



**Browning Middle/High School /WBH GEAR UP
November 16, 2025 Board Report**

GEAR UP

The GEAR UP program continues to advance college and career readiness for our senior cohort through targeted academic support, family engagement, and postsecondary planning initiatives. This month, GEAR UP successfully hosted a Family FAFSA Night, serving nearly 40 seniors and more than 30 family members. Families received hands-on assistance with completing the FAFSA and navigating financial-aid requirements to support students' postsecondary aspirations.

In addition, GEAR UP supported student academic needs by distributing essential school supplies, including notebooks and pencils, to ensure students are equipped for success throughout the semester.

Through the statewide Apply MT initiative, GEAR UP helped seniors apply to multiple Montana colleges at no cost, removing financial barriers and increasing access to postsecondary opportunities. Many seniors completed several applications during this event.

The GEAR UP team is also coordinating the upcoming Cat-Griz Rivalry Rally along with BHS student councils, which will include recognition of seniors who have applied to and been accepted by the colleges of their choice. This celebration reinforces our ongoing commitment to encouraging students' postsecondary plans and highlighting their progress thus far.

A Group of BHS seniors visited MSU Bozeman Campus and were able to experience a day on campus as well as the various indigenous focused programs the university has to offer. They also were invited to speak on the local radio station and give a public service announcement, representing BPS and the Blackfeet Nation.

Furthermore, GEAR UP staff are providing one-on-one guidance to assist seniors with the completion of their Senior Portfolios and preparation for their Senior Presentations, ensuring each student meets graduation expectations and is prepared to articulate their goals for life after high school.

GEAR UP remains dedicated to supporting students and families as they transition toward college, career training, and other postsecondary pathways.

