for some of our neediest students. In 16 communities around the state, GEAR UP has provided academic assistance, college awareness, professional development and community outreach in order to shrink the access gap. As a result of GEAR UP, students have participated in activities not previously possible. And, a renewed culture of achievement and college-going exists in these schools. The positive impact of GEAR UP has been acknowledged and activities such as summer academic enrichment camps, visits to colleges and universities, advanced coursework and much more have been incorporated into the fabric of the schools.

None of this hard work would have been possible without dedicated people who care passionately about the success of our students: from the teacher who mentors first-generation college-bound students after school, to the counselor who takes all 8th graders on college visits, to the administrator who insists on high academic standards for all students, to the parent who volunteers to make cookies for financial aid night: these communities have come together for the betterment of our state, and we are profoundly grateful.

GEAR UP is a proven strategy that is seeing remarkable results and will have a lasting impact in these communities, and indeed around the state. I am proud to support the work of the program and look forward to finding new ways to collaborate in the future.

Sincerely,

Theodore R. Kulongoski
Governor

From the Director

Greetings:

When the GEAR UP program began in 2002, we had great hopes that it would inspire more low-income students to pursue their dreams of a college degree. Six years later, I am proud to report not only that we increased the college-going aspirations of thousands of students across the state, but that we created school cultures which will foster the college dreams of generations yet to come.

As you will read in the pages that follow, staff from each of the participating schools worked tirelessly with our generous partners to provide opportunities for students to explore and prepare for their futures. Thanks to their hard work and dedication we have seen remarkable changes: increases in the college preparatory courses available to all students, rising statewide test scores, more students taking college entrance exams and applying for financial aid, and stronger community ties forged through the shared goal of success for all students.

Several key groups deserve to be acknowledged for being champions to GEAR UP and to the students it serves. I would like to thank the teachers who bring to the classroom their passion and commitment to student achievement, the school counselors who motivate students to put their dreams into action, and the educational leaders around the state who have made college readiness a priority in their schools and districts. And many thanks to the community, business and college partners who contributed their time and resources to the program; their efforts greatly bolstered the GEAR UP program and helped to ensure its lasting impact.

I would also like to acknowledge the hard work of the GEAR UP staff, past and present: Thanks to David McDonald for his vision and commitment to bringing GEAR UP to Oregon. Anne Stephens has been a consistent and valued resource to the GEAR UP schools and partners - and to me - throughout her years with the program. Our administrative assistant Natalie Toogood and our translator Karina Lasso have provided invaluable services and support. And even though she's not a part of our staff, I want to acknowledge the good work of our external evaluator, Eve McDermott; she has become a trusted advisor to GEAR UP staff and GEAR UP schools alike.

Even as we put the finishing touches on GEAR UP 2002-2008, we have begun work with a new grant and a new set of schools. We are confident that the lessons learned over the past six years will make our 2008-2014 efforts even more successful, and I look forward to sharing these exciting successes with you along the way.

Respectfully,



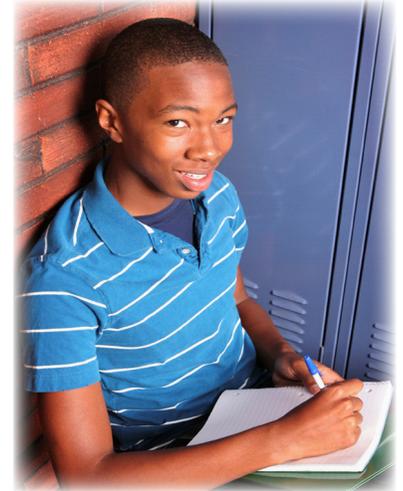
Stephanie Carnahan
Director, Oregon GEAR UP



What is GEAR UP?

College...it's not a dream, it's a plan. That's our motto at Oregon GEAR UP, and it guides our work with middle and high schools around the state. We support schools in their efforts to set high academic expectations, promote early awareness of college opportunities, and engage students in college and career planning. Our goal is to increase the number of low-income students who are prepared to enter and succeed in postsecondary programs, and we work with school districts, colleges and universities, and a variety of partner organizations across Oregon to realize that goal.

GEAR UP is funded through a U.S. Department of Education grant and is administered by the Oregon University System. Forty-six of Oregon's low-income serving schools participated in GEAR UP during the 2002-2008 grant cycle.



Statewide Activities and Outcomes

The 2002-2008 GEAR UP program emphasized four key pathways toward increased college readiness: student academic development, professional development for educators, community involvement, and higher education partnerships.

Student Academic Development

GEAR UP focused on maintaining high expectations for academic performance and offering a college-preparatory curriculum to all students. Activities in this area increased advanced coursework offerings, fostered the development of college-bound cultures within schools, ensured the availability of academic supports, and increased early awareness of the college-preparatory curriculum. Project goals included an increase in statewide assessment performance, improved SAT scores, increased numbers of students taking the PSAT, increased Advanced Placement course offerings, and decreased dropout rates.

Academic Development activities ranged from student leadership events to summer transition camps. For four years, Oregon GEAR UP sent a student to the annual National Council for Community and Education Partnerships' Youth Leadership Summit. The goal of this summit is

The number of students taking AP tests increased by 44% in GEAR UP schools

to allow students to voice their opinions, concerns, and suggestions pertaining to education through a report to attendees of the annual GEAR UP conference.

Approximately 40 GEAR UP high school students attended the GEAR UP Youth Leadership Retreat on the Oregon State University campus. Topics included discovering your true self, team building, goal setting, decision making, staying motivated, communicating, and handling mistakes.

Other statewide Academic Development activities included analyzing and presenting statewide assessment performance data to schools, doubling the number of PSAT test fee waivers available to schools, and raising awareness about the Oregon AP Test Fee Program which covers exam fees for lower-income students.

Academic Development activities taking place in GEAR UP schools included summer transition camps for entering freshmen, extended use of peer mentoring in high school, tutoring and homework clubs, attendance incentive programs, sending teachers to AP workshops, expanding dual-credit options, and utilizing on-line courses to fill gaps in high schools' college preparatory offerings.

The number of students taking PSAT tests increased by 63% in GEAR UP schools

Students from Oregon GEAR UP schools showed marked improvement in their academic performance: Since the beginning of the program in 2002, the number of students taking AP examinations rose by 44 percent. 63 percent more students took the PSAT in 2008 compared with 2002. And the percentage of students meeting or exceeding statewide standards on the 10th grade reading assessment climbed 16 percent, while the percentage of students meeting or exceeding statewide standards on the 10th grade math assessment climbed 13 percent.

Professional Development

GEAR UP recognized that professional development for teachers and counselors was both a key element in closing Oregon's achievement gap as well as a means of sustaining GEAR UP's impact beyond the life of the grant. Project goals included increasing professional development opportunities and offering a resource-rich website.

GEAR UP staff worked extensively with schools to align curriculum across grade levels to ensure seamless transitions for students and prepare them to meet state standards. AP Vertical Team Training helped groups of educators develop and implement a vertically aligned curriculum aimed at equipping students with the academic skills needed for success in AP and college courses.

Understanding Poverty and Learning Structures was a two-day workshop designed to increase participants' knowledge and understanding of cultures of poverty and their implications for student learning.

Other statewide activities included a workshop on computer-assisted design software, training in the College Ed curriculum, continuing education at reduced rates, complementary registration at a variety of conferences and counselor workshops, a free online reading specialist course, and best practices and resources on the GEAR UP website.

GEAR UP provided professional development to nearly 600 educators

School efforts included sending teachers to AP and other workshops, providing release time for teacher collaboration, school-wide differentiated instruction training,

The number of students meeting or exceeding 10th grade math benchmarks increased by 13% in GEAR UP schools

and school-wide training on the culture of poverty. Nearly 600 teachers, counselors and administrators from GEAR UP schools took advantage of statewide professional development opportunities each year. The average

number of hours of training for each person was roughly 14. Eighty teachers took courses in pursuit of their reading specialist credential as a means of improving literacy within their schools.

