

Building Multi- Institutional Partnerships for College Access and Readiness

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Who is in the room?

- What is your stakeholder role?
- Have you engaged in a partnership with K-12/higher ed?
- How long have you engaged in a partnership working for college access/readiness?



Maryland GEAR UP

- State partnership between Maryland State Department of Education (MSDE), Maryland Higher Education Commission (MHEC), and Maryland Business Roundtable for Education (MBRT)
- The U.S. Department of Education federally funded \$13.2 million GEAR UP grant. The Maryland GEAR UP grant is a six-year grant, lasting 2014 through 2020.
- Serves current high school juniors (class of 2020) in (3) Local Education Agencies (LEA): Baltimore City, Dorchester County, Wicomico County.



College Preparation Intervention Program (CPIP)

- CPIP is an early intervention state grant program that fosters collaboration between Maryland's high need local education agencies (LEA) and its higher education institutions to raise the level of academic preparedness of low-income students.
 - ***CPIP is a state match to the GEAR UP grant.***
- Sub-award to Higher education institutions that form partnerships with LEA - Baltimore City, Dorchester and Wicomico Counties through a *cooperative agreement*.
 - Additional LEAs, community organizations, and businesses are encouraged partnerships.

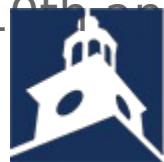


CPIP & GEAR UP Activities

- CPIP Activities/direct service include, but are not limited to:
 - Summer programming;
 - Academic tutoring (embedded and/or after school);
 - In-school workshops;
 - Academic planning/career advising;
 - Financial
 - aid/counseling;
 - Comprehensive mentoring; and
 - College visits/educational field trips.
- GEAR UP funding is used to support students with leadership skills, career exploration, and employability skills for success after graduation. Activities include but are not limited to:
 - Soft skills workshops (communication, collaboration and teamwork, self-advocacy);
 - Experiential learning;
 - Workplace readiness training and youth employment; and
 - Self discovery workshops and career exploration.
- GEAR UP funds are also used to provide scholarships to low-income students upon high school graduation.

