Parents may come by the GEAR UP Parent Centers at Bryan High School (Room 1213), Bryan Collegiate High School (Room 300A), or Rudder High School (Library). We have computers available for you to use to access your student’s grades and attendance. We have information about helping your student be successful in high school as well as preparing for college. Parents may also access information about getting their GED, applying to college, or applying for financial aid. Please contact us for an appointment at 209-2582. ¡Hablamos español!

New Parent Centers at High Schools

What GEAR UP Has Done for Bryan ISD Students & Staff

- GEAR UP T-shirts for all 9th grade students
- Planners for BCHS and BHS 9th graders
- Backsacks and highlighters for BHS 9th graders
- Explore test for all 9th graders
- Texas State Technical College Road Show at Brazos Center, November 5th
- Class set of Calculators for all 9th grade math teachers in the district
- Computer on Wheels (COW)
- Algebra summer camp (Agile Mind)
- College Readiness Professional Development for 50 staff members in BISD
- Parent Centers at BHS and BCHS, Library Access with appointment at RHS
- Mentor Program for The Lamar School
- Four-year high school plans completed by spring registration
- College Tip of the Week commercials for all secondary campuses.
“I loved the San Antonio trip the most because I got to see new things and learn about a lot of people and careers! I hope next summer’s field trips will be just as much fun!”

Kristmas Hill
GEAR UP Student

Summer Fun

This past summer GEAR UP staff traveled with groups of 9th grade students to Houston, San Antonio, and Austin. The purpose of each trip was to expose students to cultural activities and to increase their self-determination. Self-determination is the right for students to be in charge of their lives and make decisions for themselves. Therefore, the trips focused the students’ attention on courses they could take in high school and potential career paths that they could embark on following graduation.

The trip to Houston included visits to the Houston Museum of Natural Science and the Houston Zoo. Throughout their visit to these locations the students were able to learn about careers in multiple science-related fields such as zoology. The trip to San Antonio included a trip to the Alamo where students learned about the history of Texas, as well as the career opportunities in the various branches of the United States military. The students concluded their day with a visit to Ripley’s Believe It or Not Museum, where they learned weird and unusual historical facts, and saw wax replicas of celebrities and historical figures.

The trip to Austin included visits to Bob Bullock Texas State History Museum and the Texas State Capitol where students learned about the history of Texas and the functions of the state legislature. These trips allowed the students to have fun while learning about different careers, school courses, and the importance of self-determination.

Summer Adventures at Sea Camp

“I went to the Coastal Ecology Sea Camp in Galveston, Texas this past summer! I had a lot of fun! My favorite thing was when I went seining (net fishing). I made tons of new friends and learned many new things! Sea Camp was educational and very fun too! We woke up about 7:00 a.m. and didn’t stop until 8:00 p.m.! I wasn’t bored the entire trip. The staff members there were really nice and helpful. I had a great time at Sea Camp!”

We’re on the web!
http://gearup.cehd.tamu.edu
Every year, GEAR UP surveys students and parents to gather information about their experiences in school and college readiness. The results are derived from the 2009-2010 school year. A total of 1093 surveys were distributed.

A majority of parents believe their child will receive a 4-year college degree or higher.

Students’ educational expectations increased in 2009 with more students expecting to go to college.

Many parents have spoken to their child about college; however, a majority have not spoken to someone about college entrance requirements or financial aid.
Preparing for College

- Why Get a College Degree?
- Why Go to College?
  - http://www.unt.edu/pais/howtochoose/why.htm
- Ten Ways School Prepares You for the Work World

Paying for College

- Learn about FAFSFA
  - The Free Application for Federal Student Aid is usually the first step in seeking financial aid for higher education.
- Guide to Federal Student Aid (2009-2010)
  - http://tinyurl.com/yk7uoct7

Scholarships

- Scholarship Experts
  - Get unlimited access to 2.4 million scholarships worth over $14 billion
  - http://www.scholarshipexperts.com

Upcoming GEAR UP Activities

TSTC Road Show — Nov. 5th
Disability Support Parent Meetings — Nov. 2, Nov. 16, Dec. 7

Coming Spring 2011!

"If you only knew me!"—GEAR UP Group
"Get a Life"—Reality Check
Four-Year Plans
Career Exploration
Mentor Program at The Lamar School
Home Visits

GEAR UP Contact Information

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GEAR UP Parents

Parent Survey - Fall 2010
Dear Parents and Guardians:
Please help us continue to improve our program by completing a 5 minute survey. Your responses will help us provide needed resources for your child to be successful in high school.

http://tinyurl.com/BISDParent

Cuestionario de Padres - Fall 2010
Estimados Padres/Guardianes:
Por favor ayúdenos a seguir mejorando nuestro programa al completar este cuestionario que le tomará aproximadamente 5 minutos. Sus respuestas nos ayudarán a proveer los recursos necesarios para que su estudiante triunfe en la preparatoria.

http://tinyurl.com/BISDParent

Parents Wanted!

We are looking for parents who are interested in participating in a Parent Leadership program, to help provide information and training to other parents about helping all of our children be successful in schools. If you are interested in becoming a Parent Leader in this program, please contact Patricia Lynch at plynch@tamu.edu or (979) 845-9462.