Community Involvement

The active involvement of families and community members is a key component of student achievement. GEAR UP strived to create meaningful opportunities for family and community members to participate in college awareness and preparation activities, support student learning, and become school volunteers. Project goals were to enhance parent awareness of college options and entrance requirements, increase parent and community participation in college-related activities, and forge stronger school-community partnerships.

Each year, GEAR UP hosted Supporting Unique Community Coalitions Engaged in Student Success (SUCCESS) - an event that brought together teams from each of our partner schools to develop strategies for effective school-family-community partnerships. Teams consisting of teachers, administrators, community members, family members and students engaged in planning aimed at implementing GEAR UP goals and sustaining GEAR UP efforts over the long-term.

In an effort to enhance community involvement and increase student and family understanding of how to pay for college, GEAR UP partnered with the Educational Credit Management Corporation (ECMC) Foundation to offer financial aid workshops. One unique aspect of these programs was the involvement of local U.S. Representatives at the workshop.

Part of the national College Goal Sunday, College Goal Oregon was a free event designed to help Oregon college-

bound students and their families with the financial aid application process. Financial aid professionals were on hand to help attendees complete the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) and the Oregon Student Assistance Commission (OSAC) scholarship application. OSAC and Oregon GEAR UP sponsored the events in partnership with a wide variety of educational and nonprofit organizations.

Sample school activities in the area of Community Involvement included the creation of bilingual school newsletters; open computer labs for parents and students to work on financial aid applications and college applications; dinner and college discussions at school; community fundraising events to support GEAR UP scholarships and activities; the establishment of teams of parents, school personnel, and community members to see GEAR UP goals through to fruition; working with local businesses to offer job shadowing opportunities; and holding career fairs.

Our schools reported that an average of 7,000 family members participated in GEAR UP events each year. These events included workshops on college preparation and financial aid, individual or small group advising, family events, and college visits. Increased family participation in school events has a demonstrated impact on the percentage of students who are prepared to enter and succeed in college. Families in GEAR UP communities have come to expect these types of services and there is a shared community value of postsecondary attendance.

Higher Education Partnerships

GEAR UP aimed to establish an expectation of college attendance for every student through early college outreach activities and partnerships. Since many GEAR UP students had never visited a college campus - and many were the first in their families to pursue a college education - these activities were viewed as especially important. Project

goals included increasing student awareness of college, increasing the number of students attending college upon graduation, providing summer or academic-year enrichment

More than 5,000 students participated in GEAR UP-sponsored activities on college campuses

activities on college campuses, and strengthening partnerships between colleges and GEAR UP schools.

GEAR UP worked with Oregon community colleges and

universities to offer students a variety of new programs as well as scholarships to existing campus-based programs. You'll read more about these activities in the Higher Education Partnerships section.

Schools implemented a variety of activities aimed at strengthening their connections with higher education partners. These included the adoption of college/career information systems, school field trips to college campuses, and college information nights for students and families.

Nearly 90 percent of students at GEAR UP schools expect to go on to some type of college upon graduation from high school. Parental expectations exceed those of even the students, with 96 percent of parents expecting their students to go on to college. During the course of the six-year GEAR UP program, educator expectations of college-going behaviors also grew: At the beginning of the program, a majority of educators believed that 30 percent or fewer of their students would go on to college. By the end of the project the majority were saying that 40 percent or more of their students would go on.

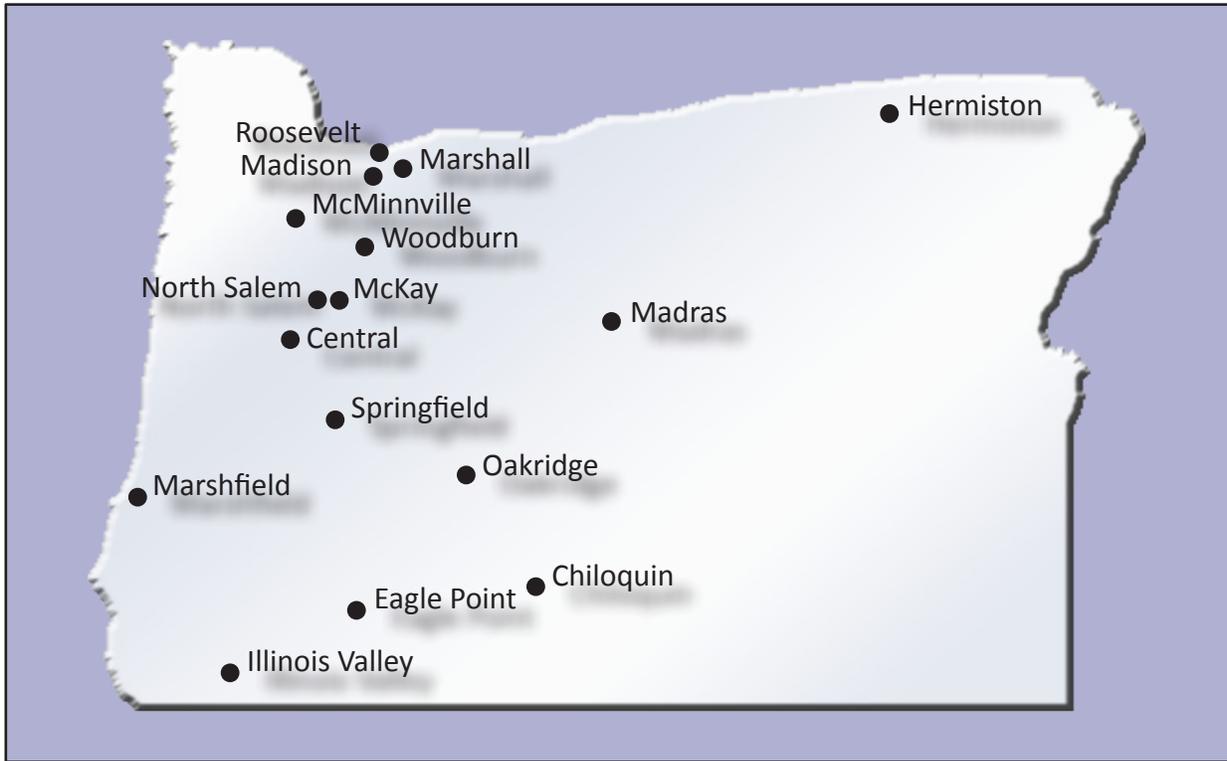
More than 5,000 students, 1,800 family members and 700 educators participated in one or more of the 45 campus-based programs sponsored by GEAR UP over the six year grant cycle.

7,000 family members participated in GEAR UP events each year



GEAR UP Schools

Low-income serving schools in sixteen communities received Oregon GEAR UP funds during the 2002-2008 grant cycle. The schools were awarded funds based on their demonstrated commitment to student success. In each community, GEAR UP activities were concentrated in a cluster made up of one high school campus and one or more feeder middle schools.



School Clusters

Central High School
Talmadge Middle School

Chiloquin Junior/Senior High School

Eagle Point High School
Eagle Point Middle School
Shady Cove School
White Mountain Middle School

Hermiston High School
Armand Larive Middle School

Illinois Valley High School
Lorna Byrne Middle School

Madison High School
Roseway Heights School

Madras High School
Jefferson County Middle School

Marshall Campus Small Schools
Binnsmead Middle School
Lane Middle School

Marshfield High School
Sunset Middle School

McKay High School
Stephens Middle School
Waldo Middle School

McMinnville High School
Patton Middle School

North Salem High School
Houck Middle School
Parrish Middle School

Oakridge High School
Oakridge Junior High School

Roosevelt Campus Small Schools
George Middle School
Clarendon-Portsmouth School

Springfield High School
Hamlin Middle School
Springfield Middle School

Woodburn Campus Small Schools
French Prairie Middle School
Valor Middle School

GEAR UP School Activities



*From 2002 to 2008,
the number of Central High
students taking
Advanced Placement
exams increased by
79%*

Central Cluster

Fostering Success Among All Students

The Central cluster used GEAR UP funds to establish a variety of effective programs, including professional development in differentiated instruction, career fairs at both the middle and high schools, and college awareness support for Latino families. Each of these programs has contributed substantially to the development of an academically successful, college-bound culture in which all students can participate.