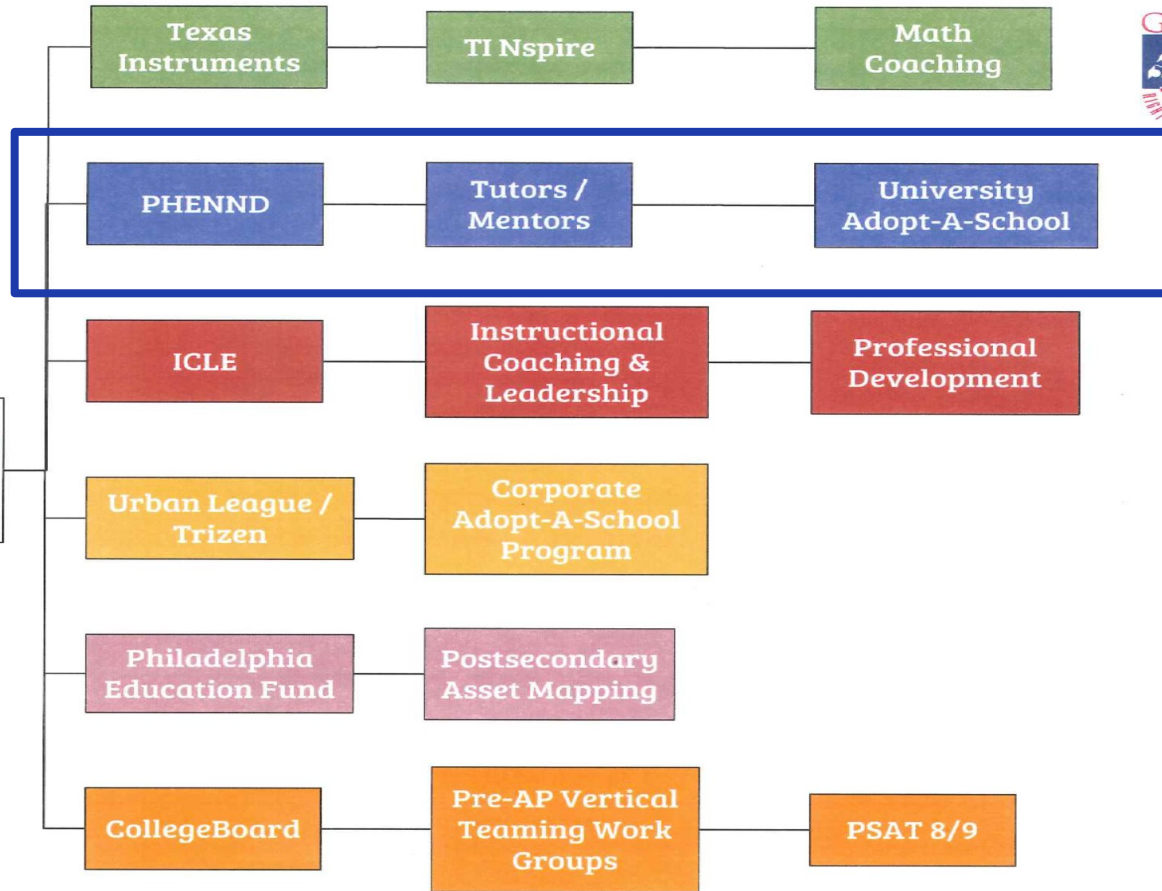
GEAR UP in Philadelphia

- Partnership Grant to the School District of Philadelphia,
- **College & Career Readiness Collaborative Communities Model** (CRRC) is a capacity-building initiative, designed to have an impact on students and schools that lasts well beyond the end of federal funding, with a heavy emphasis on facilitating partnership contribution and building a collaborative structure at the school level.
- Follows a cohort of students from 6th/7th grades and currently serves 10th and 11th graders in 12 high schools.



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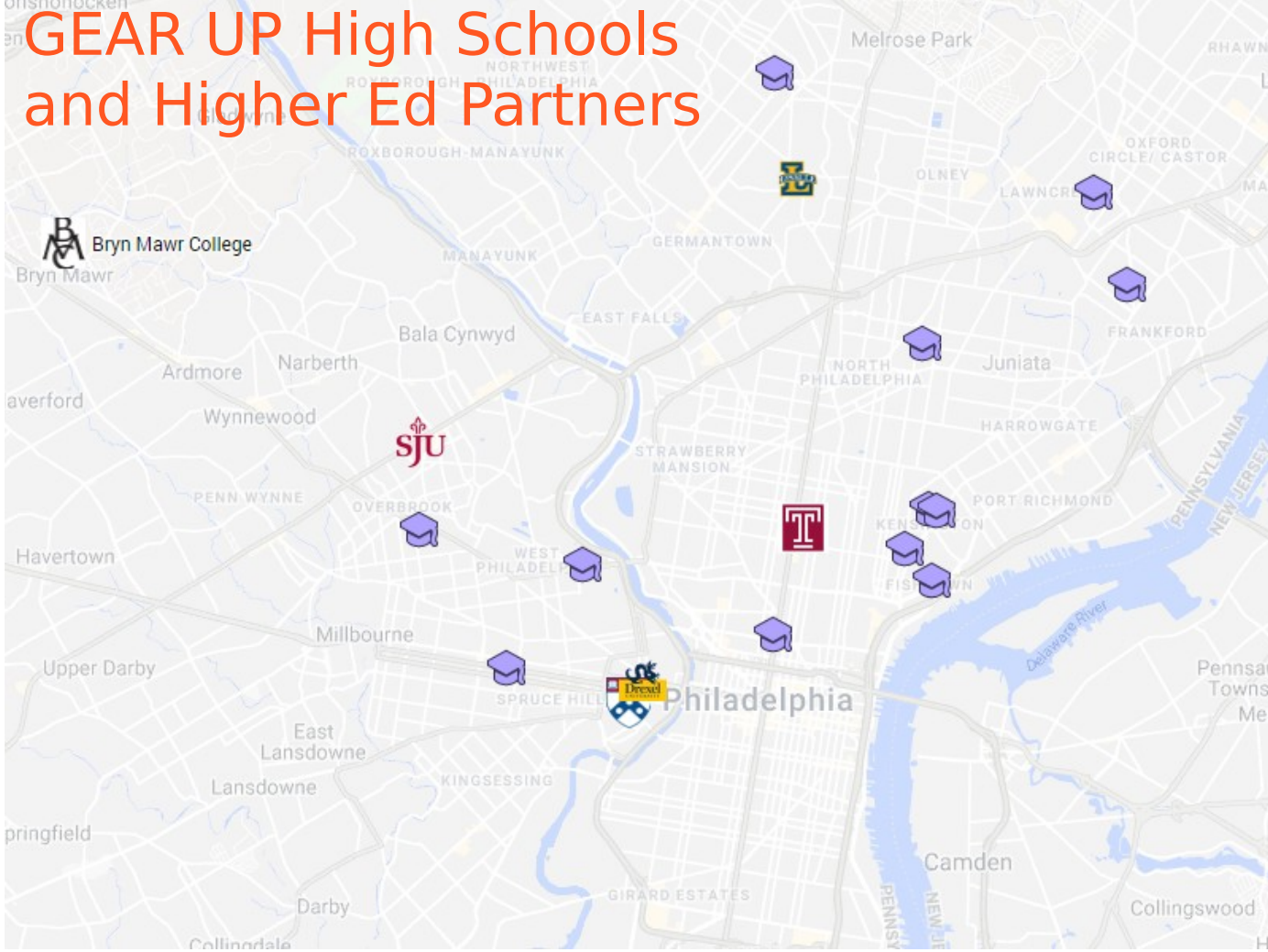
Philadelphia Higher Education Network for Neighborhood Development

