

# MPS GEAR UP Newsletter

January 2016

This is the official newsletter of **GEAR UP** to share news and information with our GEAR UP students, families, and MPS administrators, teachers, and staff.

Gaining Early Awareness and Readiness for Undergraduate Programs (GEAR UP) is a federally funded college access program to ensure that MPS students pursue and enroll in post-secondary education. GEAR UP is serving 2,560 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> grade students in 11 middle schools during the 2015-2016 school year. GEAR UP's primary goal is to make sure that every child is college and career ready, and we offer college visits, mentoring, tutoring, and classroom enrichment activities focused on college readiness.

## GEAR UP Events and Activities

We have been busy with taking students to visit colleges and universities, providing classroom enrichment activities about planning for college, and working with our GEAR UP partners to deliver direct program services to our students. Below are some of the events:

- **National GEAR UP Week (September 21 – 25, 2015)**
- **National College Fair sponsored by National Association for College Admission Counseling (October 21 and 22, 2015)**
- **Empower Me Tour sponsored by United Negro College Fund (October 10, 2015)**
- **Joining the Legacy University of Minnesota (November 12, 2015)**
- **Native American College Fair (November 19, 2015)**
- **Folwell Arts Career Fair (December 8, 2015)**
- **College Visits:**
  - Bethel University (Folwell)
  - University of Minnesota (Jefferson, Keewaydin, and Northeast)
  - Minnesota State University – Mankato (Franklin)
  - North Hennepin Community College (Seward)
  - Normandale Community College (Franklin)



Anishinabe and Sullivan students at National College Fair



Northeast Middle School  
GEAR UP Student  
Ambassadors



Jefferson Community School  
Door Decorating Contest



## Highlight Corner



Saida Hassan is the Site Coordinator at Jefferson Community School. Saida grew up in St. Paul, and attended Central High School in St. Paul. She received her Bachelors of Science and her Masters of Arts from the University of Minnesota. Saida is really passionate about access and success in higher education. Programs like GEAR UP, helped shape her educational experience.

**Visit us online!**

[ccr.mpls.k12.mn.us/gear\\_up](http://ccr.mpls.k12.mn.us/gear_up)

### GEAR UP Schools

Anishinabe Academy  
Anne Sullivan Communications  
Anwatin Middle  
Folwell Performing Arts  
Franklin Middle  
Jefferson Community  
Lake Nokomis – Keewaydin  
Marcy Open  
Northeast Middle  
Sanford Middle  
Seward Montessori