Differentiated instruction is a model that moves beyond a “one-size-fits-all” approach to teaching and learning; it accommodates diverse learning styles and provides students with multiple pathways toward academic success. Both Talmadge Middle School and Central High School now have sizeable groups of teachers trained in these differentiated techniques, and the district sets aside time each week for staff to continue their work on the design and delivery of differentiated lessons.

Talmadge and Central students participated in a number of career exploration activities as part of the GEAR UP program. The 8th, 9th and 10th grade career fairs have had a particularly positive impact: As a result of these events, students developed a better understanding of the

coursework required to achieve their career goals and of the academic behaviors necessary for career success. Teachers responded enthusiastically to the fairs, as well, viewing them as excellent opportunities for students to gain exposure to a wide range of professions – including some that students may not have considered previously – and to see the connections between those professions and postsecondary educational pursuits.

The Central cluster has also adopted the college awareness program *Éxito Escolar* to assist Latino students and their families in navigating through the college planning process. All associated meetings have been held in Spanish, providing a welcoming environment and enabling full participation by Spanish-speaking students and families. The program started with 15 families, and Central has plans to expand it.

Central High School
47% Free/Reduced Lunch
41% Minority Students
11% ESL Students

Talmadge Middle School
59% Free/Reduced Lunch
44% Minority Students
17% ESL Students

Chiloquin Cluster

Empowering Students, Teachers, Families and Community

Chiloquin Junior/Senior High School focused its GEAR UP efforts on eliminating obstacles to college readiness. The Chiloquin team identified a specific set of goals – increasing academic rigor, reducing behavioral distractions from

learning, boosting all students’ reading levels, and exposing students to college and career choices – and it took steps to empower staff to achieve these

goals in every classroom. The school added advanced math and science courses to enhance students’ readiness for undergraduate programs, and 8th graders completed an integrated career- and college- focused project. Chiloquin developed a career fair and a 7th grade “boot camp” designed to equip students with skills for junior high success.

Chiloquin Jr/Sr High School
62% Free/Reduced Lunch
47% Minority Students
00% ESL Students

Chiloquin also collaborated with the Oregon Institute of Technology to develop a program called “My Story: Finding the Hero Within,” which builds upon Native American story-telling traditions to encourage self exploration and goal setting among students. These activities have since become annual events to which the students, staff, and community all look forward.

Chiloquin strived to strengthen school, community, student and parent partnerships through the development of a SUCCESS Team – a group of dedicated community members whose aim is to bridge communication gaps and ensure that parents and community members are aware of activities, events and resources at the school. The group empowers families and the wider community to take an active role in preparing students for postsecondary success, and it has been instrumental in finding resources to sustain Chiloquin’s GEAR UP activities over the long haul.



Chiloquin’s statewide test scores in reading improved by 183%

Eagle Point Cluster

Enhancing College and Career Awareness



Among Eagle Point graduates, the college enrollment rate increased by over 6 percentage points

Over the past six years, Eagle Point students and staff participated in a wide range of GEAR UP activities designed to strengthen students' college and career aspirations. Students visited local colleges and universities, and representatives from Oregon State University, University of Oregon, Wyoming Technical Institute, Rogue Community College, and Southern Oregon University all made visits to Eagle Point schools.

Middle school students participated in College Ed courses, and they completed skills and interest surveys through the Career Information System (CIS). Over time, CIS has become a "way of life" for teachers and students in the cluster's middle schools, helping to integrate college and career themes into daily learning activities. At the high school, the Eagle Point GEAR UP team emphasized staff

development and the enhancement of students' career opportunities. During the 2007-2008 school year, for example, staff began researching Career Choice Institutes and Career Pathway Education – programs that offer students the opportunity to earn industry certification and associates degrees while still attending high school. Eagle Point will use the data gathered during this process to plan and develop a permanent career program at the high school.

Sustaining GEAR UP efforts is Eagle Point's goal from this point forward, and ongoing partnerships with organizations such as ASPIRE and TRIO will help ensure the realization of that goal. So too will Eagle Point's demonstrated commitment to fostering college and career readiness among all its students.

Eagle Point High School

39% Free/Reduced Lunch
20% Minority Students
09% ESL Students

Eagle Point Middle School

43% Free/Reduced Lunch
11% Minority Students
02% ESL Students

Shady Cove School

56% Free/Reduced Lunch
15% Minority Students
0.2% ESL Students

White Mtn. Middle School

69% Free/Reduced Lunch
46% Minority Students
25% ESL Students

Hermiston Cluster

Creating an Enduring College-Bound Culture

Hermiston High School has developed a variety of successful programs with the help of the GEAR UP grant. Java Dawg, a student-run coffee and smoothie business, is one such success. Java Dawg began October 2007, and by the end of the school year, students had volunteered more than 800 hours and raised just under \$10,000. In addition to developing valuable business skills through this venture,

students generated the funds to support school clubs and activities that promote postsecondary education, including visits to college campuses throughout Oregon.

Hermiston High School

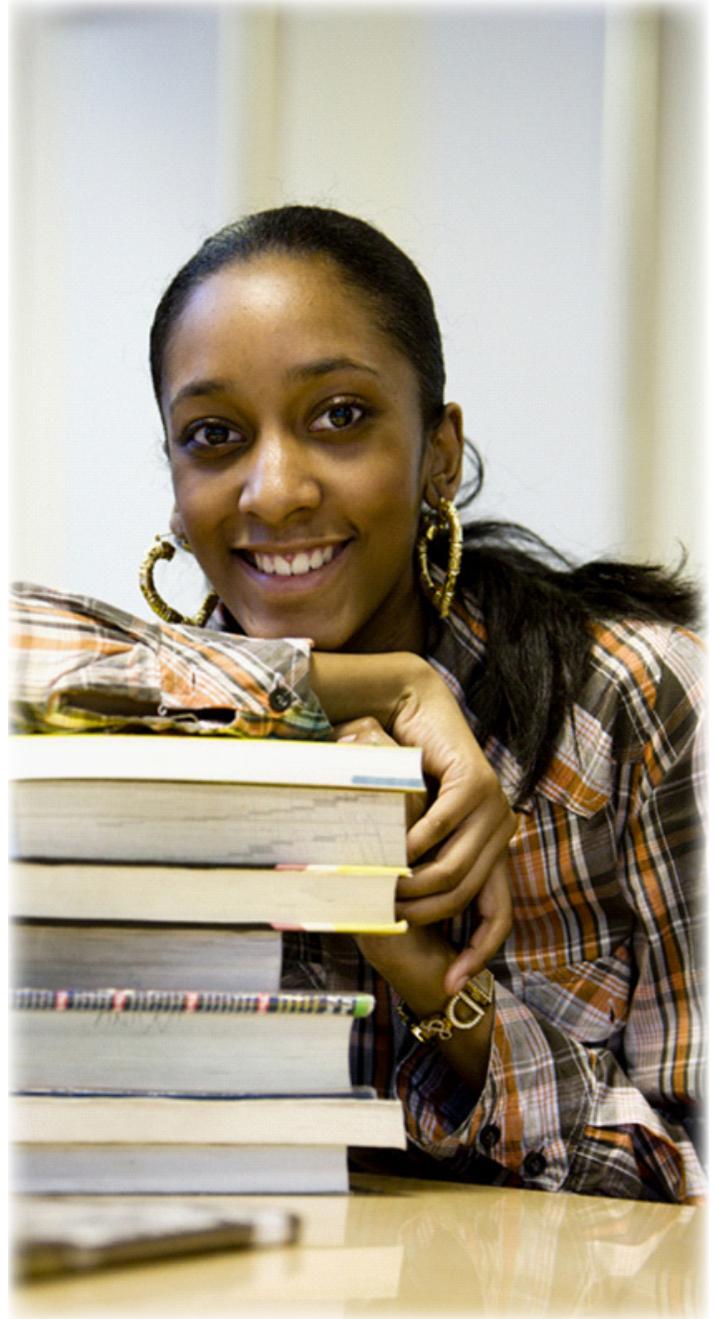
49% Free/Reduced Lunch
40% Minority Students
04% ESL Students

Armand Larive Middle School

67% Free/Reduced Lunch
50% Minority Students
13% ESL Students

Generation College is another success. This club, which started four years ago, works specifically with students who will be the first in their family to attend college. The club provides information on the college application process, coordinates college visits, and offers financial assistance with college application and testing fees. The club – which supports members until they obtain an undergraduate degree – started with 5 members and currently has 52 members, 25 of whom are in college.