- Based at the University of Pennsylvania
- Network of over 30 colleges and universities that strengthens service-learning, civic engagement, and community partnership in Philadelphia, connecting academics with community involvement.
- K-16 Partners Network supports university/K12 partnerships














PHENND K-16

GEAR UP High Schools and Higher Ed Partners



-  Saint Joseph's University
-  Bryn Mawr College
-  University of Pennsylvania
-  Drexel University
-  Temple University
-  La Salle University

-  Overbrook High School
-  West Philadelphia High School
-  High School of the Future
-  Benjamin Franklin High School
-  Penn Treaty School
-  Kensington High School for t...
-  Kensington Health Sciences ...
-  Kensington High School
-  Thomas Alva Edison High Sc...
-  Frankford High School
-  Martin Luther King High Sch...
- Samuel Fels High School

Common Successes: Needs/Strengths based approach

PHENND GEAR UP Example: *Addressing the needs of each school and playing to the strengths of each higher ed partner.*

- **West Philadelphia High School** - emphasized academic support after school because of existing presence of programming through the Netter Center for Community Partnerships
- **Overbrook High School** - built relationships with Biology teacher based on partnerships with SJU Dept. of Biology.



Dr. Brian Forster (SJU) works with students at Overbrook on using a microscope with a camera.

Common Successes: Sustainability and Equity

Maryland GEAR UP example:

Providing direct service, collaborative design, and implementation from LEA districts and higher education institutions to expand the following opportunities for GEAR UP students:

- **Baltimore City** - Able to receive support services from multiple surrounding institutions to raise the academic performance in math and english, and provide routine support to students who are at-risk or below grade level.
- **Dorchester County** - Cooperative agreement was a resource and reference utilized during change of leadership, and students remained engaged with current programs and services.
- **Wicomico County** - Uses state and federal funds to maximize opportunities available for students, and actively engaged in special initiatives such the US Naval Academy visit and out-of-state college tours.



GEAR UP students from Wicomico County's JROTC tour the United States Naval Academy in Annapolis, Maryland.

Common Successes: Sustainability and Equity

PHENND GEAR UP Example: *Embedding the relationships in multiple touch points on campus.*

- **Partnership Adopt-a-School Plan** and Qualtrics monthly report.
- **La Salle University** - worked with Education Field Placement Coordinator to prioritize all secondary ed field placements to GEAR UP partner schools
- **Temple University** - worked with Geology Dept. for campus field trips.
- **University of Pennsylvania** - working with student groups to build leadership and align goals with current programming.



GEAR UP students work with Temple University Geology majors to classify different types of rocks during a field trip.

