

EDUCATION

and training beyond high school



GEARUP
WEST VIRGINIA

The logo for Gear Up West Virginia features a stylized white tree with many leaves, positioned to the right of the text. The tree's branches curve upwards and to the right, framing the text.

Prepared for Every Contingency: Collaborative Coordination of Student and Parent Surveys

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Goals of our Discussion

- To demonstrate how collaborative coordination benefited data collection efforts for West Virginia GEAR UP
- To explore how collaboration might help survey administration and data collection in other settings
- To discuss guidelines/frameworks for effective collaboration in data collection

The Collaborators

WV Higher Education Policy Commission (HEPC)

- Coordinating body for higher education in WV
- Division of Student Success and P-20 Initiatives administers GEAR UP
- Plans, coordinates, and monitors all GEAR UP services for students in 10 counties

Edvantia, Inc.

- Not-for-profit educational research, evaluation, and development company
- Responsible for leading design, implementation of the GEAR UP evaluation in West Virginia

West Virginia GEAR UP

- Six-year state grant
- Will serve more than 13,000 students from 2008-2014
- 10 counties, more than 5,000 students per year
- 2014 cohort and 11th and 12th graders each year of the grant
- 14 High Schools

West Virginia GEAR UP Service Areas and Schools

Fall 2009 school year



SOUTHWESTERN REGION - served by *Southern West Virginia Community and Technical College*

BOONE: Madison Middle; Sherman Junior High; Sherman High

LINCOLN: Duval P-8; Hamlin P-8; Harts Interm 4-8; Guyan Valley Middle; Lincoln County High

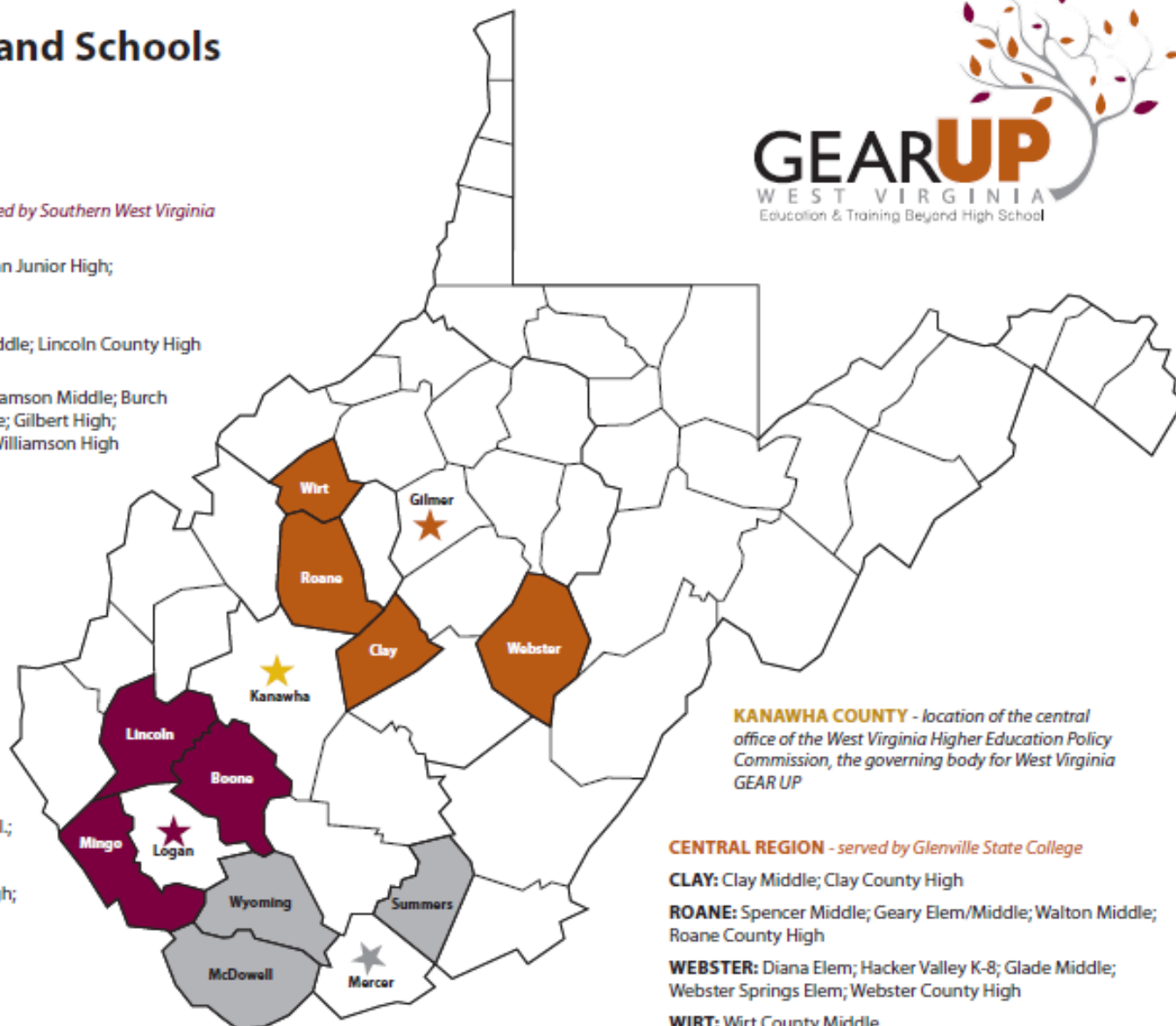
MINGO: Kermit Area K-8; Lenore K-8; Matewan Middle; Williamson Middle; Burch Middle; Burch High; Gilbert Middle; Gilbert High; Matewan High; Tug Valley High; Williamson High

