



# GEAR UP

**The K20 Center is excited to welcome you as a new strategic partner. Through exploring this relationship, you'll see how K20 and GEAR UP work together to establish a college-going culture that leads to life-altering benefits for your students.**

In 2018, the K20 Center for Educational and Community Renewal competed and was awarded three separate Gaining Early Awareness and Readiness for Undergraduate Programs (GEAR-UP) grants sponsored by the U.S. Department of Education. There were 160 applications for GEAR UP funding, 60 grants were awarded, and K20 won 3 of them.

The GEAR UP OKC, GEAR UP for MY SUCCESS, and GEAR UP for the FUTURE grants will provide seven years of services and development to 46 partner schools all across the state of Oklahoma.

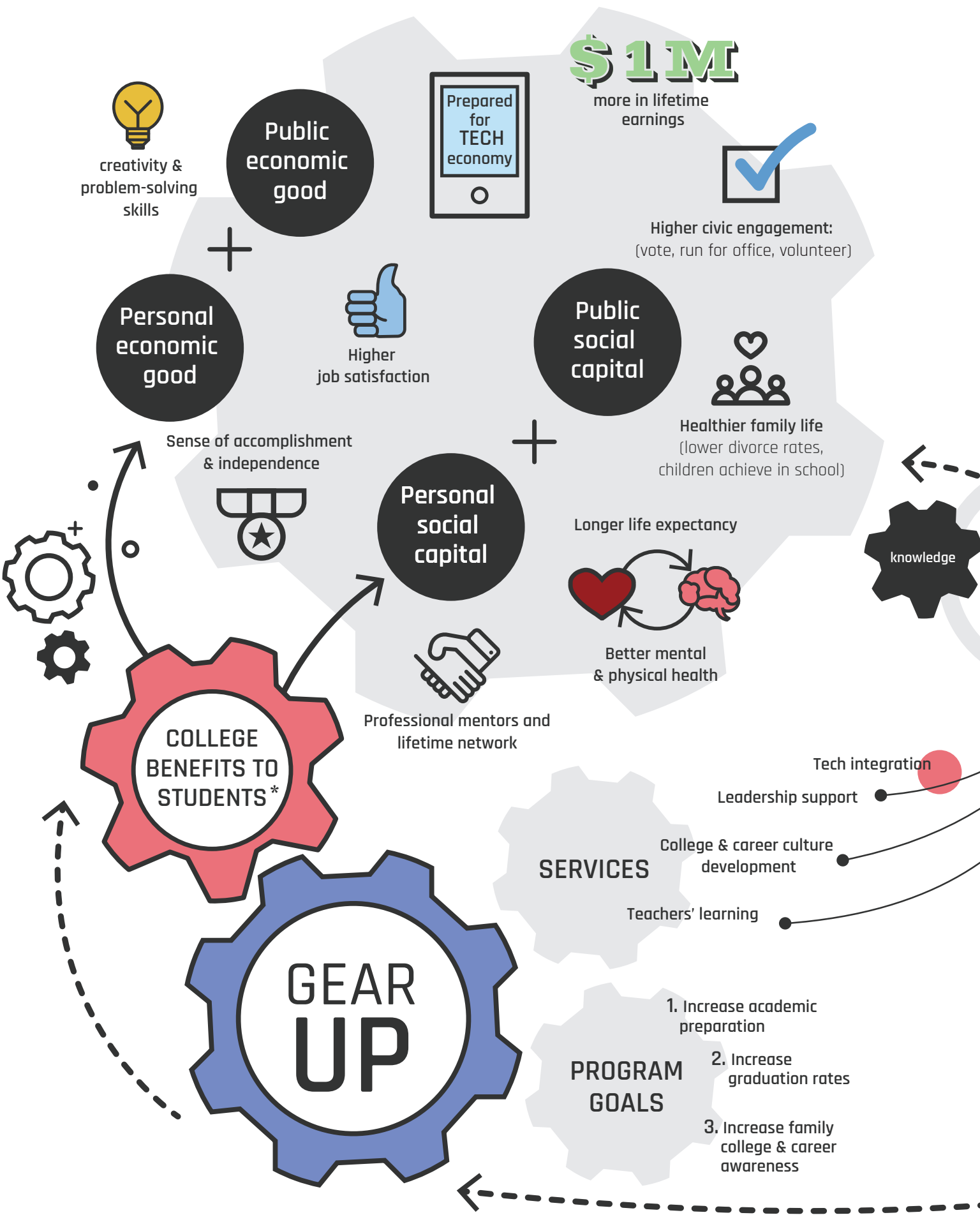
## **PARTNERSHIP OVERVIEW AGENDA**

- Engage – Snap, Clap, Pop
- Explore – I Notice, I Wonder & Jigsaw
- Explain – 3-2-1
- Extend – Cognitive Comics
- Evaluate – Rapid Feedback

## **OBJECTIVES**

- Identify characteristics and generate questions about K20 and its research-based professional development approaches.
- Identify characteristics and generate questions about goals, benefits and expectations of participation in the GEAR UP grant.
- Apply your understanding of the benefits of going to college to create an image depicting the impact going to college could have on an individual student that you know.





creativity & problem-solving skills

**Public economic good**

Prepared for **TECH** economy

**\$1M**  
more in lifetime earnings



Higher civic engagement:  
(vote, run for office, volunteer)

**Personal economic good**

Higher job satisfaction

**Public social capital**



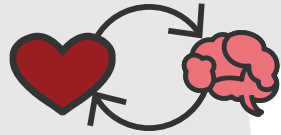
Healthier family life  
(lower divorce rates, children achieve in school)

