



School Name/County	Survey Type	Number of Respondents (N)
Wirt County High School /Wirt	School Personnel Survey	15

School Level Response Rates:

Estimated Number of Faculty Members (teachers, administrators, counselors)	29
Surveys Received	15
Estimated Response Rate (%)	51.7%

Results (Percentages) by Survey Question

1. What current grade level(s) do you serve? (select all that apply)

	(%)
Grade 9	66.7%
Grade 10	93.3%
Grade 11	93.3%
Grade 12	100.0%

2. Are you a GEAR UP site coordinator?

	(%)
Yes	6.7%
No	93.3%

3.a Please rate your level of agreement that each of the statements below accurately reflects your SCHOOL:

	Strongly Disagree (%)	Disagree (%)	Agree (%)	Strongly Agree (%)	No Response (%)
RIGOR AND EXPECTATIONS					
a. Creativity and original thinking are highly valued.	0.0%	0.0%	66.7%	33.3%	0.0%
b. Teachers expect all students' to succeed academically.	0.0%	6.7%	73.3%	20.0%	0.0%
c. Students are encouraged to do their best.	0.0%	6.7%	46.7%	46.7%	0.0%
d. Teachers regularly talk to students about the importance of college.	0.0%	6.7%	46.7%	46.7%	0.0%
e. Students care about learning and getting a good education.	6.7%	6.7%	86.7%	0.0%	0.0%
f. Students are encouraged to set future college and career goals.	0.0%	0.0%	60.0%	40.0%	0.0%
g. Students are learning effective problem solving skills.	0.0%	6.7%	86.7%	6.7%	0.0%
h. Teachers are able to engage students in a rigorous curriculum	6.7%	6.7%	73.3%	13.3%	0.0%
i. Advanced (i.e. honors, pre-AP, etc.) courses are appropriately rigorous	0.0%	0.0%	66.7%	33.3%	0.0%



j. The curriculum appropriately challenges most students.	0.0%	6.7%	73.3%	20.0%	0.0%
	Strongly Disagree (%)	Disagree (%)	Agree (%)	Strongly Agree (%)	No Response (%)
VISUAL CUES AND MATERIAL RESOURCES					
k. College pennants, banners, and posters are visible.	0.0%	6.7%	80.0%	13.3%	0.0%
l. Parents are included in the college preparation process.	0.0%	6.7%	73.3%	20.0%	0.0%
m. School staff are provided with professional development on the topics of college readiness and success.	0.0%	26.7%	60.0%	13.3%	0.0%
n. Students have access to the information and resources they need to support their college attendance decisions.	0.0%	0.0%	66.7%	33.3%	0.0%
o. Teachers include visual cues to encourage discussions about their college experience (e.g., posters, pennants).	0.0%	13.3%	73.3%	13.3%	0.0%
p. Teachers are provided information about the school's college-going rate and FAFSA completion rates.	0.0%	26.7%	46.7%	26.7%	0.0%
q. College messaging is integrated into events, including sports events or arts performances.	0.0%	20.0%	66.7%	13.3%	0.0%
r. Teachers engage in ongoing professional development about ways to promote college readiness.	6.7%	26.7%	60.0%	6.7%	0.0%
s. Teachers are equipped with the knowledge to assist students in the transition from high school to college.	6.7%	0.0%	80.0%	13.3%	0.0%

3b. Please rate your level of agreement that each of the statements below accurately reflects your CLASSROOM (Note: Only teachers were asked to respond to this item):

	Strongly Disagree (%)	Disagree (%)	Agree (%)	Strongly Agree (%)	No Response (%)
RIGOR AND EXPECTATIONS					
a. Creativity and original thinking are highly valued.	0.0%	0.0%	42.9%	57.1%	0.0%
b. I expect all students to succeed academically.	0.0%	7.1%	35.7%	57.1%	0.0%
c. Students are encouraged to do their best.	0.0%	7.1%	35.7%	57.1%	0.0%
d. I regularly talk to students about the importance of college.	7.1%	0.0%	78.6%	14.3%	0.0%
e. Students care about learning and getting a good education.	7.1%	0.0%	71.4%	21.4%	0.0%
f. Students are encouraged to set future college and career goals.	0.0%	0.0%	64.3%	35.7%	0.0%
g. Students are learning effective problem solving skills.	0.0%	7.1%	71.4%	21.4%	0.0%



