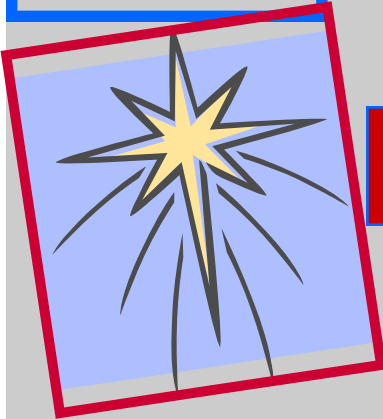


GEAR-UP 2008-2009  
8TH, 9TH & 10TH GRADE  
OMAK SCHOOLS



# OMAK GEAR-UP

COLLEGE, IT'S NOT JUST A DREAM, IT'S A PLAN!

*DECEMBER 2008*

## EXPANDING YOUR HORIZONS SPOKANE

On Saturday, October 25<sup>th</sup>, ten 9th and 10th grade girls from Omak attended the Expanding Your Horizons Conference held at Spokane Falls Community College. While there, students attended career exploration sessions led by volunteer facilitators while gaining a college campus experience.

According to Andrea Reyes, the Expanding Your Horizons Conference "was fun". Students reported that they enjoyed the sessions "Iron Chef", where students worked with staff from Cyrus O'Leary's to learn how to bake and each student had the opportunity to invent their own recipes and make a pie. "Cool Chemistry" was a popular class as a WSU professor and student chemists taught the girls how to mix their own potions to make nail polish. Students learned about electricity in "Lights, Power, Action" where they worked in groups to make lemon lights. All of the students were excited to take home their concoctions. With over 20 classes available, there was something for everyone. We had a blast. We plan on taking another group to the EYH conferences in Wenatchee in the Spring!



### Omak High School

Principal: John Belcher

Vice Principal: David Kirk

OHS: 509-826-5150

### Omak Middle School

Principal: Jim Saltness

Vice Principal: Joe LaGrou

OMS: 509-826-2320

### GEAR-UP

Site Director: Jessica Smith

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## COLLEGE KNOW HOW NIGHTS AT OHS

GEAR-UP works hard at providing a network of support comprised of colleges, schools, parents, businesses, and the community to empower student's success in college. GEAR-UP partnered with Tanya Peterson our career counselor in order to provide several College Know How Nights. One of the events was held during the PTS conferences. CWU college mentors answered questions of both students and parents about assessment tests, scholarships, college applications, and financial aid.

Another evening allowed us the fantastic opportunity to work with mentors from the College Success Foundation. They not only sat down with individual students to make goals and plans but they also met with senior parents and gave them valuable information as they lead their students toward post-secondary success. We encourage you to use the resources available from the career counseling office and GEAR-UP. We are here to provide students and parents with the support to empower college success. The next College Know How Night will be at the spring Parent Teacher Student Conferences March 5th and 6th. Don't miss out!



GEAR- UP WISHES YOU A VERY MERRY CHRISTMAS!!

## COMMUNITY SERVICE

GEAR-UP students have been working hard volunteering all around our community. They go once a month to Apple Springs, have helped out with the Autumn Leaf Run, supported Career Path services in their Thanksgiving feast. Janet T said "It is so much fun, what can we do next." Our next community service event will be for the Christmas Parade on December 6<sup>th</sup>. Please find out

about our events and sign up in the GEAR-UP room with Ms. Smith. The students just love helping out in our community and know that they will be able to take this experience with them wherever they go! "Never doubt that a small group of thoughtful committed citizens can change the world; indeed, it's the only thing that ever has." - Margaret Mead



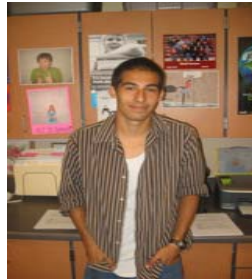
## NEWS FROM OUR HIGH SCHOOL TUTORS

By: Michelle Reynolds

I have learned that my responsibilities as a tutor is to be in good academic standing, to be self directed, use excellent communication and interpersonal skills and be interested in working with students that have diverse cultures' I need to set an example of personal excellence and high expectations for students to follow. I have been working with a student for a while and have been getting to know her better every day. She does not speak loudly and has a hard time pronouncing words. We have been reading simple books together and from the beginning of me working with her until now I have seen much progress. I am very proud of

By Brandon Black

I am a pretty stern tutor when it comes to staying on task and completing the work on time but I like to keep a relatively light atmosphere. By keeping a social relation I won't seem like an untouchable, intimidating tutor. I am sent to the library with 2 or 3 students and imposing authority is harder said than done, even with 7th graders. I wish these kids could understand the importance of education and utilizing it to the full advan-



tage, instead of fighting with the teacher about not wanting to study vocab. I grew out of it, I hope they will.

## DECEMBER EVENTS & MORE

### After School Tutoring

Tues. - Thurs: 3 - 4:30

G-UP also provides tutors in Emily Abrahamson's room in the H.S. and Kory Kincaid's room in the M.S.

Wherever you go we will be there to help you!

### ESL

Tues. & Thurs. 5:30 - 8:30

G-UP provides childcare

### Community Service

Apple Springs Retirement

December 15th

Monday's once a month

Sign up in GEAR-UP room

### Special Events

Homeboy Goes To Harvard

December 17th 2:00 - 3:00

10th Grade Cohort Event

Career Fair for 8th grade

Feb. 25th

Winter Break Dec. 22 - Jan

4th. Happy Holidays!!!!!!

### College Bound Field Trips

Shoreline Community College

Mechanics Program

Feb. 24th