Sense of accomplishment & independence



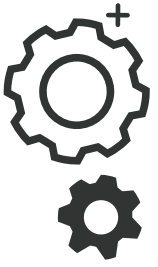
**Personal social capital**

Longer life expectancy



Better mental & physical health

Knowledge



**COLLEGE BENEFITS TO STUDENTS\***

Professional mentors and lifetime network

Tech integration

Leadership support

**SERVICES**

College & career culture development

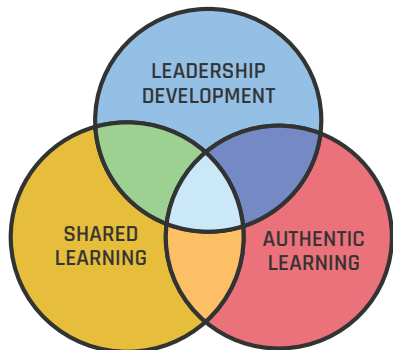
Teachers' learning

**GEAR UP**

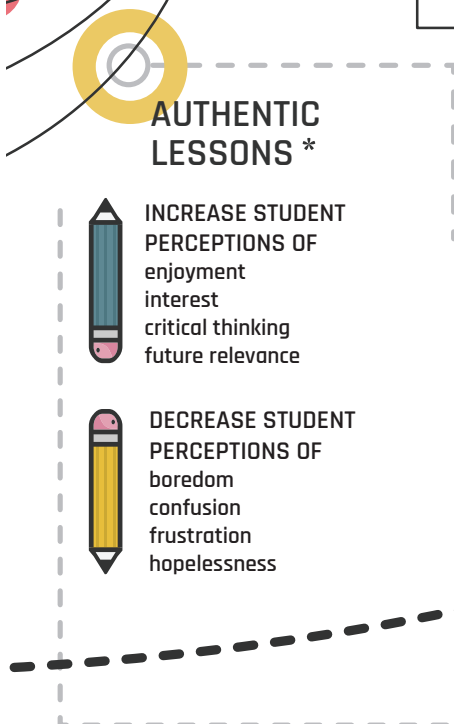
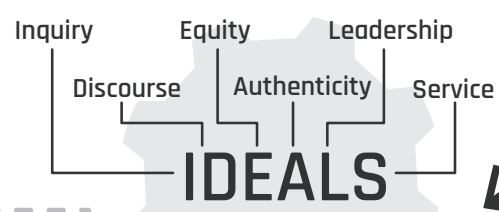
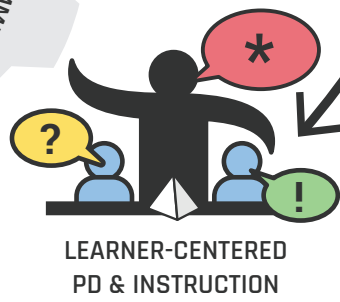
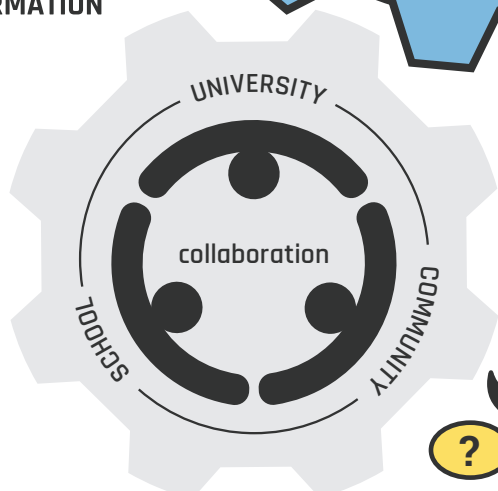
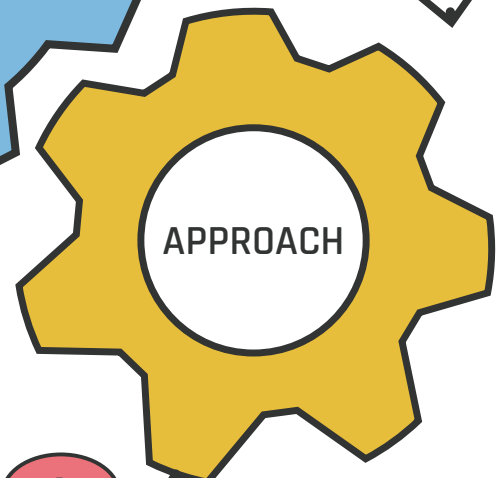
**PROGRAM GOALS**

1. Increase academic preparation
2. Increase graduation rates
3. Increase family college & career awareness

The K20 Center's **mission** is to cultivate a collaborative network engaged in research and outreach that creates and sustains innovation and transformation through...



**INNOVATION & TRANSFORMATION**



model resources  
[learn.k20center.ou.edu](http://learn.k20center.ou.edu)  
 strategies, lessons, activities



**Evaluation Expectations**  
 (Surveys, Student achievement data, Mini-research studies)

**\* References**

Hutton, H. (2017). Learn to articulate the value of college beyond dollar signs. *Recruiting & Retaining Adult Learners*, 19(7), 6-7.


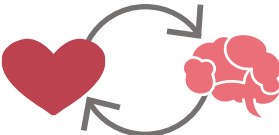

Stroukoff, A. E., Heddy, B. C., Wilson, S. N., Williams, L. A., Atkinson, L. K., & Garn, G. A. (submitted). Making 'brain food': Converting photosynthesis into a positive learning experience through authentic instruction, *Science Education*.

Jeter, G. R., Baber, J. E., Heddy, B., Wilson, S., Williams, L. Atkinson, L., Garn, G. (2018). Students at the Center: Insights and Implications of Authentic, 5E Instruction in High School English Language Arts. *Research in the Teaching of English*. Manuscript under review.



College can be a **LIFE-ALTERING EXPERIENCE** for students, and not only academically. Here are a few of the ways in which college can change your students' lives for the better:

## GEAR UP

- 1.** Earning a bachelor's degree will allow students to earn, on average, **\$1M** more than high school graduates over the course of their careers (Abel & Deitz, 2014).
- 2.** College offers students an opportunity to build relationships with mentors and peers that will benefit them throughout their careers (Campbell, Smith, Dugan, & Komives, 2012).
- 3.** College is a place where students can develop personally and grow into adulthood (Blumenkrantz & Goldstein, 2014). 
- 4.** College graduates tend to have more job satisfaction, jobs that offer a greater sense of accomplishment, more independence and opportunities for creativity, and more social interactions in their jobs than noncollege graduates (Oreopoulos & Petronijevic, 2013; Sutton, 2017).
- 5.** Graduating from college increases students' prospects for employment. Over the last 20 years, the unemployment rate for college graduates has been approximately half that of high school graduates (Bureau of Labor Statistics, 2018). 
- 6.** College helps students develop skills that prepare them for careers in the tech-driven economy, including abstract skills that aid in problem solving, multitasking, and creativity (Oreopoulos & Petronijevic, 2013).
- 7.** College can broaden students' understanding of the world and international perspectives (Sutton, 2017). 
- 8.** Getting involved as a college student can lead to greater civic involvement over a lifetime. College graduates are more likely to vote, run for political office, and volunteer in their communities (Brand, 2010; Sutton, 2017; Ishitani & McKitrick, 2013).
- 9.**  College graduates experience health benefits, including longer life expectancy, lower obesity, lower likelihood to smoke, and lower instances of mental illness (Baum et al. 2013; Oreopoulos & Petronijevic, 2013).
- 10.** College graduates tend to experience family benefits, including lower likelihood of divorce and children who are more successful in school (Oreopoulos & Petronijevic, 2013). 

# GEAR UP $O+K=C$

(Opportunities + Knowledge = College)

2019-2025

## Project Design

GEAR UP OKC builds on a systemic change model by serving an cohort of **3339 students** in **12 high-poverty schools** to better prepare these schools to serve high-need, urban students. To do so, GEAR UP OKC will:

<b>GOAL 1:</b>	Increase percent of cohort students who report they are engaged in learning.
<b>GOAL 2:</b>	Increase GEAR UP OKC students' academic preparation for PSE upon graduation from participating schools.
<b>GOAL 3:</b>	Increase GEAR UP OKC schools' high school graduation and PSE enrollment rates.
<b>GOAL 4:</b>	Increase GEAR UP OKC students' and their families' knowledge of PSE options, preparation, and financing.

Using a three-tiered approach, GEAR UP OKC will work with schools to research, plan, and implement a college and career readiness (CCR) framework that focuses on engaging students with rigorous, relevant instruction; expanding academic supports; increasing student access to adult advocates; and growing the college-going culture.

## Services

### Student Engagement Dashboard

In the first tier, GEAR UP OKC will develop the Student Engagement Dashboard, which will provide stakeholders with diagnostic information regarding student engagement around behavioral and psychological constructs.

### Targeted Student Interventions

The second tier, using the data streams realized in the diagnostic tier, will provide meaningful targeted interventions. Research-validated strategies will be adapted and implemented at the school level, ensuring that interventions are backed by evidence and customized to meet the needs of each school.

### Site-Based Action Plans

GEAR UP OKC schools and project staff will work together to create site-based action plans. The six-stage action plan-building process includes data analysis, defining research, setting goals, determining activities and resources, indicating outputs, and defining intermediate and long-term outcomes.

### Career Readiness

Through three career-related initiatives, GEAR UP OKC students will be introduced to new careers to which they might not otherwise have access.

- *Oklahoma Works' Career Expo Week*
- *Career Cafés*
- *College2Career Forums*

### College-going Culture

A college-going culture is one in which all students are preparing for education beyond high school.

- *College Teams*
- *Campus Visits*
- *Dual Enrollment*

### Schoolwide Intervention—Authentic Teaching and Learning

Authentic learning is active and student-centered and occurs as students access prior knowledge and understanding to connect with foundational concepts (Bransford et al., 2000). In authentic classrooms, teachers foster a climate of questioning, risk-taking, and respect.

