Evening Studies

On Mondays, Tuesdays, Wednesdays and Thursdays, the GEARUP program offers evening studies until 8pm. The reason for these evening classes is that students who don’t have computers at home, students who have sporta practices right after school and those that just need more time than the 1.25 hours after school that the school itself provides have an opportunity to stay later and get their studies done. GEARUP has also hired two tutors for these students. Michelle Medved and Steve Vaughn are here at least one hour every evening to help with studies. They, along with the help of Patti Stracener, GEARUP site director, can cover most every subject from LA 9 to Calculus. We are trying to create the old kitchen table study model where everyone sat around and did homework together. We are trying to help the students learn that it is okay to study together and ask one another questions if needed. Sometimes the students do a great job of explaining subjects in a very different way than the teacher and are great peer tutors. Please have your students come and join us in the evenings and help us continue to create the academic atmosphere that is so prevalent at our school.

Big Bend Trip Jan 28th

Nine students and Patti Stracener headed for Big Bend Community College on the 28th of January for a tour of their campus. We currently have students attending this wonderful college and our class of 2011 had a great time visiting the automotive, aviation, nursing, electronics and medical assistant departments while there. GEARUP wants to make sure that every student has an opportunity to see what is near to them in terms of alternate programs other than a four year institution. The students were treated to McDonalds for lunch and then returned by bus. It was a great visit and the program directors at the college were very helpful to our students.
Parent Dinner and Meeting

January's Dinner and Meeting were focused on the drug problem here at our school and what the preventative measures are that we can take. Andi Irvin from Together For Drug Free Youth, a non-profit based in Wenatchee, was the facilitator and she did a wonderful job of helping us project the community model we want our parents to see. We are trying to develop a sense of team when dealing with drugs and the problems in our area. Andi did a nice job of relating the warning signs to parents and employers and then what can be done if drug use is suspected. The Principal, Don Vanderholm, then spoke to what the school policy is and how we need to work together to help our students turn the corner towards a new beginning without drugs and alcohol. He let the parents know that we have free drug tests for them to use and the price will not come into effect unless their child has a positive test. He then spoke to the local counseling and treatment centers we have for our youth to use. It was a great night and well attended.

WSU Tour, Lunch & Game

On Saturday, February 20th, Manson GEARUP students will be taking a bus to Washington State University. The students will catch the bus at 5am on Saturday morning and arrive on WSU campus at approximately 10am. The students will be divided into interest groups and will then be led on tours throughout the campus of various school departments and given short briefings on what the majors have to offer. After the tours students will be taken to one of the many cafeterias on campus and given lunch. After lunch the students will be able to enjoy the USC vs WSU basketball game at 2pm. After the game we will load back onto busses and return home, stopping on the way for dinner. This will be a wonderful opportunity for our students to see themselves on a college campus and see if this is a good fit for them in their 13th year. This will be the second major college that the Sophomores have visited and we are hoping to get out to see Gonzaga and Eastern later in the year.

Century 21 and GEARUP join forces for Parents

Century 21 and GEARUP put on a parent technology evening for parents and community members alike on January 28th. The evening started off with a dinner and then the parents broke into groups depending on their computer talents for more instruction. Patti Stracener taught the beginning computer class which had 19 students in attendance. The students learned the parts of the computer, and how to use a little of word along with a brief trip into the internet. Heather Ireland, Elementary Principal, taught the intermediate class which was also well attended and the students made and email address as well as toured the internet a little more. The advanced class was led by Wei Peterson, and they used google as well as google earth to finish off a fun evening. The event was attended by approximately fifty residents of our community and it was so well received that there will be continuing classes for the next few weeks.