Program Implementation: Cooperative Agreements and Program Advisory

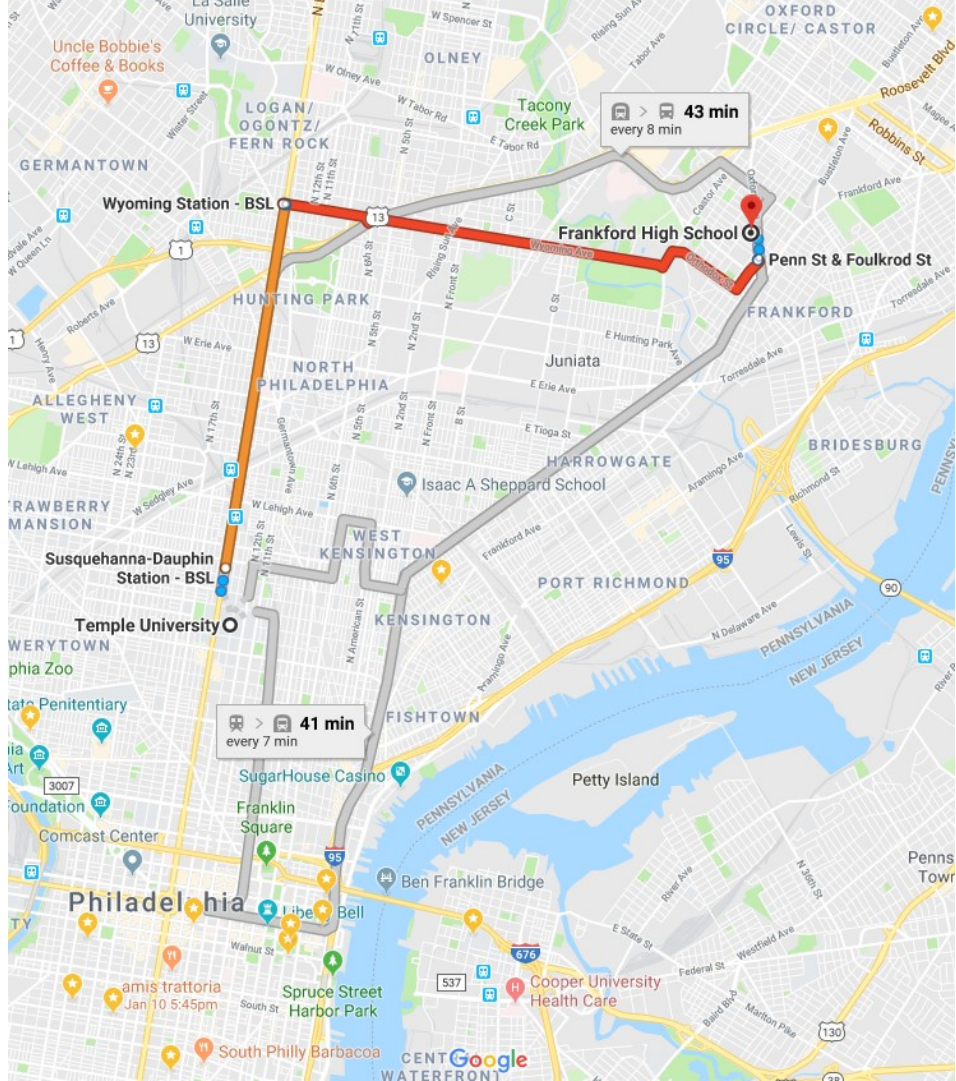
Project Directors and LEA District GEAR UP Coordinators work collaboratively to select the funded activities, and design the details of the grant proposal through a Cooperative Agreement.

- The Project Director must sign and retrieve signatures from the following partners by the grant application submission deadline:
 - LEA GEAR UP High School Principal (at each school served)
 - Authorized School District Superintendent/CEO
 - **Additional LEAs, community organizations, and businesses are encouraged partnerships.**
- **Key personnel** are responsible for *planning and implementing* the project such as secondary and postsecondary faculty, educators and administrators, school counselors and admissions officers, and others as appropriate.
- **Program Advisory Committees or Board of Directors** are responsible for steering the project to meet project goals. Members of labor organizations and the business community, representatives from economic and workforce development, and other stakeholders as deemed appropriate should be included.
 - For example: Department Chairs, Education Consultants, Curriculum Developers.

Common Implementation Challenge: Geography

PHENND GEAR UP Example:
Transportation

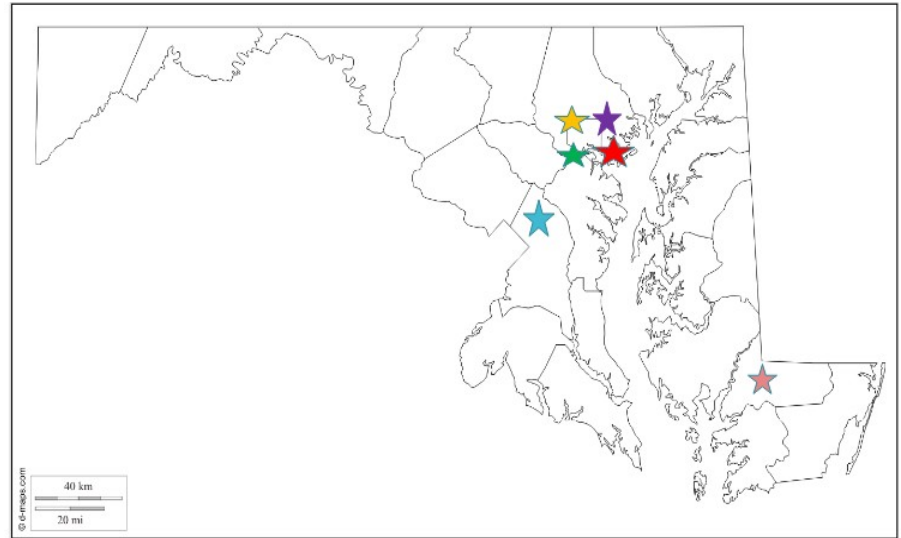
More GEAR UP Coaches serve at Ben Franklin HS than Frankford HS because of public transportation.