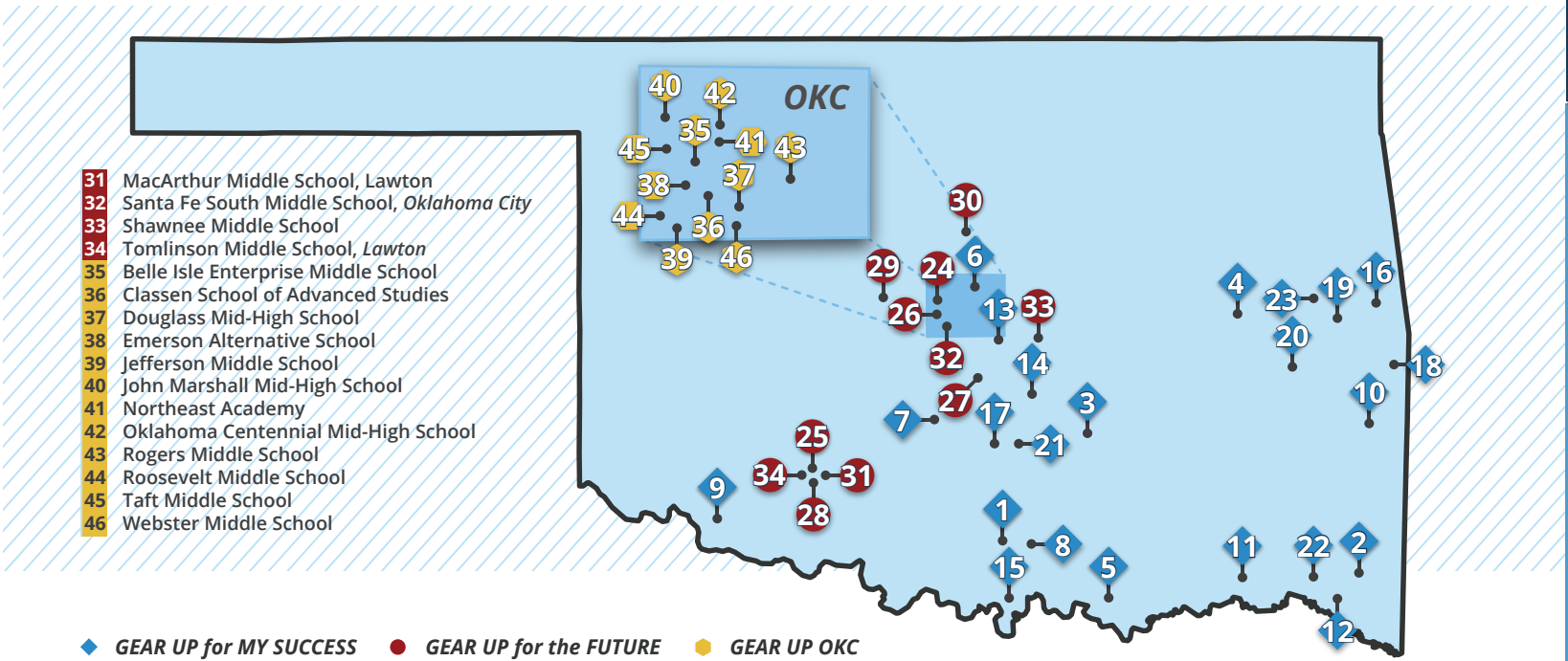
- *LEARN*
- *Action Research in Authenticity (ARA)*

# Map of Current Cohort Schools

- 1 Ardmore Middle School
- 2 Rector Johnson Junior High, *Broken Bow*
- 3 Byng Middle School
- 4 Checotah Middle School
- 5 Colbert Middle School
- 6 Crooked Oak Middle School, *Oklahoma City*
- 7 Dibble Middle School
- 8 Dickson Middle School
- 9 Frederick Middle School
- 10 Heavener Elementary School

