

## West Wichita GEAR UP

At West Wichita GEAR UP we are committed in making sure students are on track to graduate. We will persevere to accomplish the GEAR UP goals; to Increase students' academic performance and preparation for postsecondary education, Increase high school graduation and postsecondary participation rates, and Increase students' and their families' knowledge of postsecondary options, preparation, and finances.

College tours are a **great** opportunity for students to find answers to questions, gain valuable information and help decide if the school is the right place for them. West GEAR Up has provided college tours this year to four different universities. Our most recent was to Langston University and Tulsa Museum in Oklahoma. Students were very enthusiastic and had positive comments in the post surveys:

“ Next time can we stay longer because I really want to go to this college and I would love to hear more”, “I think it's really cool that they genuinely care for each and want to help each other through school”; “I am really interested in this university !!”



Scholarships are favorable in affording college. However, you need to know how to find these scholarships. GEAR Up hosted a student workshop, KS ScholarShop (Mr. Lynn Rogers). Students were able to register for a Scholarship Search at [SalieMae.com/Kansas](http://SalieMae.com/Kansas). The website helped students get matched with scholarships based on their skills, activities, and interests.

Parent University sessions are another way to increase students' and their families knowledge of postsecondary options and finances. The first Parent Session for this school year was to make parents aware of the resources from GEAR UP. Our next Parent Session is "Taking the Right Test for the Future". Most students begin taking standardized tests like the SAT, ACT, AP and ASVAB during their junior year. GEAR UP will review different college admission/standardized tests during this session.

GEAR Up staff will eagerly support the students to keep them on track for a brighter future. . Coordinators are consistently sending students to tutoring options, reviewing student grades and putting interventions into place early, and checking student schedules and helping them to request a schedule change for second semester to remove an elective and put in a credit that needs recovered.