



County Name	Survey Type	Number of Respondents (N)
051/Mercer County	Personnel Survey/06012020	115

## County-Level Response Rates

Estimated Number of Faculty Members (teachers, administrators, counselors)	166
Surveys Received	115
Estimated Response Rate (%):	69.3%

## Results (Percentages) by Survey Question

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

	(%)
Grade 9	77.4%
Grade 10	79.1%
Grade 11	83.5%
Grade 12	77.4%

### 2a. How many years have you worked in this position or role in total?

This is my first year. (%)	1–2 years (%)	3–5 years (%)	6–10 years (%)	11–15 years (%)	More than 15 years (%)	No Response (%)
5.2%	4.3%	9.6%	26.1%	9.6%	43.5%	1.7%

### 2b. How many years have you worked in this position or role at the school?

This is my first year. (%)	1–2 years (%)	3–5 years (%)	6–10 years (%)	11–15 years (%)	16–20 years (%)	More than 20 years (%)	No Response (%)
9.6%	7.0%	25.2%	22.6%	18.3%	8.7%	7.0%	1.7%

### 3. Are you a GEAR UP site coordinator?

	(%)
Yes	6.1%
No	93.9%

### 4a. Please rate your level of agreement that each of the statements below accurately reflects your SCHOOL:

	Strongly Agree (%)	Agree (%)	Disagree (%)	Strongly Disagree (%)	No Response (%)
<b>RIGOR AND EXPECTATIONS</b>					
a. Creativity and original thinking are highly valued.	56.5%	40.9%	2.6%	0.0%	0.0%
b. Teachers expect all students to succeed academically.	53.0%	43.5%	3.5%	0.0%	0.0%
c. Students are encouraged to do their best.	67.8%	28.7%	0.9%	0.0%	2.6%



d. Teachers regularly talk to students about the importance of college.	49.6%	46.1%	3.5%	0.9%	0.0%
e. Students care about learning and getting a good education.	27.0%	61.7%	9.6%	1.7%	0.0%
f. Students are encouraged to set future college and career goals.	53.0%	45.2%	1.7%	0.0%	0.0%
g. Students are learning effective problem-solving skills.	32.2%	60.9%	6.1%	0.0%	0.9%
h. Teachers are able to engage students in a rigorous curriculum.	37.4%	55.7%	5.2%	1.7%	0.0%
i. Advanced (i.e., honors, pre-AP, etc.) courses are appropriately rigorous.	55.7%	39.1%	4.3%	0.9%	0.0%
j. The curriculum appropriately challenges most students.	43.5%	51.3%	4.3%	0.0%	0.9%
	<b>Strongly Agree (%)</b>	<b>Agree (%)</b>	<b>Disagree (%)</b>	<b>Strongly Disagree (%)</b>	<b>No Response (%)</b>
<b>VISUAL CUES AND MATERIAL RESOURCES</b>					
k. College pennants, banners, and posters are visible.	54.8%	41.7%	3.5%	0.0%	0.0%
l. Parents are included in the college preparation process.	48.7%	48.7%	2.6%	0.0%	0.0%
m. Students have access to the information and resources they need to support their college attendance decisions.	62.6%	35.7%	1.7%	0.0%	0.0%
n. Teachers include visual cues to encourage discussions about their own college experience.	46.1%	47.0%	7.0%	0.0%	0.0%
o. Teachers are provided information about the school's college-going rate and FAFSA completion rates.	47.8%	43.5%	7.0%	1.7%	0.0%
p. College messaging is integrated into events, including sports events or arts performances.	30.4%	53.9%	13.9%	1.7%	0.0%
q. Faculty and staff engage in professional development about ways to promote college readiness.	33.0%	55.7%	9.6%	1.7%	0.0%
r. Teachers are equipped with the knowledge to assist students in the transition from high school to college.	34.8%	59.1%	5.2%	0.9%	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):**