h. I am able to engage students in a rigorous curriculum	0.0%	7.1%	57.1%	35.7%	0.0%
i. Advanced (i.e. honors, pre-AP, etc.) courses are appropriately rigorous	0.0%	7.1%	57.1%	35.7%	0.0%
j. The curriculum appropriately challenges most students.	0.0%	7.1%	64.3%	28.6%	0.0%
	Strongly Disagree (%)	Disagree (%)	Agree (%)	Strongly Agree (%)	No Response (%)
VISUAL CUES AND MATERIAL RESOURCES					
k. College pennants, banners, and posters are visible.	7.1%	28.6%	50.0%	14.3%	0.0%
l. Parents are included in the college preparation process.	7.1%	7.1%	71.4%	14.3%	0.0%
m. I am provided with professional development on the topics of college readiness and success.	7.1%	28.6%	57.1%	7.1%	0.0%
n. Students have access to the information and resources they need to support their college attendance decisions.	0.0%	0.0%	78.6%	21.4%	0.0%
o. I include visual cues to encourage discussions about their college experience (e.g., posters, pennants).	7.1%	14.3%	57.1%	21.4%	0.0%
p. I am provided information about the school's college-going rate and FAFSA completion rates.	7.1%	35.7%	42.9%	14.3%	0.0%
q. College messaging is integrated into events, including sports events or arts performances.	7.1%	21.4%	57.1%	14.3%	0.0%
r. I engage in ongoing professional development about ways to promote college readiness.	7.1%	28.6%	50.0%	14.3%	0.0%
s. I am equipped with the knowledge to assist students in the transition from high school to college.	7.1%	0.0%	78.6%	14.3%	0.0%

4. How comfortable do you feel about your level of knowledge to assist students with the following college topics?

	Rather not say (%)	Not at all (%)	Slightly (%)	Moderately (%)	Extremely (%)	No Response (%)
FAFSA	0.0%	13.3%	26.7%	20.0%	40.0%	0.0%
College savings plan/ 529	0.0%	53.3%	13.3%	26.7%	6.7%	0.0%
ACT/SAT	0.0%	6.7%	20.0%	33.3%	40.0%	0.0%
WV Higher Education Grant	0.0%	33.3%	26.7%	20.0%	20.0%	0.0%
Federal Grants, loans, work-study	0.0%	20.0%	26.7%	13.3%	40.0%	0.0%
College Selection (Match and Fit)	0.0%	26.7%	0.0%	33.3%	40.0%	0.0%
Scholarships (e.g., PROMISE or institutional)	0.0%	6.7%	26.7%	40.0%	26.7%	0.0%
Requirements for College Acceptance	0.0%	13.3%	13.3%	33.3%	40.0%	0.0%
The importance/ Benefit of College Education	6.7%	0.0%	6.7%	0.0%	86.7%	0.0%



High School Graduation Requirements	0.0%	13.3%	0.0%	20.0%	66.7%	0.0%
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5. Please rate your level of Involvement in the college-related activities presented below?

	Not Applicable (%)	Never (%)	Seldom (%)	Sometimes (%)	Often (%)	Always (%)	No Response (%)
I participate in the college preparation activities of my school (e.g., chaperoning college visits).	0.0%	13.3%	26.7%	33.3%	20.0%	6.7%	0.0%
I have individual discussions with students about what they want to do with their futures.	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	13.3%	66.7%	20.0%	0.0%
I talk with students about their plans for college or work after high school.	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	6.7%	66.7%	26.7%	0.0%
I offer students supplemental instructional support to prepare them for postsecondary options.	6.7%	0.0%	13.3%	40.0%	26.7%	13.3%	0.0%
I offer or incorporate class time to support college preparation efforts at my school.	6.7%	13.3%	6.7%	33.3%	26.7%	13.3%	0.0%
I talk with parents about their ability to help prepare their student(s) for postsecondary education.	0.0%	13.3%	33.3%	26.7%	6.7%	13.3%	6.7%

6. In your opinion, what is the most important aspect to building a college going culture at your school?

<p>Showing students there are many pathways to going to "college"; Students need to understand the importance of college, how they can afford it, and the best schools for their major and budget.; Gear up programs are currently doing a great job with this. Continue to push students to strive toward post-secondary education and help them find their individual fit.; Total school involvement.; Encouraging parents to motivate students. Many don't see the significance of a college or post secondary education.; Getting students to value the importance of a college degree.; Seeing the success of those who've went already. I think current students need to see and talk to college students and college grads, who they can relate to because they're from the local HS or community, and engage them with questions about college preparedness. What you need to know to succeed (or what they wish someone would have told them or explained to them.); The culture of the entire region is largely anti-education, or at least they play it that way. And in all honesty, a college education did not help me reach a positive end to my life so far. I practically beg my students to take shop classes so that they have real-world skills. For those that are determined to go to college, I express to them the newfound importance of</p>



getting a Master's or PhD. Bachelor's degrees are a dime a dozen and have become the new standard for entry-level employment in too many areas.

