



UNITED INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT INFORMATIONAL ITEM

TOPIC: Recipients of Region One ESC GEAR UP Grant for Six Middle Schools

SUBMITTED BY: David R. Canales, Executive Director of Middle School Instruction

OF: Curriculum & Instruction Department

APPROVED FOR TRANSMITTAL TO SCHOOL BOARD: _____

DATE ASSIGNED FOR BOARD CONSIDERATION: November 26, 2018

INFORMATIONAL REPORT:

United ISD is a recipient of the Region One ESC GEAR UP Grant for six middle schools. This discretionary grant program is designed to increase the number of low-income students who are prepared to enter and succeed in postsecondary education. GEAR UP provides six-year grants to states and partnerships to provide services at high-poverty middle and high schools. GEAR UP grantees serve an entire cohort of students beginning no later than the seventh grade and follow the cohort through high school. GEAR UP funds are also used to provide college scholarships to low-income students.

NOTE: We are part of a seven-year grant beginning with the current 7th-Graders (Class of 2024).

Schools Include:

- Antonio Gonzalez Middle School
- Raul Perales Middle School
- United South Middle School
- Los Obispos Middle School
- Lamar Bruni Vergara Middle School
- Salvador Garcia Middle School

REGION ONE ESC GEARUP



A Tradition of Excellence
SINCE 1961

By David R. Canales

Executive Director of Middle School Instruction

What is GEAR UP?

- ✎ This discretionary grant program is designed to increase the number of low-income students who are prepared to enter and succeed in postsecondary education. GEAR UP provides six-year grants to states and partnerships to provide services at high-poverty middle and high schools. GEAR UP grantees serve an entire cohort of students beginning no later than the seventh grade and follow the cohort through high school. GEAR UP funds are also used to provide college scholarships to low-income students.
- ✎ We are part of a seven-year grant.



Who is the Target Population?

- ∞ This partnership restructures school services to provide a knowledge pipeline to postsecondary success for 10,500 traditionally underrepresented youth.
- ∞ Targeted School Demographics:
 - 98% of the students are Hispanic
 - 87% are economically disadvantaged
 - 27% are English Language Learners
 - 78% are considered potential first generation college bound students



GEAR UP will Service Six Schools

7th Graders-Class of 2024 Cohort

- ☞ Antonio Gonzalez Middle School
- ☞ Raul Perales Middle School
- ☞ United South Middle School
- ☞ Los Obispos Middle School
- ☞ Lamar Bruni Vergara Middle School
- ☞ Salvador Garcia Middle School



What are the Goals?

- The primary goal of the GEAR UP Ready, Set, College! partnership is to increase the number of students graduating from high school and entering and succeeding in post-secondary institutions.
- GEAR UP: Ready, Set, College! is organized into five objectives. These objectives are then supported by delineated activities.
 - **Objective 1:** Increase the academic performance and preparation for post-secondary education for GEAR UP students.
 - **Objective 2:** Increase the rate of high school graduation and participation in post-secondary education for GEAR UP students.
 - **Objective 3:** Increase GEAR UP students' and their families' knowledge of post-secondary education options, preparation, and financing.
 - **Objective 4:** Increase GEAR UP students' access to advanced academic programs, technology applications and distance learning networks through a STEM initiative.
 - **Objective 5:** Increase the leadership capacity of administrators and community stakeholders to sustain a college awareness organizational structure of continuous learning.

Facilitators Role

- ☞ To provide leadership, training, and technical assistance to GEAR UP campus personnel in program design and enhancement, restructuring, intervention and outreach for post-secondary education, and parental involvement. GEAR UP Facilitator will work with cohort group to increase post-secondary enrollment.
- ☞ Each Middle School will hire a facilitator whom will follow the cohort up to the first year of college.

Questions