	<b>Strongly Agree (%)</b>	<b>Agree (%)</b>	<b>Disagree (%)</b>	<b>Strongly Disagree (%)</b>	<b>No Response (%)</b>
<b>RIGOR AND EXPECTATIONS</b>					
a. Creativity and original thinking are highly valued.	71.1%	25.8%	1.0%	0.0%	1.7%
b. I expect all students to succeed academically.	71.1%	24.7%	1.0%	0.0%	2.6%
c. Students are encouraged to do their best.	78.4%	19.6%	0.0%	0.0%	1.7%



d. I regularly talk to students about the importance of college.	53.6%	41.2%	3.1%	0.0%	1.7%
e. Students care about learning and getting a good education.	25.8%	56.7%	12.4%	3.1%	1.7%
f. Students are encouraged to set future college and career goals.	53.6%	43.3%	0.0%	1.0%	1.7%
g. Students are learning effective problem-solving skills.	54.6%	38.1%	4.1%	1.0%	1.7%
h. I am able to engage students in a rigorous curriculum.	42.3%	50.5%	3.1%	2.1%	1.7%
i. Advanced (i.e., honors, pre-AP, etc.) courses are appropriately rigorous.	46.4%	44.3%	4.1%	2.1%	2.6%
j. The curriculum appropriately challenges most students.	44.3%	50.5%	3.1%	0.0%	1.7%
	<b>Strongly Agree (%)</b>	<b>Agree (%)</b>	<b>Disagree (%)</b>	<b>Strongly Disagree (%)</b>	<b>No Response (%)</b>
<b>VISUAL CUES AND MATERIAL RESOURCES</b>					
k. College pennants, banners, and posters are visible.	38.1%	49.5%	10.3%	0.0%	1.7%
l. Parents are included in the college preparation process.	35.1%	53.6%	8.2%	0.0%	2.6%
m. Students have access to the information and resources they need to support their college attendance decisions.	45.4%	50.5%	2.1%	0.0%	1.7%
n. I include visual cues to encourage discussions about students' college experience.	45.4%	44.3%	8.2%	0.0%	1.7%
o. I am provided information about the school's college-going rate and FAFSA completion rates.	45.4%	44.3%	7.2%	1.0%	1.7%
p. College messaging is integrated into events, including sports events or arts performances.	32.0%	49.5%	15.5%	1.0%	1.7%
q. I engage in ongoing professional development about ways to promote college readiness.	40.2%	50.5%	7.2%	0.0%	1.7%
r. I am equipped with the knowledge to assist students in the transition from high school to college.	43.3%	51.5%	3.1%	0.0%	1.7%

4. What tools or sources of information have you found most valuable in helping to answer students' questions accurately about financial aid for college?

See the all school/county report for comments.

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

	<b>Rather Not Say (%)</b>	<b>Not at All (%)</b>	<b>Slightly (%)</b>	<b>Moderately (%)</b>	<b>Extremely (%)</b>	<b>No Response (%)</b>
FAFSA (Free Application for Federal Student Aid)	0.0%	7.8%	12.2%	47.0%	33.0%	0.0%
College savings plan/529	1.7%	26.1%	26.1%	36.5%	9.6%	0.0%



WV Higher Education Grant	2.6%	17.4%	17.4%	45.2%	17.4%	0.0%
Federal grants, loans, work-study	1.7%	9.6%	16.5%	49.6%	22.6%	0.0%
West Virginia PROMISE Scholarship	0.9%	7.0%	11.3%	48.7%	32.2%	0.0%
Scholarships from organizations, institutions, and other entities	0.9%	2.6%	16.5%	49.6%	30.4%	0.0%
WV Invests Grant	2.6%	31.3%	25.2%	34.8%	6.1%	0.0%
College selection (match and fit)	0.0%	5.2%	8.7%	49.6%	36.5%	0.0%
Requirements for college acceptance	0.0%	1.7%	11.3%	43.5%	42.6%	0.9%
The importance/benefit of college education	0.9%	0.9%	0.9%	20.0%	77.4%	0.0%
High school graduation requirements	1.7%	3.5%	31.3%	63.5%	0.0%	0.0%
ACT/SAT prep	0.9%	8.7%	36.5%	51.3%	1.7%	0.9%

**6. On average, how much do you think it costs for one year of in-state tuition at...**

	4-Year Public College (%)	2-Public Community or Technical College (%)
Up to \$3,000	0.0%	18.3%
\$3,001 - \$6,000	13.0%	57.4%
\$6,001 - \$10,000	55.7%	17.4%
\$10,001 - \$15,000	13.9%	4.3%
\$15,001 - \$20,000	12.2%	1.7%
\$20,001 - \$25,000	3.5%	0.0%
More than \$25,000	0.0%	0.0%
No Response	1.7%	0.9%

\*The correct amounts are highlighted in green.