7. Also, please explain what you see as your role in building a college going culture at your school?

As site coordinator, my role is pretty central in promoting college-going culture. Students and staff look to me for guidance and to lead the way.; ; I have attended GEAR UP days with other staff members and I value LINKS lessons that discuss future goals and college.; As a senior adviser for the past year, I was heavily involved in working with the seniors, but I plan to do a better job in the future in working with students beginning as underclassmen.; ; Staying up to date with changing times.; Encouraging students to look beyond high school. To think about what they want out of their future.; ?; ; ; I see myself as someone who should always promote, in my classroom, the importance of higher education. Or at least, the importance of preparing yourself for post-HS life (military, trade school, work force, parenthood or higher education). I like students to know they have many options when it comes to college, but I also like them to know that they have many options other than college. And that some of those other options, may help them get into college later in life.; My role, due to personal bias and a substantial lack of training, is pretty minimal when it comes to building a culture that praises higher education. I personally value the acquisition of knowledge to improve my life and the lives of others, but I'm surrounded by "students" who think they know everything they need to in order to function in society. The most frightening part is that those students may be correct.

8. Please indicate how effective participation in GEAR UP sponsored activities available at your school has been in helping your students to succeed in school/prepare for college:

	Does Not Apply/Not Offered (%)	I did not attend (%)	Not at all (%)	Slightly (%)	Moderately (%)	Extremely (%)	No Response (%)
Tutoring and homework assistance	6.7%	33.3%	6.7%	6.7%	26.7%	13.3%	6.7%
Opportunities to participate in college visits	0.0%	40.0%	0.0%	0.0%	6.7%	46.7%	6.7%
Summer activities	0.0%	46.7%	0.0%	13.3%	13.3%	20.0%	6.7%
College Application and Exploration Week	0.0%	26.7%	0.0%	6.7%	13.3%	46.7%	6.7%
Provide Information about college entrance requirements	0.0%	26.7%	0.0%	0.0%	40.0%	26.7%	6.7%
Career exploration activities	0.0%	13.3%	0.0%	13.3%	40.0%	26.7%	6.7%
Test preparation (e.g., ACT/SAT)	0.0%	26.7%	0.0%	13.3%	20.0%	33.3%	6.7%
Assistance with College Entrance Processes	0.0%	40.0%	0.0%	0.0%	26.7%	26.7%	6.7%
Assistance with completing financial aid forms (e.g., FAFSA)	0.0%	40.0%	0.0%	0.0%	20.0%	33.3%	6.7%
Teacher professional development about college awareness and success strategies	20.0%	26.7%	0.0%	6.7%	33.3%	6.7%	6.7%



Student Success Societies/Mentoring opportunities	13.3%	26.7%	0.0%	0.0%	26.7%	26.7%	6.7%
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9. In general, how often do you participate in GEAR UP activities?

Never (%)	Seldom (%)	Sometimes (%)	Often (%)	Always (%)	No Response (%)
0.0%	33.3%	20.0%	20.0%	26.7%	0.0%

Please Elaborate:

I chaperone trips for GEAR UP activities and college visits. I also assisted with a tailgate prior to a football game to promote GEAR UP. The GEAR UP coordinator is in the classroom beside me, so I often know about activities before others and offer help.; I am a Gear Up English tutor for the school and hold daily tutoring sessions for students to ensure success. Also, student success groups meet in my building, so I get to witness their meetings at times.; ; Our site coordinator and I work together in numerous activities to better assist the students.; I teach at both the Middle School and High School. Due to my schedule, I am not able to participate in a lot of the activities sponsored at the High School during the day.; If there is a school-wide push for a GEAR UP activity, then I am there and I do what I can to assist. But, I have no training whatsoever in any of the critical areas of college preparation other than teaching my content area (something I probably don't even do well).

10. The next set of items ask about your level of agreement related to the overall experience provided to you through GEAR UP.

	Not Applicable (%)	Strongly Disagree (%)	Disagree (%)	Agree (%)	Strongly Agree (%)	No Response (%)
I think GEAR UP is making a positive impact on students in my school.	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	20.0%	73.3%	6.7%
I think GEAR UP is making a positive impact on my colleagues in my school	0.0%	0.0%	13.3%	46.7%	33.3%	6.7%
GEAR UP activities are likely to be sustained after the grant ends.	6.7%	13.3%	13.3%	40.0%	20.0%	6.7%

11. Thinking about the future when GEAR UP services and activities are no longer at your school, to what extent will your school promote the following elements related to a college-going culture?

