



FALL 2019 EDITION



FALL NEWSLETTER 2019

ABOUT GEAR UP

Haysville GEAR UP aims to expand the college-going culture in the Haysville School District. By using an empowerment model that recognizes the assets and needs of local communities, Haysville GEAR UP looks to shift the district educational culture. Haysville GEAR UP aims to develop long-term, successful partnerships to support students in reaching college and providing them with the resources to succeed in college.



A NOTE FROM THE DIRECTOR, DIANA CARBAJAL

"Fall has brought on tremendous change for Haysville GEAR UP and both Haysville middle schools as the GEAR UP program becomes fully integrated into everyday school life. I've excitedly anticipated this season of change as it is the beginning of after-school programs, homework assistance, weekend fun, college trips and of course, GEAR UP Week. This fall is just a taste of what GEAR UP students can look forward to for the next several years and I AM HERE FOR IT!"



Team photo, San Francisco GEAR UP Annual Conference, July 2019



AFTER SCHOOL CLUBS & HOMEWORK ASSISTANCE

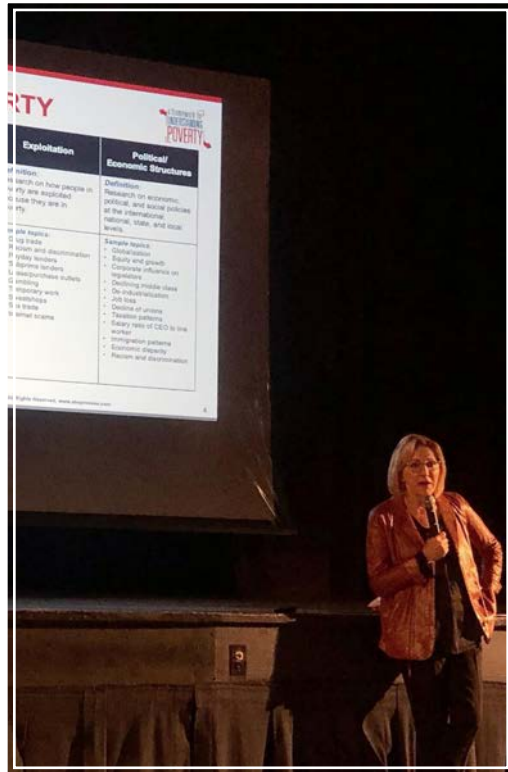
An after-school homework assistance program began for all Haysville GEAR UP students with the beginning of school this fall. The Harry Potter-themed program gives students extra support with homework and gives GEAR UP staff opportunities to bond with students. Students also enjoy Harry Potter themed activities like shopping for materials in Diagon Alley, building a magical wand and planting a mandrake (plant).





GEAR UP U is a weekend series that started this fall where GEAR UP students participate in an activity that challenges their critical thinking. In September, students participated in an alien themed Escape Room at one of the middle schools. This October, GEAR UP took GEAR UP U students to make discoveries outside of this world at the Cosmosphere.





Haysville GEAR UP celebrated National GEAR UP Week in several ways. The week was started with a school-wide College Spirit day where middle school students and faculty wore shirts from their favorite colleges. This week also included tailgating, a massive GEAR UP Day celebration at Century II (more on this in the next page) and an amazing presentation by Ruby Payne. Ruby Payne, Founder and CEO of the “Aha! Process” presented “A Framework for Understanding Poverty” workshop to eight hundred educators from the Haysville school district.





**KLAUSMEYER FARM
PUMPKIN PATCH**





TOPEKA VISIT

This past October, GEAR UP Haysville students took a trip to the Capitol building while in Topeka visiting Washburn University. The students had the opportunity to learn about Kansas history, tour the Capitol's breath-taking dome top and tour legislation, senate and house chambers.

At Washburn University, students met with admissions, toured campus, learned about campus life and other opportunities for them on campus.



NATIONAL GEAR UP DAY



National GEAR UP Day event took place on September 25, 2019 at Century II Performing Arts Center. Nearly 1,500 students in the seventh and eighth grade from Haysville Middle School and Haysville West Middle School, and students with Kansas Kids GEAR UP attended this event.

The conference themed “The GEAR UP Code” focused around characteristics of GEAR UP and how these characteristics could be applied to life. The powerful message about commitment from keynote speaker, Alex Sheen with “Because I Said I Would,” set the tone for the day. Students made personal commitments on “promise cards” provided by the “Because I Said So” organization.

Participants then enjoyed a three-course catered meal. Musical entertainment by Contempo was provided. A meal etiquette lesson by Kianga Crowley of Simly a Lady Co. gave students tips and tricks on how to properly dine.

The students then went to nine separate rooms for workshops. Each student was able to attend two workshops. Each workshop focused on the characteristics of the GEAR UP code. Workshops were put on by many GEAR UP friends and advocates:



- *Paradigm Shift - Code of Engagement* introduced GEAR UP to students in a memorable way. Through music and games, this workshop aimed to kick-start a college-going culture by sharing personal college experiences.
- *Ron Lewis - Got G.R.I.T??* This session was designed to give students a foundation on how to develop G.R.I.T. (guts, resilience, intensity, and tenacity) in and out of the classroom.
- *Patty Stuever - 8 to Great.* This workshop focused on transforming lives to reach full potential while maintaining personal power.
- *Social Etiquette - Kianga Crowley* Students learned about a movement to improve the way leaders are emotionally developed, how employees treat customers and how to bring a sense of cultural awareness to daily interactions.
- *Entrepreneurship - Andrea Stang* used past experiences, to teach students how to build a brand in their community quickly, efficiently and sustainably.
- *Show Me the Money - Tim Rogers and Ryan Lee* helped students improve their financial lives and walked through some simple planning ideas.
- *Cracking the Career Code - Maggie Slack* taught students the secrets of finding a job, building a resume and successful job interviewing skills.
- *Switching Codes for Survival - Harold Wallace III* inspired students to become more passionate about their future academic success.
- *Code of Honor - Alex Sheen* shared his perspectives on promises and gave opportunities for questions.