**7. What do you think is the maximum amount of money per academic year that is available to help pay for college through each of the following programs?**

	Federal Pell Grant (%)	WV Higher Education Grant (%)	PROMISE Scholarship (%)
Up to \$1,000	1.7%	1.7%	0.0%
\$1,001 - \$2,000	2.6%	4.3%	0.9%
\$2,001 - \$3,000	11.3%	39.1%	6.1%
\$3,001 - \$4,000	13.9%	17.4%	12.2%
\$4,001 - \$5,000	8.7%	7.8%	39.1%



\$5,001 - \$6,000	16.5%	13.9%	6.1%
\$6,001 - \$7,000	29.6%	6.1%	6.1%
More than \$7,000	13.0%	7.0%	26.1%
No Response	2.6%	2.6%	3.5%

\*The correct amounts are highlighted in green.

**8. How much would tuition cost at a 2-year public community/technical college in West Virginia if a student qualifies for a WV Invests Grant?**

	WV Invests Grant (%)
\$0	32.2%
\$1 - \$2,000	18.3%
\$2,001 - \$4,000	39.1%
More than \$4,000	7.8%
No Response	2.6%

**9. 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).	4.3%	13.9%	19.1%	33.9%	16.5%	12.2%	0.0%
I have individual discussions with students about what they want to do with their futures.	0.9%	0.0%	0.9%	13.0%	51.3%	33.9%	0.0%
I talk with students about their plans for college or work after high school.	0.9%	0.0%	0.0%	13.9%	47.8%	36.5%	0.9%
I offer students supplemental instructional support to prepare them for postsecondary options.	2.6%	4.3%	8.7%	20.9%	42.6%	20.9%	0.0%
I offer or incorporate class time to support college preparation efforts at my school.	6.1%	3.5%	12.2%	27.0%	33.9%	16.5%	0.9%
I talk with parents about their ability to help prepare their student(s) for postsecondary education.	4.3%	7.0%	17.4%	36.5%	20.9%	13.9%	0.0%



10. Please rank order the most important aspects (1) to the least important aspects (6) to building a college-going culture at your school. Listed below are percentages of each item ranked as number 1.

	(%)
a. Encourage and support student overall success	41.7%
b. Promote post-secondary interest and options	7.0%
c. Provide application and/or college planning support	0.0%
d. Provide academic support and rigorous curriculum	20.9%
e. Talk to students one-on-one	18.3%
f. Other	5.2%
See the all school/county report for comments.	

11. Please explain why you ranked the items in that particular order.

See the all school/county report for comments.
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12. Please explain what you see as your role in building a college-going culture at your school. How has your role changed, if at all, since the presence of GEAR UP at your school?

See the all school/county report for comments.
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13. 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	3.5%	10.4%	3.5%	8.7%	34.8%	36.5%	2.6%
Opportunities to participate in college visits	0.0%	4.3%	0.9%	8.7%	22.6%	60.9%	2.6%
Summer activities	12.2%	14.8%	0.9%	14.8%	30.4%	24.3%	2.6%
College Application and Exploration Week	0.0%	5.2%	2.6%	12.2%	34.8%	40.9%	4.3%
Information about college entrance requirements	0.0%	4.3%	1.7%	7.0%	42.6%	41.7%	2.6%
Career exploration activities	0.0%	3.5%	2.6%	8.7%	43.5%	38.3%	3.5%
Test preparation (e.g., Testive, ACT/SAT prep)	0.0%	2.6%	0.0%	12.2%	33.0%	49.6%	2.6%



Assistance with college entrance processes	0.0%	5.2%	0.9%	12.2%	31.3%	47.8%	2.6%
Assistance with completing financial aid forms (e.g., FAFSA)	0.0%	4.3%	0.9%	7.0%	21.7%	63.5%	2.6%
Teacher professional development about college awareness and success strategies	6.1%	7.8%	2.6%	19.1%	39.1%	23.5%	1.7%
Student Success Societies/mentoring opportunities	4.3%	12.2%	3.5%	9.6%	38.3%	30.4%	1.7%
Faculty Senate presentations	3.5%	3.5%	2.6%	29.6%	37.4%	19.1%	4.3%
College Decision Day and/or other college acceptance ceremonies	0.9%	7.0%	3.5%	8.7%	35.7%	40.9%	3.5%

**14. FOR ADMINISTRATORS ONLY: Please rate the frequency in which you take the following actions to promote a college-going culture at your school, if at all.**