Maryland Geography

Maryland GEAR UP FY 2018 Higher Education Grantees

More higher education institutions are on the western/more urban part of the state, where as 2 of 3 GEAR UP districts are on the eastern shore. This makes partnership a challenge and location limits the amount of direct services students may receive.



- Community College of Baltimore County
- Johns Hopkins University
- Morgan State University
- Salisbury University
- University of Maryland, Baltimore School of Nursing
- University of Maryland, College Park

Other Challenges

- Limited number of LEA results in limited number of higher education partnerships.
- Low family engagement and Saturday workshop attendance.
- Student mobility and tracking.
- Financial constraints and priority.
- Change in school/district leadership.
- Multiple institutions serving same school site.*
- Limited neighboring higher education institutions on the eastern shore, resulting in lack of postsecondary awareness and/or interest.

*Note: Many institutions serving the same school result may result in mixed messages and information overload to certain student

Breakout groups

Group One: Equity with a Needs-Based Approach

Group Two: Program Implementation, Partnerships, and Advisory

Group Three: Sustainability

- **Briefly** Introduce yourself: Organization/Role
- Read through the case study
- Use the breakout sheets to address the case study through your group lens



Case Study: East Jefferson High School

East Jefferson High School (EJHS) is a public **vocational-technical school** located in Wilmington, Delaware that prepares students to work in various jobs such as a trade, a craft, or as a technician. Courses are offered in Business, Computing and Information Technology, Construction, Cosmetology, and Health and Human Services.

According to the data, EJHS has a population of approximately 1000 students, with 300 juniors in the class of 2020. 100% of the student population identified as students of color, with the largest percentage (98%) coming from the African-American population.

- **Attendance rate is low and the student mobility** rate is higher for female students as opposed to male students.
- **Female students with disabilities** are more likely to be transitory compared to regular education female students.
- 78.4% of female students with disabilities receive **Free and Reduced Meals**.
- Percent of students who met expectations for PARCC Geometry: <5%
- Percent of students who met expectations for PARCC English 10: 7.1%
- Mean Composite SAT score: 950

Breakout Session

- **Group One: Equity with a Needs Based Approach**
 - Location/Geography: What opportunities are available for partnerships and stakeholder involvement?
 - How will you determine what services to provide and how will you ensure services speak to the needs of your student population? (consider student attendance)
 - Student Achievement and Accountability: Is this attainable for all students?
 - Opportunities for underserved students/overcoming disparities
- **Group Two: Program Implementation, Partnerships, and Advisory**
 - Recruitment: Who is your student population and how will you recruit these students?
 - Plan of Operation and Cooperative Agreements: What party is responsible for what component of the program?
 - Leadership team: Who is responsible for monitoring the relationship regularly, both at the leadership and coordination levels?
 - Clear messaging: Now that more parties are involved, how will the same message be clearly displayed to the students?
 - Program outcomes and objectives: What are some SMART Goals and Objectives for your program?.
- **Group Three: Sustainability**
 - How will ongoing partnerships be sustained?
 - What role can program evaluation play?
 - What staff support will be needed and how will this be sustained?
 - What is the broader impact on community development?

Debrief

- Partnerships often offer capabilities and resources, and have the ability to fill gaps, bring new data insights, as well as outside perspectives.
- A student's ability to build a higher education network can be the make-or-break determinant in a student's enrollment decision. Focusing on employer/business partnerships can become a game-change in the differentiation.
- Partnerships most certainly play a positive part in strengthening the institution's role in the community.

Resources

● Equity

- [Step Up and Lead for Equity: What Higher Education Can Do to Reverse our Deepening Divides](#)
, American Association of Colleges and Universities

● Sustainability

- [Program Sustainability Assessment Tool](#)

● Collaboration/Communication

- [Monthly Partnership Survey Example](#)
- [Volunteer Feedback Form](#)
- [Give Pulse -- Data Collection and Tracking](#)

● Program Implementation

- Assessing Needs and Setting Goals
 - [Taking Strategic Action Worksheets](#)
- Developing and Managing Effective Partnerships
 - [Building Effective School-Based Partnerships Toolkit](#)
- Volunteer Training and Support
 - [College Positive Volunteerism Toolkit](#)

Thank You!

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