



What's Up with **GEAR UP**



Clover Park High School

October 2007

We're Back for Another Year!!!!

Many students, teachers and parents were disappointed at the idea that the 2006 – 2007 school year was to be the last year for GEAR UP in the Clover Park and Oakville School Districts. We are happy to announce that GEAR UP is back for at least one more year.

The purpose of GEAR UP is to provide educational and cultural enrichment, academic support, and college preparation resources to students, parents and school staff. We want to empower all of our students with the ability to graduate from high school and decide if they want to choose the path of college or career. We do not believe any of our students have a predetermined for failure or of earning only minimum wage.

This year we are excited to work with 10th, 11th, and 12th grade students. Our 6th year program will still provide funding for cultural and educational field trips, academic and advisory support, hiring college students as classroom tutors, college preparation support, funds for college admission testing, and providing college and academic support tools for parents. The most anticipated and exciting part of the year will be to see the first group of GEAR UP students graduate.

I look forward to seeing you "Around the Park!"

A GRAND WELCOME FOR NEW STUDENTS!!



Checking in with the Mentors

September 2007 brought many new changes to Clover Park High School. The small learning communities were reduced to three, many favorite teachers moved to other educational opportunities and many new teachers joined our staff. The most exciting part of this past September was the addition of the Class of 2011 and new students transferring into our school.



David Slagle sharing information

These students were welcomed in style on August 27th with the Annual New Student Orientation. This year a new twist was added. Clover Park High School welcomed students and parents through the Ignite Transition/Peer Mentoring program. This program trains upper classmen to organize and implement a welcome/orientation program for freshmen and new students. The goal of this program is to utilize students as peer mentors and strives to provide a comfortable and successful transition into high school or a new school. Students attend the orientation received a Clover Park High School t-shirt and the evening was concluded with a bar-b-queue and short information program.



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Sporting a Student T-shirts

You Say Good-bye and I Say Hello



This summer we said good-bye to one of our Educational Specialist Brad Burnham. Brad worked with many of our GEAR UP students while they were students at Lochburn Middle School. His new career opportunity now has him working at the state policy level and with State Legislatures. Although he will be missed, we wish him all the best.

As one member of the team leaves GEAR UP is honored present Dr. Kimberly Lees, the new director of the GEAR UP Project at The Evergreen State College. When asked, what made her decide to come out west, she informed us: “I had an interest in coming back to the northwest from Colorado because I love Washington State and had actually begun my undergraduate degree in Spokane, Washington. I therefore decided it was time for me to come home. I felt The Evergreen State College was the right “fit” for me due to their ethics, how people treat one another, and their highly valued student-centered philosophy, which are very important to me.”



Dr. Lees says mission and vision for GEAR UP are, “...to build stronger community partnerships, work towards obtaining another six year GEAR UP grant, and to strengthen collaborative relationships among school and community partners. My vision is to create an empowering sustainable program that would leave foot prints for others to follow.”

No Summer Break for GEAR UP

GEAR UP staff had another very busy summer. Ten College Preparation Assistants (CPAs) were hired and trained to work with students and teachers during the WASL Academy and credit retrieval classes held at Clover Park High School this summer. The CPAs offered academic assistance in math, reading, writing, and social studies.

GEAR UP also provided two exciting and educationally enriching summer camp opportunities for our students, Washington Business Week held at Pacific Lutheran University (PLU) and Cougar Quest held at Washington State University (WSU).



Washington Business Week

School was barely over and summer just began when GEAR UP provided the funding for ten students from Clover Park and Lakes high school to attend the PLU Washington Business Week summer camp. The students stayed on campus in the residence halls and ate in the college dining hall. This experience gave them a chance to experience life as a university student, while also giving them exposure to the business community and the opportunity to meet students from around the state. The students that attended this camp were offered an opportunity to receive two college credits from Edmonds Community College for successfully completing the camp.



