

Browning Middle/High School /WBH GEAR UP November 2023 Board Report

BHS/WBH GEAR UP

***Senior Campus Visit**

From October 31st-November 2, we took 27 seniors to visit the following campuses: SKC, UM Main Campus and the 2 Missoula College campuses - Mountain and River. (See photo below). Students were able to meet with admissions representatives, eat at the UM cafeterias, sit in on a college class, and tour all 4 campuses. Thanks to Tony Wagner, he also hooked up 3 of our state cross country champions with a “meet and greet” with the UM cross country coaches. They were pretty excited about the opportunity.

***Cat/Griz Pep Rally**

We had our annual Cat/Griz Pep Rally on Friday, November 10th. This was the first time we opened it up to all K-12 students since before CO-VID. It was a fun event! Our students loved Monte, the UM mascot who again came to perform and again borrowed a student’s traditional outfit and danced in on our special “grand entry.” He also stayed after and took pictures with students and staff.

***Student Surveys**

For both BMS and BHS GEAR UP students, we are busy this month doing required GEAR UP surveys for our grant. We have to have at least an 80% completion rate.

***American Indian College Fund (AICF) Grant**

BHS GEAR UP applied and was awarded again a small grant (\$3,000) from AICF to help with our senior FAFSA completion rates. Part of the money will be used for scholarships and the remaining will be used for snacks and prizes to encourage seniors to complete the FAFSA on time.

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BMS GEAR UP

Due to budget cuts, we are unable to fill the full-time BMS GEAR UP Specialist position so we chose to use the limited allocation for student services.

***Career/College Prep Lessons in 7th and 8th Grade Social Studies**

We have been providing mini lessons in these classes, once per week. The focus this semester is on careers. We are continuing our “family budgeting” activity that students will work on to learn about the cost of adulthood. Students will have jobs, cars, houses and other related bills. This activity will take up most of the semester to do.

*STEM events

These are back in our budget. We were approved for 2 different events - 1 per semester so we will be working on getting the first one scheduled before the semester ends.

*College Visits

We plan to take all eligible 7th and 8th graders on campus visits this year. The goal for 7th is to visit Flathead Valley Community College - with 4 separate trips to keep our numbers manageable. For 8th grade, we will be visiting SKC with the plan for 3 trips (1 boy and 2 girls, since there are more girls in this class). The goal is to schedule one by the end of this semester. We’re just waiting to hear back from SKC if they can fit us into their schedule.



SKC Nursing Department Synthetic Cadaver.



Monte with an elementary student.



Monte having a dance off with BHS student and other volunteers.