Project College Bound, which also stemmed from the GEAR UP program, is a source of information and support for students, parents, and educators at both Hermiston High School and Armand Larive Middle School. Project College Bound includes activities such as financial aid and scholarship nights, emails to parents regarding postsecondary opportunities, SAT prep classes, and workshops on writing effective college application essays.



“Programs that have been established with GEAR UP support will continue to help our students plan for their future - and be successful.

We are very grateful for the support we have received from the GEAR UP grant, and the GEAR UP staff.”

*-Mike Royer
Hermiston High School*

Illinois Valley Cluster

Encouraging Postsecondary Ambitions

Through the GEAR UP program, students at Lorna Byrne Middle School (LBMS) and Illinois Valley High School (IVHS) have gained unprecedented exposure to the college and career opportunities awaiting them after graduation. That exposure now begins at the middle school, with the delivery of the College Ed curriculum to 7th graders. LBMS has also implemented an annual, day-long career

and college fair during which more than 50 local professionals meet with the students to talk about their careers, the postsecondary education required to succeed in those careers, and

the value of pursuing college aspirations. In partnership with Southern Oregon University and Rogue Community College, LBMS has developed an enrichment program that sends all 8th graders to each campus for a full day of learning about college life. Combined with several campus-based activities in the summer, this enrichment program has greatly enhanced students' college ambitions.

The quest to make college a priority in students' lives continues at the high school. Because students in this relatively remote area have historically lacked opportunities to observe the college experience, IVHS staff decided to use GEAR UP funds to get students' feet on a wide variety of campuses – for both day visits and overnight stays. A week-long Future Scholars program during the summer at SOU is a highlight of this endeavor. IVHS also started a College Prep class that emphasizes SAT preparation, financial aid awareness, and college selection.

Illinois Valley High School

70% Free/Reduced Lunch
15% Minority Students
0.3% ESL Students

Lorna Byrne Middle School

76% Free/Reduced Lunch
14% Minority Students
00% ESL Students



*Illinois Valley's statewide test scores in **writing** improved by **72%***

Madison Cluster

Changing Attitudes and Raising Expectations



The number of Madison students scoring a 3 or better on an Advanced Placement exam rose from 1 to 47

The Madison cluster used its GEAR UP grant to address the challenges of generational poverty, low academic expectations, and limited exposure to college opportunities – and substantial changes have occurred as a result.

GEAR UP funds supported three major initiatives at Madison: College Awareness, AP (Advanced Placement), and AVID (Advancement Via Individual Determination). The first initiative focused on college visits and parent outreach

as a means of fostering students' aspirations and strengthening parent support of college-preparatory behaviors. Advanced Placement classes – which provide students with

key opportunities for college credit, increased academic rigor and personal growth – did not exist at Madison seven years ago. Teachers felt that such classes were beyond students' abilities, and naturally, students felt the same way. With the help of the GEAR UP program, teachers have been trained in AP curriculum and instruction – and today Madison offers eleven AP courses, several of which have multiple sections to accommodate the number of students wishing to enroll. GEAR UP was instrumental in implementing the AVID program, as well. Teachers received AVID training and students in grades 9 through 12 are now participating in the program with excellent results.

Madison's successful initiatives have captured the attention of its district, which recently established an Office of Advanced Placement, AVID, and International Baccalaureate. The availability of sustained funding and support means that Madison will continue to make strides in these key areas, and a culture of rigor will continue to permeate the campuses after GEAR UP funding ends.

Madison High School

64% Free/Reduced Lunch
57% Minority Students
11% ESL Students

Roseway Heights Middle School

45% Free/Reduced Lunch
45% Minority Students
10% ESL Students

Madras Cluster

Connecting College to Career Goals

At Madras, the GEAR UP team developed several promising methods for encouraging college aspirations among its students. One example has been a six-week Careers & College Ed class for 8th graders.

Madras High School

71% Free/Reduced Lunch
61% Minority Students
20% ESL Students

Jefferson County Middle School

76% Free/Reduced Lunch
62% Minority Students
22% ESL Students

The class provides students with opportunities to learn about a wide range of careers through

community guest speakers and an interactive career and education on-line resource. These activities, coupled with regular class discussions focusing on academic success, have helped students make critical connections between their career dreams and the college education that will make those dreams possible.

Staff at the high school focused on peer relationships as a means of enhancing student success. Through their LINK cross-grade mentoring program, the school hosted “Cookies, Cocoa and Cram” peer tutoring sessions. These sessions proved beneficial for tutors and tutees alike, strengthening academic skills among both groups.

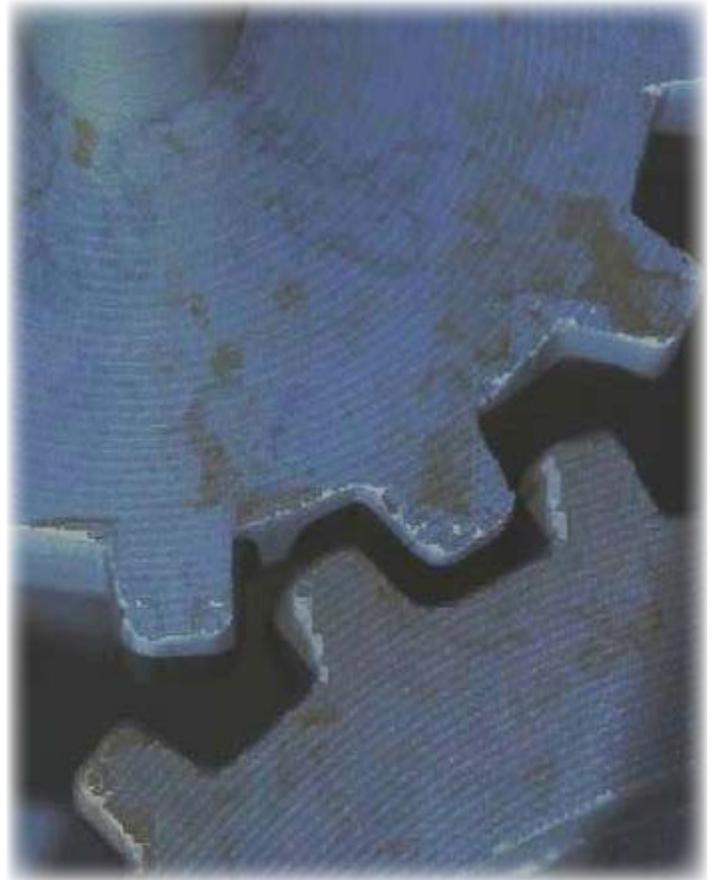
Staff at the high school focused on peer relationships as a means of enhancing student success. Through their LINK cross-grade mentoring program, the school hosted “Cookies, Cocoa and Cram” peer tutoring sessions. These sessions proved beneficial for tutors and tutees alike, strengthening academic skills among both groups.