	Does not Apply (%)	Not at All (%)	Slightly (%)	Moderately (%)	Extremely (%)	No Response (%)
Collaboration with other personnel in your school	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	44.4%	44.4%	11.1%
Collaboration with personnel in other schools	0.0%	0.0%	22.2%	44.4%	22.2%	11.1%
Collaboration with postsecondary partners	11.1%	0.0%	0.0%	44.4%	22.2%	22.2%
Collaboration with HEPC and/or other agencies	11.1%	0.0%	22.2%	44.4%	11.1%	11.1%
Use of high-quality college preparation/readiness curricula	11.1%	0.0%	0.0%	44.4%	33.3%	11.1%
Targeted engagement of parents	0.0%	0.0%	11.1%	44.4%	33.3%	11.1%
Targeted engagement of community organizations	0.0%	0.0%	22.2%	33.3%	11.1%	33.3%
Other (see below):	33.3%	0.0%	0.0%	11.1%	0.0%	55.6%
See the all school/county report for comments.						

**15. After the GEAR UP grant leaves your school, what college-readiness activities will be the easiest to sustain?**

See the all school/county report for comments.
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**16. After the GEAR UP grant leaves your school, what college-readiness activities will be the most challenging to sustain?**

See the all school/county report for comments.
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**17. In general, how often do you participate in GEAR UP activities?**

Never (%)	Seldom (%)	Sometimes (%)	Often (%)	Always (%)	No Response (%)
8.7%	11.3%	38.3%	26.1%	12.2%	3.5%

**Please elaborate:**

See the all school/county report for comments.

**18. 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%	3.5%	27.8%	68.7%	0.0%
I think GEAR UP is making a positive impact on my colleagues in my school.	3.5%	0.9%	7.0%	47.8%	40.0%	0.9%
GEAR UP activities are likely to be sustained after the grant ends.	1.7%	5.2%	15.7%	48.7%	27.8%	0.9%

**19. 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%	1.7%	15.7%	43.5%	38.3%	0.9%
Mentoring	0.0%	6.1%	13.0%	47.8%	32.2%	0.9%
Academic support	0.0%	0.9%	6.1%	34.8%	57.4%	0.9%
Financial literacy	0.0%	1.7%	10.4%	45.2%	40.9%	1.7%
Partnership with institutions of higher education	0.0%	2.6%	10.4%	47.8%	38.3%	0.9%
Community support	0.0%	5.2%	19.1%	47.0%	27.8%	0.9%
College visits	0.0%	12.2%	19.1%	41.7%	25.2%	1.7%
Access to college professionals	0.0%	7.0%	15.7%	48.7%	27.8%	0.9%
Life-skills development	0.0%	2.6%	18.3%	52.2%	25.2%	1.7%
College Application and Exploration Week	0.0%	2.6%	12.2%	40.9%	40.9%	3.5%
College Decision Day and/or other college acceptance ceremonies/programming	0.0%	2.6%	14.8%	44.3%	36.5%	1.7%





**20. 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%	30.4%	47.0%	18.3%	2.6%	1.7%
...will be eligible to apply to a postsecondary institution?	0.0%	6.1%	26.1%	50.4%	15.7%	1.7%
...can make an educational plan that will prepare them for college?	0.0%	7.8%	35.7%	40.9%	13.9%	1.7%
...can get good grades in their high school science classes?	0.0%	7.8%	47.8%	35.7%	7.0%	1.7%
...can get good grades in their high school math classes?	0.0%	10.4%	47.8%	33.9%	6.1%	1.7%
...can choose the high school classes needed to get into college?	0.0%	7.8%	20.9%	47.8%	21.7%	1.7%
...know enough about computers/ technology to get into college?	0.0%	5.2%	13.9%	49.6%	28.7%	2.6%
...can go to college after high school?	0.0%	7.8%	23.5%	48.7%	18.3%	1.7%
...could get A's and B's in college?	0.0%	15.7%	47.8%	28.7%	5.2%	2.6%
...could finish college and receive a college degree?	0.0%	9.6%	40.9%	35.7%	12.2%	1.7%

**21. What do you feel is the most significant factor that prevents students from setting postsecondary education or training goals?**

See the all school/county report for comments.
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**22. What do you feel is the most significant factor that prevents students from achieving their postsecondary education or training goals?**

See the all school/county report for comments.
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**23. Please use this space for additional comments, questions, or concerns:**

See the all school/county report for comments.
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