Washington Business Week continues

The weeklong activities confirmed the value of an education by connecting it to the real world. The students learned to understand that making a profit is important for society; owning a business and how teamwork is essential to being successful in business. The week ended with a trade show. Each company created a new product and marketed it to investors, local businesspeople who volunteered to act as judges. At the trade show, the students applied the skills they learned during the week.

“I am thankful to GEAR UP for allowing me this opportunity. Attending this camp allowed me to learn about teamwork, leadership, and setting real-life goals. Thanks GEAR UP for supporting camps like this and in helping to make our dreams seem more of a reality.”



Washington State University Cougar Quest, Pullman, WA

July 22-27, 2007 seventeen students from Clover Park and Lakes high schools attended a weeklong summer academic camp that gave them an opportunity to explore career interests on the campus of one of Washington’s largest universities. GEAR UP funded all student expenses.

The students were able to interact with university faculty, participate in hands-on discovery workshops, live in a residence hall, eat in a dining hall, and once again experience life on a university campus. They were also able to participate in social activities and make new friends from around the state. Students participated in a variety of workshops ranging from computers and the culinary arts, to landscape architecture, veterinary projects and writing poems. When asked the majority of students indicated they would attend WSU Cougar Quest again if they had the opportunity to do so.

The things our students claimed they learned from the experience at Cougar Quest was time management, how to communicate better with others, college can be fun and not just work, be open to new people, learn to have fun while you are learning, and make the best out of things.

Our GEAR UP students said, “College can be fun even if you are not partying.” “This experience showed me how college life really is.”

Your GEAR UP Staff & Administrators Become National Presenters



Carletta with Coach Carter

The summer months also presented the GEAR UP staff with the opportunity to showcase a few of the exciting projects being executed within this grant at our national GEAR UP conference in San Francisco. Presentations were made on Gates & GEAR UP collaboration, the College Preparation (CPA) program, summer work study, and middle of high school transition. We also utilized the assistance of our administrators and CPA and additional high school staff. A special thanks is extended to our presenting administrators Ed Judie and Brian Laubach.

One of highlights of the conference was the opportunity to meet the real Coach Carter and hear him speak. He is a dynamic speaker inspiring attendees to continue the great work of the GEAR UP program and remember, “*It’s about the students.*”



College Fair is not just for students..... Parents Welcomed!!

Clover Park students and parents are invited to “*Get on the Bus*” as it travels to the National College Fair to be held at the Washington State Convention Center, Seattle, Washington. This year GEAR UP has scheduled a bus for parents to join their students on Sunday, November 4th. This is a FREE event. Transportation and Lunch is funded by GEAR UP.

Dates: Sunday, November 4, 2007 Monday, November 5, 2007
Time: 11:00am (Depart CPHS) 8:00am (Depart from CPHS)
5:00pm (return to CPHS) 1:30PM (Return to CHPS)

Parent Permission Slips Required for all students and MUST BE RETURNED by Monday, Oct. 29th

Pick up permission forms: GEAR UP office (located in the back of the library), CRC, Guidance Office, Teachers.

PARENTS MUST CONTACT Carletta Garraway to reserve your spot.

Young men & women, study yourself.
See who you really want to be and as
soon as you see it, say it. Put it out
into the universe. You must say it and
then go about the business of becoming
it.

-Dr. Maya Angelou



College Knowledge

Hottest Majors Nationwide

- 1 Business Administration & Management
- 2 Psychology
- 3 Elementary Education
- 4 Biology
- 5 Nursing
- 6 Education
- 7 English
- 8 Communications
- 9 Computer Science
- 10 Political Science



- *The Princeton Review*

Note: Scholarship and financial aid information should be free.
www.fastweb.com is one good source.

"See you around the Park."



The only difference between *wanting* to go to college and *going* to college is planning and preparation. GEAR UP is a federally funded program that brings colleges, schools and community organizations together to help students aim high, stay in school, study and develop the skills needed to go to college. GEAR UP stands for Gaining Early Awareness and Readiness for Undergraduate Programs.