	Does not Apply (%)	Not at All (%)	Slightly (%)	Moderately (%)	Extremely (%)	No Response (%)
Family Involvement	0.0%	0.0%	26.7%	40.0%	26.7%	6.7%
Mentoring	0.0%	6.7%	13.3%	53.3%	20.0%	6.7%
Academic Support	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	46.7%	46.7%	6.7%
Financial Literacy	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	73.3%	20.0%	6.7%
Partnership with Institutions of Higher Education	0.0%	6.7%	0.0%	60.0%	26.7%	6.7%



Community Support	0.0%	0.0%	26.7%	40.0%	26.7%	6.7%
College Visits	0.0%	0.0%	13.3%	53.3%	26.7%	6.7%
Access to College Professionals	0.0%	6.7%	6.7%	66.7%	13.3%	6.7%
Life Skills Development	0.0%	0.0%	20.0%	40.0%	33.3%	6.7%
College Application and Exploration Week	0.0%	6.7%	0.0%	46.7%	40.0%	6.7%

Please Elaborate:

we will still try to do as much as possible to promote college; I believe that any activities that do not require expenditure of money will be supported. Those that require financial expenditure will probably be continued.; Nothing; ; ; ; Without funding from Gear up, many of the activities, such as college visits, will be difficult to put together.; ; ; Gear Up is important to allowing our students to visit colleges and in encouraging them to go. Without Gear Up funding, I don't know that we could afford to take students on college visits, and I don't know that we could afford to have college professionals come and speak to our students. I also fear that some of the support we offer our students in terms of tutoring and financial aid literacy would be lost. We truly need this grant.; We will not have money for college visits.; ; ; We will continue various activities that we can participate in at the school level (financial aid workshops, College Application Week, etc), however, we will be unable to visit college campuses and job sites.; ; As a staff, we will always encourage our students to go to college and seek further training. However, without funding and resources, it will be hard to continue with all of the aspects GEAR UP helps us with. We are very fortunate to be affiliated with the GEAR UP program.; ;

12. How sure are you that the majority of students...

	Not applicable (%)	Not at all (%)	Somewhat (%)	Sure (%)	Very Sure (%)	No Response (%)
...will not attend but will seek a job or enter the military.	0.0%	33.3%	40.0%	20.0%	0.0%	6.7%
...will be eligible to apply to a postsecondary institution.	0.0%	6.7%	33.3%	40.0%	13.3%	6.7%
...can make an educational plan that will prepare them for college.	0.0%	13.3%	33.3%	40.0%	6.7%	6.7%
...can get good grades in their high school science classes.	0.0%	6.7%	40.0%	40.0%	6.7%	6.7%
...can get good grades in their high school math classes.	0.0%	6.7%	46.7%	33.3%	6.7%	6.7%
...can choose the high school classes needed to get into college.	0.0%	0.0%	40.0%	46.7%	6.7%	6.7%
...know enough about computers/ technology to get into college.	0.0%	0.0%	26.7%	33.3%	33.3%	6.7%
...can go to college after high school.	0.0%	6.7%	26.7%	40.0%	20.0%	6.7%
...could get A's and B's in college.	0.0%	13.3%	46.7%	33.3%	0.0%	6.7%
...could finish college and receive a college degree.	0.0%	13.3%	53.3%	13.3%	13.3%	6.7%

13. Please use this space for additional comments, questions, or concerns:



I have seen a major decline in education in the past decade. I fear where it is going. There is technology readily available and parents are NOT taking advantage of it. Some still claim at the end of the quarter that they didn't know their child was failing, when they have immediate access to grades. Parents are NOT taking the responsibility of monitoring their child's success or failure at school. We have more and more students with missing work, frequent absences, and failing grades and I don't know how to fix that problem - until the parents do. I had one student improve attendance and grades after speaking with his parent, but that was one out of many. There is a portion of students who think they deserve to pass even if they don't do the work. The culture of learning and teaching at Wirt County High School is not ideal for students who really want to succeed in college. I'm not even certain how great we are at preparing students for technical schools. I feel that our hands-on departments of education at WCHS do a fine job preparing students for the trade skills they will need, but I'm not so certain that the students will have the academic skills they need to succeed.

I say all of that because the push to get students to graduate so that our school isn't penalized by a reduction in funding is very strong. As such, standards are often lowered and students get away with too much just so we don't look numerically deficient in regards to some policy made up by morons with little, to no, classroom experience.

Despite all of that, I know that our GEAR UP crew works diligently to help students have a shot at getting out of this place and pushing towards something that matters more.