SOUTHERN REGION - served by *Concord University*

MCDOWELL: Southside K-8; Sandy River Middle; Mount View Middle; Mount View High; Big Creek High; Jaeger High

SUMMERS: Summers Middle; Summers High

WYOMING: Baileysville Middle; Glen Fork Middle; Herndon Consol.; Huff Consol.; Mullens Middle; Pineville Middle; Oceana Middle; Road Branch Middle; Westside High; Wyoming County East High



KANAWHA COUNTY - location of the central office of the West Virginia Higher Education Policy Commission, the governing body for West Virginia GEAR UP

CENTRAL REGION - served by *Glennville State College*

CLAY: Clay Middle; Clay County High

ROANE: Spencer Middle; Geary Elem/Middle; Walton Middle; Roane County High

WEBSTER: Diana Elem; Hacker Valley K-8; Glade Middle; Webster Springs Elem; Webster County High

WIRT: Wirt County Middle

The Evaluation

- 16 Questions:
 - 5 formative, 9 outcomes, 2 sustainability
- Rigorous, longitudinal quasi-experiment
 - 2 levels of matching
 - Student
 - School
- Embedded design using mixed methods
 - Multiple data collection methods

The Surveys

- Administered annually
 - Mid-year administration
- In-depth
 - Address multiple indicators of program success
 - Include 5 required questions
- Paper-based

The Survey Takers

- Student Surveys
 - Cohort Students (Class of 2014)
 - Priority Students (11th & 12th Grades)
 - Comparison Students (Classes of 2013 & 2015)*
- Parent Surveys
 - Cohort Parents
 - Comparison Parents
- School Personnel Surveys

Year 1 Administration

- Distributed and collected by site coordinators
- Home-based administration
- Parental consent forms sent concurrently with surveys
- Firm submission deadline
- Student Response Rate: **41%**
- Parent Response Rate: **55%**

