



**SUMMER 2019 EDITION** 



## ABOUT GEAR UP

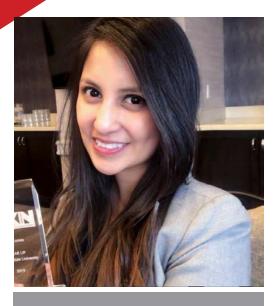
Haysville GEAR UP aims to expand the college-going culture in the Haysville School District. By using an empowerment model that recognizes the assets and needs of local communities, Haysville GEAR UP looks to shift the district educational culture. Haysville GEAR UP aims to develop long-term, successful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



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

## **GOALS**





## A NOTE FROM THE DIRECTOR, **DIANA CARBAJAL**

"I am excited for the new school year to begin and for my team to be in schools with students again. We are gearing up for the fall semester with great, new ideas to engage students. Summer programming provided our mentors and tutors the time and space to build relationships with students outside of the classroom where trust was built. I am blessed with a great team that really cares about each student and their student's future, and I look forward to working with students and parents alike in the coming year."







## **COMMUNITY SERVICE PROJECTS**

GEAR UP students gave back to their community in big ways this summer. As part of summer program activities, middle school students made stuffed animals and gifted them to the Sedgwick County Police Department. Police officers will use the stuffed animals to bring joy to children who are in negative situations.

"WE WANT TO INSTILL IN OUR STUDENTS THE IMPORTANCE OF GIVING BACK"

"Unfortunately, we get a lot of kids who maybe get pulled into situations where their parents have made a bad decision and we can actually hand these out to the kids and it gets them refocused on a positive," Sedgwick County Sheriff's Lt. Marty Morland said.

Haysville GEAR UP students also gave toys to the Wichita Animal Shelter as well as blankets and bandannas for the homeless. College

Access Coordinator, Jose Hinojosa with Haysville GEAR UP said community service opportunities like these teach students the significance of giving back.

"We want to instill in our students the importance of giving back to their community and teach them to be grateful for what they have," said Hinojosa.





In June, Haysville GEAR UP partnered with the SPARK program to offer seventh and eighth grade students a funpacked, six-week experience at Haysville MIddle School. GEAR UP students learned about post secondary education through several games and activites.

Students were given choices of activites everyday such











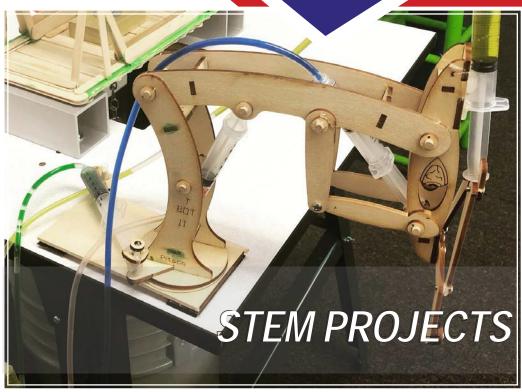


as building model back hoes and sling shots, higher education jeopardy, yoga and a visit from "The Bug Lady."

All GEAR UP students were also given the opportunity to sign up for campus visits to Kansas Univeristy, Kansas State University and Wichita State University. More campus tour opportunities will come this fall semester.

GEAR UP invited a group called "Paradigm Shift" to join the fun of summer programming. Paradigm Shift took lead on many group activities, teaching students about team work and building character.







UP kids participated in a number of hands-on STEM projects. These projects encouraged students to think technically, problem solve and work together.

Students reached for the stars while building and launching rockets with GEAR UP staff.

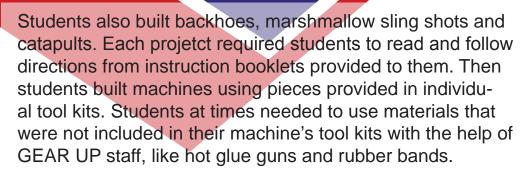
Building hydrolic arms challeneged students, but the end results were amazing. GEAR UP staff used food coloring to differentiate the water used to move different parts of the hydrolic arm.





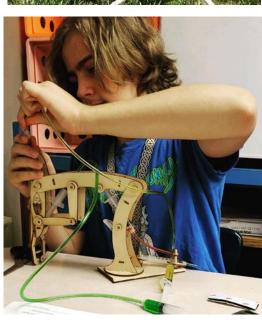








Once each machine was built, it was time to test them. Students enjoyed the outcomes of their hard work!





Haysville GEAR UP students and staff attended the Mission Kansas Nebraska (MKN) Leadership Conference in Sedalia, MO on June 7, 2019. The Haysville team made up of sixth, seventh and eighth graders and adult staff won first place in the city-wide scavenger hunt as part of the leadership conference and were awarded the key to the city by Sedalia Mayor, John Kehde.

Students were educated about the history of Sedalia, MO., and developed their leade ship skills through the scavenger hunt and leadership conference.

"I'm proud to see our students shine and leverage each other's strengths as we worked as a team during the scavenger hunt," said Diana Carbajal, Director of Haysville GEAR UP.

The scavenger hunt allowed students to discover the historical Central Station of Sedalia, a mural of Scott Jop-







lin downtown, the monument of the founder of Sedalia located at the junior middle school, the historical Sedalia Trust Building, the Carnegie library building of the Sedalia Public Library, Liberty Park, a historical replica bridge located on state fair grounds and the historical site of Bothell. The conference itself took place at the State Fair Community College.











The Haysville GEAR UP team along with four other community partners attended the annual NCCEP/GEAR UP conference in San Francisco from July 14 to July 17. The team was inspired by several motivational speakers on the main stage and in workshops. The staff colaborated and networked with other GEAR UP teams to better the program in Haysville.

"The GEAR UP Code" and "The Way of the Equity Warrior" were themes of NCCEP this year. The GEAR UP Code is made up of empowering characteristics found in the GEAR UP community. These characteristics are purpose, connection, hope, resiliency and excellence.

"Purpose - GEAR UP professionals are guided by an underlying purpose that transcends job responsibilities and approaches a way of being. The leaders that make up the GEAR UP movement are connected by a common goal – the success of others."

"Connection - At the heart of GEAR UP's success is the ability to forge the human connection. Before academic, social, and emotional growth is possible, trust must be established between GEAR UP professionals, students, and families. Human Connection is an underlying condition for the success of the movement."

"Hope - The work of GEAR UP in our communities can be challenging. Supporting students along their educational journey can feel daunting. Yet GEAR UP is having tremendous success. While hope may not be a strategy for success, for GEAR UP to be



successful, hope is essential."

"Resiliency - Throughout our GEAR UP communities, our students, families, and educators face adversity. Despite these challenges, GEAR UP communities persevere and overcome exhibiting a well of resiliency that serves as a life-long asset. In GEAR UP, it is not how many times you fall that is important, but it is your ability to get up."

"Excellence - The work of GEAR UP is rooted in serving our students the most effective way we can. Continually striving to be the best and the continuous pursuit of excellence creates a cultural expectation that all students can and will succeed."

The NCCEP/GEAR UP conference has empowered the staff of Haysville GEAR up to embody these characteristics everyday.







