

Browning Middle/High School /WBH GEAR UP October 2022 Board Report

BHS/WBH GEAR UP

***Montana College Application Week (October 3-14th)**

The high school GEAR UP staff assisted seniors during the first 2 weeks with their Montana college applications. The system is set up using a common application which makes it easier to apply to MUS (Montana University System) colleges. We had 92 of our seniors complete this process, most of which applied to more than 1 college. See photos below.

***Senior/Parent FAFSA Night (October 11th)**

We had a catered dinner event where we provided information not only on FAFSA but the college process, including deciding on the right school, the paperwork needed, including the FAFSA. We had representatives from BCC and Blackfeet Tribe Higher Education to share their respective details about the college application process including FAFSA and scholarships. We had about 50 in attendance which involved about 20 of our seniors and their families.

***GEAR UP Career/College Prep Advisory Lessons**

We are continuing our annual GEAR UP lessons in advisory classes every Wednesday. The topics focus on anything career and/or college related topics. This month has been on career exploration topics as we prepare for our December virtual Career Day.

***Student Success Agency Kick Off Event (October 5th)**

Instead of hosting our 3rd Annual SSA event in the gym (canceled for safety reasons), we had the SSA representative visit all 9th grade advisory classes to recruit more students. During that presentation, we had 33 of our freshmen sign up for this service. SSA is a texting platform that allows students to access their own personal "agent." Students will be able to get help with the following: tutoring, career and college prep, ACT prep, etc. Last year's report showed that our students are using the program, with an average of 500 contacts made with agents per month!

***9th Grade College Visit (October 18th)**

We took 20 freshmen to visit the MSU Northern Campus in Havre. Students ate in the college cafeteria, listened to a student panel (3 of our own Browning students: Gabe Walker, Dulci Skunkcap and Jillian Marceau. Students got the opportunity to also visit

with a couple of college professors and learn about careers in health sciences and criminal justice.

BMS GEAR UP

***BMS AVID**

Nate is teaching this class. It is our principal's goal to get AVID back on track and GEAR UP will continue to support this as we are grateful that AVID is in our school because of initial funding from Montana GEAR UP and reaching out to us to pilot the program. BMS GEAR UP will also provide an annual STEM/Career Exploration trip for all of the AVID students this Spring.

***First Quarter STEM Event**

We are planning our 1st quarter STEM event for Monday, October 31st. This will be an all day event whereby students will sign up for hands-on "Halloween themed" STEM activities. All teachers will do a STEM lesson and GEAR UP will purchase the supplies for 7th and 8th grade GEAR UP students. Mrs. Heavy Runner will purchase the supplies for the 6th grade non GEAR UP students.

***Weekly GEAR UP Lessons**

GEAR UP is scheduled to present one lesson per week in the 7th and 8th grade Social Studies classrooms. Topics include: college applications; degrees and majors; and a game of college trivia.

***1st 7th Grade Boys College Trip (October 5th)**

BMS GEAR UP took 21 7th grade boys to visit the University of Providence for the day. Students ate on campus, did a tour, and met with several campus representatives.