*“GEAR UP was so helpful to me as I began to make **decisions** about college - where to go, what to study, how to pay for it...The GEAR UP scholarship I received helped make college possible.”*

*-Madras High School Student &
GEAR UP Scholarship Recipient*

*“GEAR UP provided a connection for our students to postsecondary **opportunities** that otherwise wouldn't have been available.”*

*-Chuck McNeilly
Madras High School Counselor*



*“I really appreciated having a place at the high school where my students could go to access **information** about colleges and potential financial assistance.”*

*-Anne Scheideman
Parent of Two Madras High School Students*

Marshall Cluster

Laying the Groundwork for Postsecondary Success

Marshall Campus Small Schools

74% Free/Reduced Lunch
46% Minority Students
14% ESL Students

Binnsmead Middle School

80% Free/Reduced Lunch
68% Minority Students
16% ESL Students

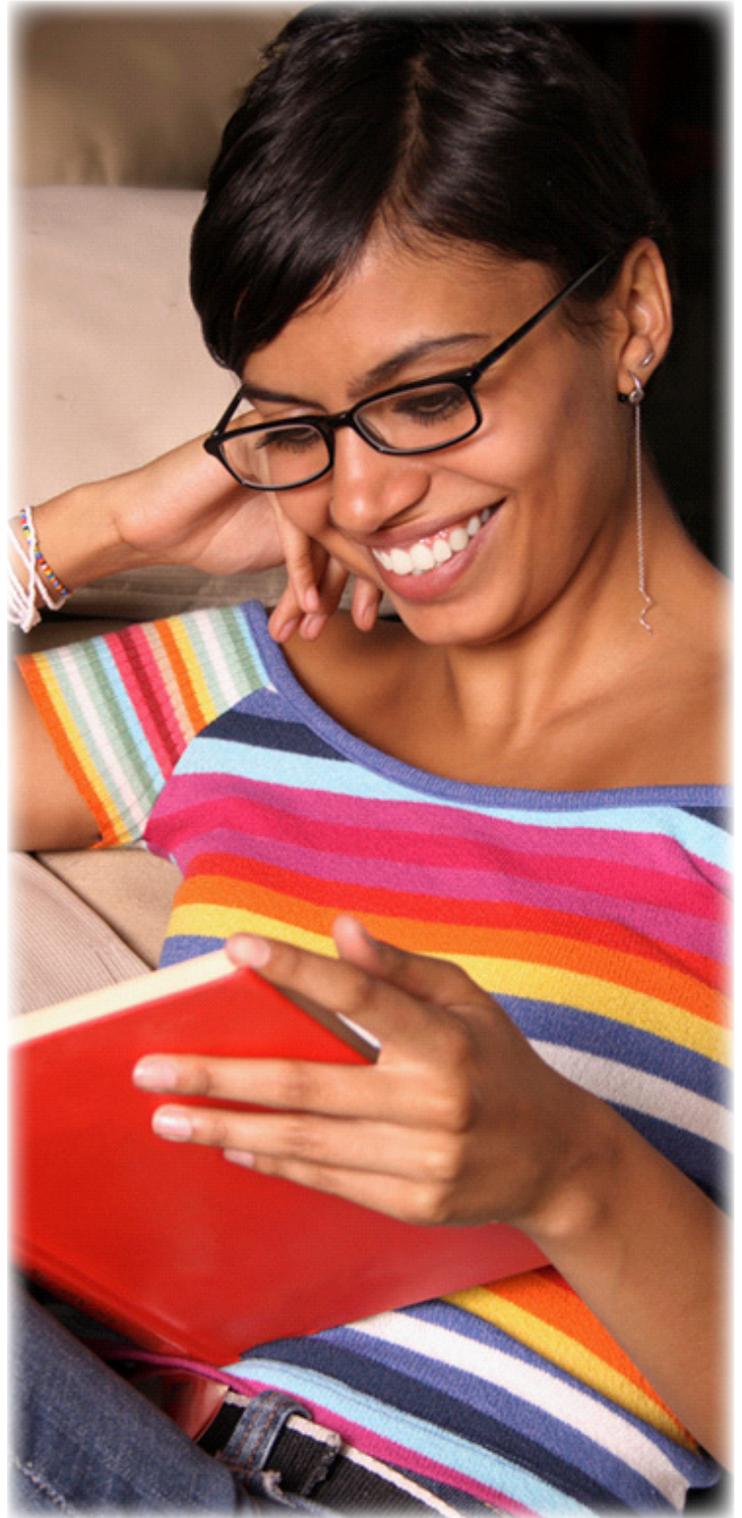
Lane Middle School

81% Free/Reduced Lunch
55% Minority Students
16% ESL Students

The Marshall GEAR UP cluster developed a dynamic program focused on promoting college-going behaviors at all five of its schools: BizTech High School, Pauling Academy of Integrated Sciences, Renaissance Arts Academy, and Binnsmead and Lane Middle Schools.

Over the past six years, the Marshall GEAR UP team has coordinated dozens of student trips to college campuses, businesses, and college and career information fairs. Outreach to students and parents has translated into several successful Family Nights where family members learned about middle and high school achievement, college preparation, choosing the right college, planning for a career, and the financial aid opportunities that make these goals possible. Through free SAT and ACT test preparation classes and incentives for good school attendance, students have been further encouraged to cultivate college-bound behaviors.

A major highlight of GEAR UP at Marshall has been the ASPIRE mentoring program. ASPIRE has helped students shift from simply dreaming about college to actually achieving admission and finding the financial aid they need. ASPIRE provides mentoring in individual and group settings, and helps students keep track of all the paperwork, deadlines, and other important tasks that exist on the road to college.



Marshall's statewide test scores in reading improved by 152%
and its math scores improved by 105%

Marshfield Cluster

Building Partnerships, Enhancing Technology

The Marshfield cluster worked to establish a strong partnership with Southern Oregon Community College (SOCC), creating numerous opportunities for students and their families to learn about college. Included in these oppor-

Marshfield High School

44% Free/Reduced Lunch
27% Minority Students
0.7% ESL Students

Sunset Middle School

57% Free/Reduced Lunch
24% Minority Students
0.8% ESL Students

tunities were field trips to the SOCC campus for 8th and 10th graders, as well as a six-week, non-residential summer program at SOCC for low-income youth.

The summer program emphasized academic preparation through college-level writing and math courses and helped to equip students with the general skills they need for a successful student life on a college campus. Other partnerships translated into online opportunities for students to receive high school and college credit, while an ASPIRE mentoring program was adopted to assist students in planning successful postsecondary pursuits.

The GEAR UP program also led to a variety of technological upgrades in Marshfield's classrooms: Smart Boards®, streaming video carts, and the Oregon Career Information System program were all integrated into the classroom to increase students' career exploration opportunities and technology skills.



*The number of Marshfield students scoring a **3 or better** on an **Advanced Placement** exam rose by **162%***

McKay Cluster

Keeping an Eye on College Readiness



*McKay students were offered over
\$4 million
in scholarships
in 2008.*

McKay High School

61% Free/Reduced Lunch
58% Minority Students
23% ESL Students

Stephens Middle School

68% Free/Reduced Lunch
63% Minority Students
26% ESL Students

Waldo Middle School

79% Free/Reduced Lunch
75% Minority Students
37% ESL Students

GEAR UP has been a catalyst for enhancing college and workforce readiness among McKay students. Through a dynamic combination of transition, outreach and mentorship programs, the McKay GEAR UP team has opened new doors of opportunity for all its students.

Several transition programs were developed or enhanced with GEAR UP funds, including Freshman Survival Camp, LINK, and the 8th Grade Student Shadow project. Each of these programs is going strong today – and they are assured continued support beyond the life of the GEAR UP grant. The College Readiness Workshop series is another success. This series, which culminates with a FAFSA Completion Party, has grown to involve over 100 families and 30 business and community volunteers. McKay also

formed new relationships with the business community through the “Ready to Learn, Ready to Work” effort and the McKay Area Coalition for Student Success. These relationships brought record numbers of volunteers to special events, and in 2008, McKay hosted approximately 200 business leaders who met with students to do mock interviews, write resumes, explore career options and share stories.

These efforts, combined with an enormously successful ASPIRE mentorship program, have generated exciting results at McKay: In 2008, over 86 percent of seniors submitted at least one college application and had a concrete plan for beginning their postsecondary education, and students were offered over \$4 million in scholarships.

*“GEAR UP has been the catalyst helping us to build the **college-going culture** at McKay High School, and now our students know that college is a reality - not just a dream.”*

*-Cynthia Richardson
Principal, McKay High School*

McMinnville Cluster

Making Strides Toward College Access



*The number of college scholarship applications submitted by McMinnville students increased **68%** and the number of scholarship awards rose by **43%***

GEAR UP helped the McMinnville cluster spearhead a number of important reforms that enhance college access for students. These included college visits for 7th and 8th graders, the adoption of new College Credit Now and Advanced Placement (AP) classes, the development of Career Pathways to give students opportunities for career exploration, and the establishment of an ASPIRE program to help guide individual students toward successful post-secondary pursuits.