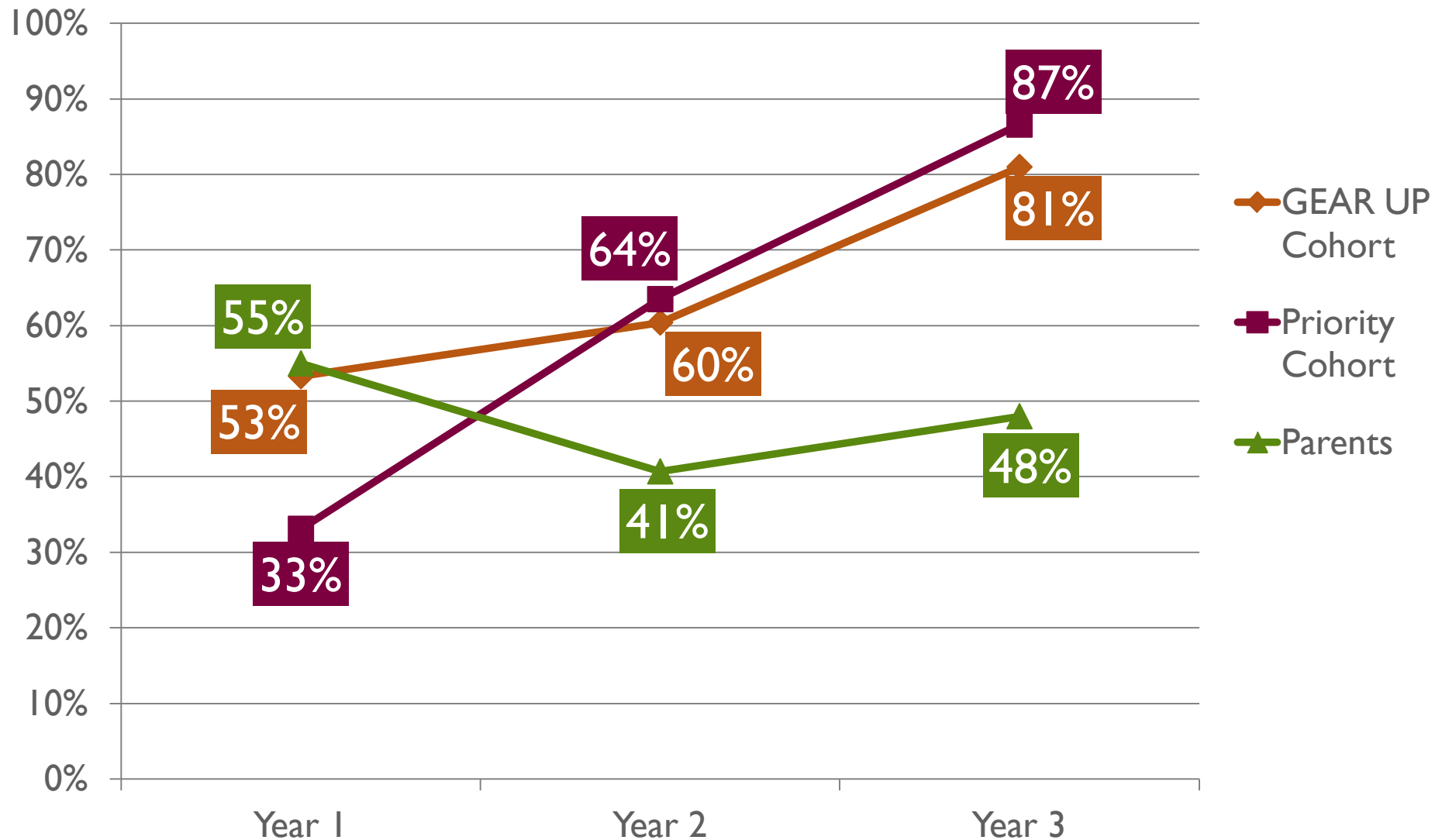
Year 2 Administration

- Distributed and collected by site coordinators
- Home- and school-based administration
- Parental consent forms collected previously
- Semi-firm submission deadline
- Student Response Rate: **60%**
- Parent Response Rate: **42%**

Year 3 Administration

- Distributed and collected by site coordinators
- Multiple formats
 - Paper, online; long, short
- Response tracking and reporting
- On-going parental consent collection
- Rolling data collection timeline
- Incentives for high response rates

Year 3 Administration Outcomes



Benefits & Shortcomings

The Good:

- Achieved federal response rate requirement for students
- Almost got there for parents
- Actively engaged site coordinators in efforts and recognitions

The Ugly:

- Response rates still ranged from acceptable (Cohort) to frustratingly inadequate for generalizability (Parents)

The Bad:

- Time and labor intensive
- Iterative nature can lead to information lags
- Flexible methods of data collection challenging for research aspect (e.g., threats to internal validity, generalizability)

What could work for you?

Strategy-Building Talk

Think about your own context and capabilities.

What are you doing to meet federal response rate requirements?

What collaborative strategies can you use to meet your data collection needs?

How can technology play a role in your survey strategies?



Prepared for Every Contingency

Contact Information

Copies of this presentation are available at www.wvgearup.org in the Resources section under the Educator Resources tab.

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