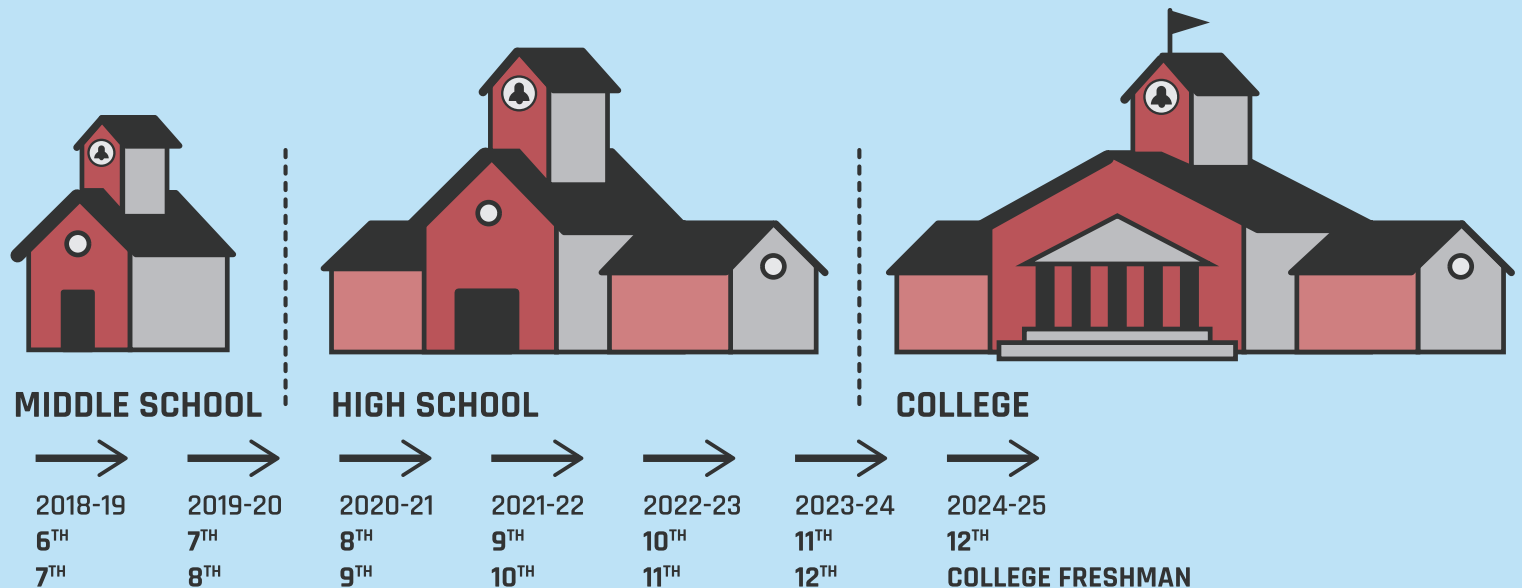
- 11 Hugo Middle School
- 12 Idabel Middle School
- 13 Little Axe Junior High
- 14 Macomb Elementary School
- 15 Marietta Middle School
- 16 Muldrow Middle School
- 17 Pauls Valley Junior High
- 18 Pocola Middle School
- 19 Tommie Spear Middle School, *Sallisaw*
- 20 Stigler Middle School

- 21 Stratford Middle School
- 22 Valliant Middle School
- 23 Vian Middle School
- 24 Capps Middle School, *Putnam City*
- 25 Central Middle School, *Lawton*
- 26 Cooper Middle School, *Putnam City*
- 27 Curtis Inge Middle School, *Noble*
- 28 Eisenhower Middle School, *Lawton*
- 29 Etta Dale Junior High, *El Reno*
- 30 Guthrie Junior High



## The GEAR UP Model

- Raises academic aspirations of the entire cohort
- Supports the cohort long-term (6th or 7th grade through first year of college)
- Provides sustainable resources that remain with the grade level even after the cohort moves forward





## What is GEAR UP?

Gaining Early Awareness and Readiness for Undergraduate Programs (GEAR UP) is a federal grant provided by the U.S. Department of Education to help students prepare for and pursue a college education. The K20 Center has already worked with many schools, both urban and rural, across the state in past GEAR UP efforts. The power of a GEAR UP project is that it transforms a high-poverty school community into a college-going culture.

2007-2014

## SUCCESS

Over the course of a six year grant, K20's GEAR UP for SUCCESS provided college readiness services to...

**3,549**



cohort students from 32 districts living in mostly rural, ethnically diverse, poverty stricken areas of Oklahoma.

Hours of teacher, student, and family participation in college preparation programs totaled **186,929**.