All 7th and 8th graders at Patton Middle School toured a college campus—University of Oregon, Oregon State University, Portland State University, Western Oregon University or Linfield College—where they gained exposure to a number of the academic and social elements of campus life.

The increase in AP and College Credit Now Classes at McMinnville High School means that students can now graduate with up to two years of college credit under their belts. Through the College Credit Now program alone, students

earned 3,100 college credit hours. In addition, McMinnville High School now offers 11 different AP classes, enhancing both the level of academic rigor and the credit-earning opportunities available to students.

McMinnville High School

40% Free/Reduced Lunch
29% Minority Students
13% ESL Students

Patton Middle School

48% Free/Reduced Lunch
32% Minority Students
15% ESL Students

The McMinnville High School ASPIRE program connected 17 mentors with 63 students, providing students with increased access to education and training beyond high school, as well as

assistance with the scholarship application process. Seven deserving seniors received GEAR UP Scholarships for their first year in college, and all seven awardees are eligible to renew their scholarships for their second year.

North Salem Cluster

Opening Doors for First Generation Students

GEAR UP created multiple opportunities for the teachers, students, and families at Houck and Parrish Middle Schools and North Salem High School. Included in those opportunities were college visits, career exploration programs, Oregon Health Career Center's summer internship program, Lego Robotics, SAT prep workshops, AP training for teachers, Latino Family Nights, and College, Career and Financial Aid nights. In addition, all juniors were afforded the opportunity to take the PSAT for three consecutive years.

During the final year of the GEAR UP grant, 500 North Salem freshmen visited Western Oregon University where

they toured the campus, learned about college life, and connected with faculty. In addition, 24 rising seniors participated in the third annual Western Oregon Project, a 3 week summer experience for potential first generation college students. These students will meet together each month of their senior year to talk about college preparation, update their resumes, and complete financial aid and scholarship forms as well as mentor, encourage, and help a fellow senior student complete their college preparation requirements. Due to the success of this program, the district has committed itself to funding the Project's continuation and expansion over the coming years.

The percentage of North Salem students taking the PSAT more than tripled



North Salem High School

53% Free/Reduced Lunch
45% Minority Students
16% ESL Students

Houck Middle School

70% Free/Reduced Lunch
56% Minority Students
29% ESL Students

Parrish Middle School

81% Free/Reduced Lunch
55% Minority Students
23% ESL Students

Oakridge Cluster

Tailoring GEAR UP to Student Needs

Thanks to the flexibility of the GEAR UP grant, Oakridge staff has been able to implement a set of practices designed specifically for the population it serves. The GEAR UP team in this rural cluster understood at the outset that an emphasis on careers and personal-community connections would be at the heart of any successful college access program, and GEAR UP funds were deployed accordingly.

Oakridge developed a variety of programs that bring students together with community members and business leaders – including a Community Career Day and a high school Project Night, where students engage with adults and learn about career and college opportunities. Local businesses have become enthusiastic participants in these events, and the GEAR UP team is confident that they will continue to participate for years to come. The revamped College and Career Center in the high school has become the social hub of the school as students explore the information and resources available there. The ASPIRE

coordinator works with students at the Center, connecting them with adult mentors, and two new computers offer students the opportunity to work on college, scholarship and financial aid applications.

The Oakridge cluster has adopted several new programs emphasizing career exploration. One such program is the Oregon Career Information System (CIS) – which provides the tools for each 9th grader to develop their own personalized education plan – while a new Careers Class in 11th grade emphasizes post-secondary education and training.

The GEAR UP program has had a substantial impact at Oakridge over the life of the grant. And as the grant ends, the impact will continue: Oakridge is committed to working with its new business and community partners to secure alternative funding sources for college visits, residential summer programs, and other activities that will keep the college vision vibrant for all students.

*Oakridge High School received a **2008 Bronze Medal** from U.S. News and World Report recognizing its success in preparing students for college*

Oakridge High School

51% Free/Reduced Lunch
08% Minority Students
0.5% ESL Students

Oakridge Junior High School

67% Free/Reduced Lunch
07% Minority Students
00% ESL Students

*“Because of GEAR UP I know how to **prepare** for college, fill out applications and write scholarships. I can honestly say I have no idea where I would be without it.”*

-Oakridge High School Student



Roosevelt Cluster

Strengthening Schools and Community

College awareness and community involvement have been at the forefront of the Roosevelt cluster's GEAR UP plan. When the GEAR UP grant was first awarded, George Middle, Portsmouth Middle and Roosevelt High Schools were suffering from an active migration away from these neighborhood schools to other – more traditionally college-bound – city schools. The GEAR UP program helped to stop that migration, supporting the neighborhood in retaining its identity as a solid community with strong, college preparatory schools.

GEAR UP funds provided opportunities for middle and high school staff to gather for needed conversation, discovery and collaboration. Increased public awareness of Roosevelt's successes, and of its concerted effort to meet the academic, behavioral, and attendance needs of its students, has been key to changing the high school's local image. Middle school students now tour the high school, participate in joint classes like Model UN and Constitutional Debate, and attend free high school basketball games and annual community-wide Kick-Off nights with their families. GEAR UP supported academic mentoring and tutoring programs like STEP UP, which links the middle and high schools through a successful 9th grade summer school transition program. Another unique program – Team Viking – was created in partnership with Portland State University to engage middle and high school students in college visits and

campus-based activities. And the GEAR UP scholarship program has proven to be a significant incentive for families to keep their students at Roosevelt. With the help



of the GEAR UP program, the Roosevelt Campus small schools - Arts, Communication and Technology (ACT); Pursuit of Wellness Education at Roosevelt (POWER); and the Spanish-English International School (SEIS) - are fast becoming the top choices for this community's children.

*"It takes resources to provide the level of service to our students that they need and deserve. GEAR UP has been an invaluable **partner** to us as we strive to provide such service to our students."*

*-Hanif Fazal
STEP UP Program Director
Open Meadow Alternative Schools*

Roosevelt Campus Small Schools

73% Free/Reduced Lunch
65% Minority Students
13% ESL Students

George Middle School

87% Free/Reduced Lunch
67% Minority Students
19% ESL Students

Clarendon-Portsmouth School

86% Free/Reduced Lunch
79% Minority Students
33% ESL Students

Springfield Cluster

Meeting the College Access Needs of a Diverse Student Body

GEAR UP has allowed the Springfield cluster – Springfield Middle, Hamlin Middle and Springfield High Schools – to access and integrate a wide variety of instructional materials, technology, and training that have directly benefitted its diverse student body.

Math teachers aligned curriculum across middle and high grades, gearing instruction toward the goal of Advanced Placement calculus enrollment for all students. They produced a publication containing prerequisite and exit skills as well as appropriate assignments and answer keys for courses from middle school math through calculus.

Computers On Wheels (COW) carts and laptops were purchased for students in ELL and credit recovery classes. These laptops enable students in ELL to access programs that help them advance their English writing and speaking skills, and they give students in credit recovery the ability to access online courses that would otherwise require them to enroll in an alternative school. This technology has helped

students overcome the roadblocks that can too often push individuals out of school.

Strong partnerships were formed with University of Oregon (UO) and Lane Community College (LCC). Through the LCC partnership, an annual College and Financial Aid night is held for Latino students and their families, and UO students volunteer to be ASPIRE mentors to Springfield High School students. Finally, Springfield students take college-level courses through both LCC and UO.

The administration and Career Center staff designed and implemented a 9th grade transition class called Freshman Focus. In Freshman Focus all 9th graders receive specific guidance and information about high school, athletics, clubs, transcripts, graduation requirements, and general help with organizing and school awareness. It also exposes 9th graders to early college and career preparation opportunities such as Career Information Systems (CIS) and college awareness week.

*Springfield's statewide **writing** assessment scores improved **68%** and **math** scores improved **26%***



Springfield High School

50% Free/Reduced Lunch
26% Minority Students
07% ESL Students

Hamlin Middle School

81% Free/Reduced Lunch
38% Minority Students
15% ESL Students

Springfield Middle School

80% Free/Reduced Lunch
32% Minority Students
09% ESL Students

Woodburn Cluster

Preparing Students for Life After High School



There have been multiple changes in the Woodburn School District since the initial implementation of the GEAR UP program in 2002. Among the most significant of these changes has been the reorganization of Woodburn High School into four small schools: the Academy of International Studies; Woodburn Arts and Communications Academy; Woodburn Academy of Art, Science and Technology; and the Wellness, Business and Sports School. Despite these changes, Woodburn's underlying goals have remained the same: Prepare students for life after high school, engage students in various college-related activities, and create partnerships between students and adults to help students succeed in post-secondary education.

Over the life of the GEAR UP grant, students have engaged in a wide variety of college-related activities, including day-visits to postsecondary institutions around the state, overnight events at Oregon State University and Portland State University, and weekly "Saturday Explorations" at Willamette University. Students have also participated in summer leadership workshops and College Days at both the middle and high schools. Finally, students have developed solid relationships with community mentors who provide ongoing guidance throughout their middle and high school years. In addition to these student opportunities, staff members have used GEAR UP funds to cover a wide range of professional development events that have expanded their capacity to prepare students for college and career success.

*"It means a lot to me and my family to have someone there to support my **future** education."*

-Woodburn Student

Woodburn Campus Small Schools

77% Free/Reduced Lunch
73% Minority Students
48% ESL Students

French Prairie Middle School

78% Free/Reduced Lunch
79% Minority Students
57% ESL Students

Valor Middle School

92% Free/Reduced Lunch
73% Minority Students
53% ESL Students

*The college enrollment rate among Woodburn graduates
increased by nearly **23 percentage points***

Higher Education Partnerships

Eastern Oregon University

In 2006, Eastern Oregon University (EOU) created a three week **summer academic institute** for 30 high school students on their La Grande campus. Students completed courses of their choice - including Spanish, History, Computer Science, Theater, and Art - all taught by university faculty. Students and their families also learned about preparing for college and the real costs of a college education. The institute has continued at Eastern with funding from GEAR UP and EOU.

Lane Community College

In 2004, Lane Community College (LCC) began sponsoring **Infórmate, Prepárate, Edúcate para el Colegio/Inform Yourself, Prepare Yourself, Educate Yourself for College** - a college awareness program for Latino middle and high school students and their families. The goals of the program are to increase college awareness for Latino students, motivate students to pursue higher education, and raise awareness of the contributions Latino students bring to their campuses and communities. LCC also offered a **Native American Youth College Fair** in 2006, an event designed to increase college-going behaviors among Native youth. These culturally appropriate forums greatly complemented GEAR UP efforts in middle and high schools that serve Latino and Native American youth.

Oregon Institute of Technology

In 2004, Oregon Institute of Technology (OIT) adopted the Chiloquin High School class of 2008 and created **Building Community through Stories: Finding the Hero and Heroine Within** - an academic year program to increase college preparedness among students, their families, and their peers. Topics covered included career exploration, academic success, college admission, and paying for college. In addition to this academic year program, OIT offered Chiloquin students the opportunity to participate in summer residential programs in 2006. **GRAD: Graduation Really Achieves Dreams** was a four week residential academic program that culminated with an experiential learning component in the Crater Lake National Park. In 2008, OIT's Pre-College Programs Activities offered **Oregon Trek: Knowledge to College**, a program consisting of a three-night, four-day college immersion summer institute, including student success seminars.

Oregon State University

Oregon State University (OSU) offered three programs through its partnership with GEAR UP: **ACCESS OSU** provided GEAR UP students the opportunity to visit the Corvallis campus and attend seminars on topics ranging

from picking a major to paying for college. The **College Awareness/Career Preparation** program was a 9-week dual credit course focused on college and career awareness, and the **Pre-college Academic Success** program enabled high school students to earn two college credits and experience university life.

Portland State University

In 2006 Portland State University (PSU) began a **Mentor Program** designed to assist GEAR UP participants in overcoming obstacles to postsecondary success. 8th and 9th grade GEAR UP students were matched with PSU student-mentors who served as role models, provided personal support and instruction in preparation for college, and encouraged students to embrace their possibilities through higher education. **Educate, Question, Understand, Interact, Persist (EQUIP)**, a day-long retreat in 2008, provided students with an opportunity to learn more about postsecondary education through a variety of hands-on activities. Finally, PSU developed **Viking Retreat** - an overnight, on-campus college awareness program specifically for low-income, first-generation and minority students.

Rogue Community College

The **Rogue Community College (RCC) Road Trip** began in 2006 with the goal of increasing interest in postsecondary education among low-income high school students, their parents and interested school personnel. Students from Illinois Valley and Eagle Point high schools traveled to RCC's three campuses to learn about the benefits of a college education, and events were held for parents and teachers as well. In 2007, RCC provided a week-long **Summer Technology Academy** for rising 9th-12th grade students from Eagle Point High School. Students attended vocational/technical classes and participated in workshops designed to demystify scholarships, college admission and financial aid. RCC began **Pathway to Careers Day** in 2008. Fun and engaging activities helped students to identify career goals and to develop confidence surrounding academic and career success.

Southern Oregon University

In 2003, Southern Oregon University's (SOU) Office of Admissions designed a cohort based **5-year Visitation Program** with the Illinois Valley and Eagle Point clusters. Each year, GEAR UP students participated in an evolving college awareness experience on campus beginning in 8th grade and extending through 12th grade. In 2006, SOU Youth Programs began **Future Scholars**, a residential program enabling students to explore a broad range of college preparatory

classes combined with cultural events and recreational activities.

Southwestern Oregon Community College

In 2006, Southwestern Oregon Community College (SOCC) worked with Marshfield High School and Sunset Middle School to implement two **College Campus Nights** for low-income, at-risk youth and their parents. SOCC and Marshfield High School organized the **College Summer Intensive** in 2007 - a six-week, non-residential program on the SOCC campus for low-income youth. The program focused on preparing students for college-level writing and math courses and equipping them with the skills needed to be successful on a college campus. The following school year, participating students shared their experience with peers through a service-learning project.

University of Oregon

The University of Oregon Office for Institutional Equity and Diversity began the **Oregon Young Scholars Program (OYSP)** in 2005. OYSP is a multi-year project designed to improve academics among historically underrepresented students and is free of charge. The project, which begins with 8th graders, includes intensive summer academic enrichment and assistance, access to ACT/SAT preparation, career exploration and workshops in math, science and English.

Western Oregon University

Western Oregon University (WOU) developed an academic seminar for GEAR UP students entitled **The Human Genome: Interdisciplinary Perspectives** in 2004-05. The seminar exposed students to the scientific, ethical and psychological implications of the human genome project and engaged students in a challenging curriculum culminating in a capstone paper on the human genome. WOU began offering a **GEAR UP Preview Day** in 2007 to provide students a meaningful campus experience that would serve to increase interest in attending a university. Through this program, WOU provides student-lead tours of the campus as well as workshops on admissions, financial aid, diversity, and college success. Participants hear from student panels comprised of WOU students who are alumni of GEAR UP high schools. Attendees also interact with WOU faculty and administrators during lunch in the campus dining facilities. And two attendees receive \$500 scholarships for use at WOU. WOU also instituted an ongoing program that offers \$500 scholarships to at least one student from each GEAR UP high school annually.

Scholarships for Existing Programs

Alongside the programs developed in partnership with

GEAR UP, students at GEAR UP schools received a number of scholarships to attend existing campus-based summer programs. Included among these programs was **Lane Community College's Rites of Passage**, which addressed the cultural enrichment needs of African American, Latino/a, Native American and Pan-Asian American high school and middle school students. In addition, GEAR UP students received scholarships to three programs at **Southern Oregon University: ACADEMY** - a weeklong experience for talented and gifted 5th through 8th graders; **Konaway Nika Tillicum** - an eight day program for Native American students in grades 6 through 10; and **Academia Latina** - a one week program for southern Oregon Latino youth completing grades 6 through 8.