2011-2018

## PROMISE

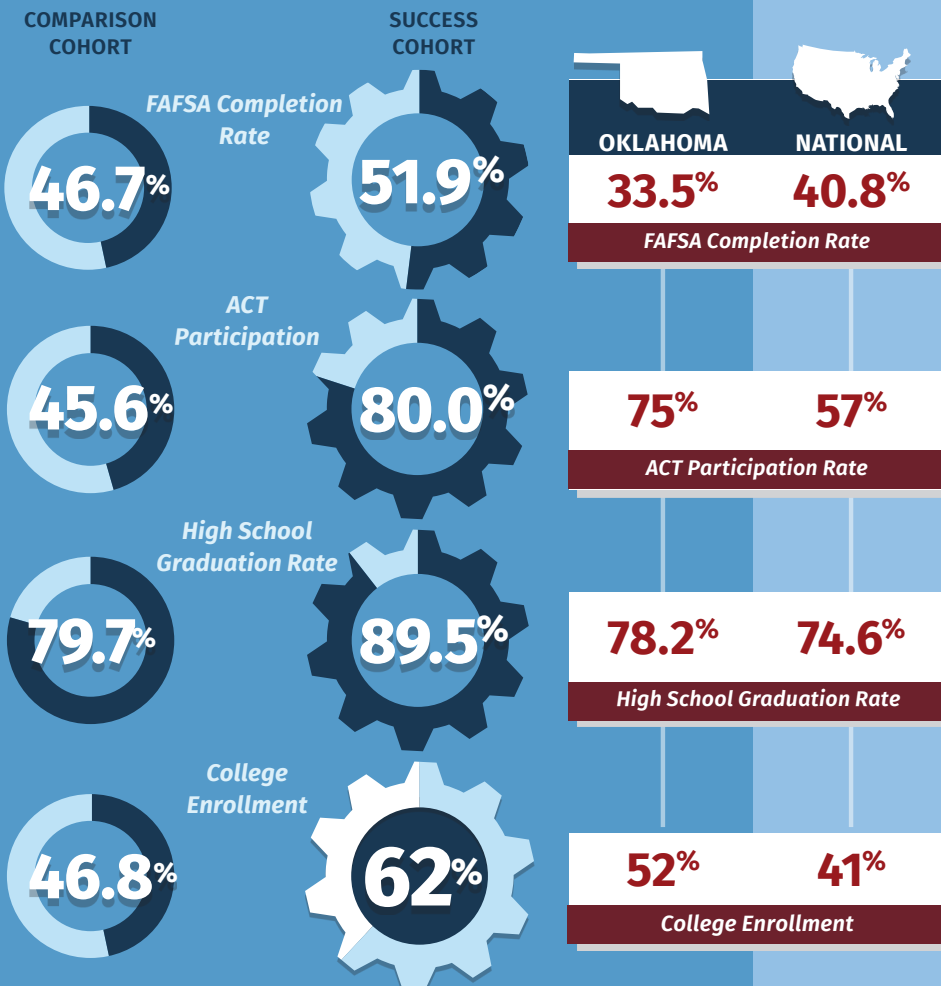
In its fifth of seven years, K20's GEAR UP for the PROMISE has been providing college readiness services to...

**4,337**



cohort students from 9 high schools living in urban, ethnically diverse, poverty stricken areas of the Oklahoma City Metro.

Hours of teacher, student, and family participation in college preparation programs so far totals **100,166**.



SINCE GEAR UP FOR THE PROMISE BEGAN IN 2011, COHORT STUDENTS HAVE MADE:

An increase in awareness about the cost and benefits of going to college

**29%** ↑  
INCREASE

An increase in awareness of Financial Aid availability

**54%** ↑  
INCREASE

An increase in awareness of college entrance requirements

**51%** ↑  
INCREASE

Cohort Students that believe they can succeed in college

**93%**

## INSTRUCTIONAL STRATEGY NOTE SHEET

Strategy	How Was It Used?	How Will I Use This?
Snap, Clap, Pop		
I Notice, I Wonder		
3-2-1		
Jigsaw		
Cognitive Comics		

*K20 Center. (n.d.). Instructional Strategies. Retrieved from <https://learn.k20center.ou.edu/strategy/find.html>*

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**The K20 Center for Educational and Community Renewal** is a statewide education research and development center at the University of Oklahoma that promotes research-based innovative learning through school-university-community collaboration.

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