GEAR UP Scholarships

GEAR UP scholarships are a critical element in the program’s efforts to increase college-going opportunities. There are two types of GEAR UP scholarships, both awarded based on financial need, academic performance, participation in GEAR UP activities, and behavior.

The first scholarship is paid directly from the federal funds received for the scholarship component of the GEAR UP grant. These scholarships are renewable for up to four years and are equal to the maximum Pell Grant. Six graduating classes from each of the 16 GEAR UP high schools will be eligible to compete against their classmates for these scholarships.



The second scholarship is a product of our strong partnerships with Oregon Community Foundation (OCF) and Oregon Student Assistance Commission (OSAC). OCF invested our federal scholarship funds each year and used the interest earned to create permanently endowed scholarships for each GEAR UP high school. OSAC manages the distribution of these scholarships which currently range in size from \$500 to \$2,000. Interested individuals or businesses can make a donation to the Oregon Community Foundation for any of the sixteen scholarship endowments.

Scholarship Recipients

Central High School

- Kodiak Atwood, UO*
- Octavio Cervantes Padill, WOU
- Adriana De La Cruz, WOU*
- Sandra Manzo, Chemeketa CC
- Mayra Ponce, WOU
- Jessica Rodriguez, WOU
- Patience Stepp, Hawaii Pacific U.

Eagle Point High School

- Divya Amesur, SOU*
- Benjamin Charlton, OSU
- Frank Charlton, OIT
- Robert Mannenbach, SOU
- Karisse Mendez, OIT*
- Alicia Polendey, SOU
- Stephanie Polendey, SOU

Hermiston High School

- Alyna Acevedo, Phagans’ School of Hair Design*
- Corine Almeda, Blue Mountain CC
- Kristopher Cardenas, OSU
- Hannah Dawson, SOU
- Anne Plucinak, U. Nebraska-Lincoln
- Matthew Weber, Linfield College
- Stephanie Wood, U. Puget Sound*

Chiloquin Jr/Sr High School

- Chad Blanton, College of the Siskiyous
- Lorena Ochoa, OIT*
- James Pederson, Klamath CC
- Shawn Walker, SOU



Illinois Valley High School

- Breanna Allan, UO
- Alex Miller, SOU
- Drake Pernicka, UO
- Kelcie Yeoman, OSU*

Madison High Small Schools

Adilene Amaro-Zurita, PSU
Ignat Antonovich, George Fox U.
Nicolas Culbertson, George Fox U.*
Nardos Demissie, Mt. Hood CC *
Daymara Martinez-Alvarez,
U. Portland
Megan McClelland, Unity College
Thucquyen Nguyen, PSU
Amphone Srivilai, PSU
Hoang Ta, PSU*
Tram Tran, OSU
Tuan Tran, PSU*
Vinh Tran, PSU
Shoua Vang, OSU
Jason Warner, PSU*

Madras High School

Samantha Blann, OSU
Nicholas Henderson, OSU*
Brittany Hopkins, Portland CC
Keri Krenowicz, U. Portland
Andrea Marcotte, WOU*
Kenneth Ocker, UO
Keshia Yaw, Central Oregon CC

Marshall High Small Schools

Qiaoling Chen, Portland CC
Robert Elam, U. Alaska Anchorage*
Huyen Hoang, PSU
Nhuhuyen Hoang, PSU
Yelena Kernogitski, U. Rochester
Marcel Million, SOU*
Kim Tien Pham, U. Puget Sound*
Tamara Snook, Clark College
Su Vo, UO
Cody Woodbury, Portland CC

Marshfield High School

Sarah Cooney, SW Oregon CC
Chloe Eberlein, OSU
Caroline Haynes, SW Oregon CC
Jessica Hernandez-Muller,
SW Oregon CC
Alicia Howard, U. Portland*
Cherishe Lytle, SW Oregon CC
Leslie Silver, PSU*



McKay High School

Nicholas Chappell, PSU
Westley Dang, U. Puget Sound*
David Dinh, UO
Solomon Frank, Willamette U.*
Francisco Garcia, Portland CC
Kyla Hedge, Northwest U.
Christopher Hernandez, UO
Jeremy Horton, WOU*
Nikolay Kostromitin, OSU
Amy Nguyen, Linfield College
Phuc Nguyen, OSU
Amanda Solis, Chemeketa CC*
Kayli Woodford, George Fox U.

McMinnville High School

Lacey Collins, WOU
Eden Donato, WOU
Elizabeth Guerrero, WOU
Maya Lim, U. Chicago
Jose Manriquez, OSU
Jesus Partida, Lewis & Clark College
Andrew Willis, Washington State U.

North Salem High School

Cristina Alvarez, WOU
Jacqueline Arrezola, WOU
Haley Bolen, WOU
Dana Fromherz, OSU
Audrey Garcia, Chemeketa CC
Michael Kendrick, WOU
Zachary Kirk, WOU
Tiffany Watters, UO
Alyson Williams, Chemeketa CC

Oakridge High School

Timothy Johnson, Milwaukee School
of Engineering
Kayla Lane, UO
Anna Marble, UO
Cassidee Parrish, Lane CC*

Roosevelt High Small Schools

David Bessman, U. Portland
Jacquelyn Bonnot, Portland CC
Debbiemae Long, SOU
Jose Luis Lopez Salvador, Portland CC*
Carlos Martindelcampo, PSU
Pecola Mccloud, PSU*
Joe Medrano, PSU
Valerie Pilon, WOU
Dulce Salgado, Portland CC*
Laura Wells, PSU

Springfield High School

Sarah Burkhart, UO
Tiana Hammond, OSU*
Erica O'Connell, Fashion Inst. of
Design & Merchandising
Rajeana Pancake, Lane CC*
Matthew Schroeder, Lane CC
Diana Silva, Biola University
Michelle Stone, OSU
Sarah Sullivan, OSU
Racheal Willingham, Lane CC
Catherine Wright, UO*

Woodburn High Small Schools

Liliya Abildayev, George Fox U.
Rita Bernhardt, Willamette U.
Jessica Castillo, Linfield College
Zoya Chernishov, Chemeketa CC*
Martha Cossio, PSU
Teresa Estrada, OSU*
Adrian Gonzalez, OSU
Aniano Lara Gomez, OSU
Juan Leon, PSU
Mitchell Ornelas, EOU
John Rivas, OSU*
Kyle Russell, EOU
Ezequiel Vasquez, WOU*

*permanently endowed scholarship



Gaining Early Awareness and Readiness for Undergraduate Programs

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GEAR UP Partners

- ACT Educational Planning and Assessment System
- Access to Student Assistance Programs in Reach of Everyone (ASPIRE)
- Community And Shelter Assistance Corp (CASA) of Oregon
- The College Board
- Community Colleges & Workforce Development
- EDFUND
- Educational Credit Management Corporation
- Employers for Educational Excellence
- Mathematics, Engineering, & Science Achievement (MESA)
- National College Access Network
- NELA Center for Student Success
- Oregon Community Foundation
- Oregon Department of Education
- Oregon Education Association
- Oregon Small Schools Initiative
- Oregon Student Assistance Commission
- Oregon Quality Assurance in Teaching
- Oregon University System
- Oregon University System Office of K-12 Alignment
- Pacific Northwest Association for College Admission Counseling
- Read Oregon (formerly known as CREADE)
- Science & Mathematics Investigative Learning Experiences (SMILE)
- United States Department of Education

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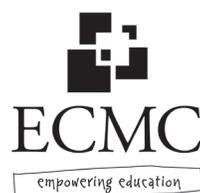
What's Next?

The Oregon GEAR UP program continues with a new grant for 2008-2014. Twelve additional school districts are receiving GEAR UP funding during this next phase of the program and we look forward to sharing their successes with you over the coming years. Please visit us on the web at <http://gearup.ous.edu> to learn more!

What You Can Do:

- Contribute to the GEAR UP Scholarship fund
- Become an ASPIRE mentor
- Provide job shadowing opportunities for local youth
- Ask your local school how you can help support the development of a college-going culture

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Kristin Strommer



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