Wichita State University partnered with Wichita Public Schools to host “Together We Rise,” a conference in celebration of National GEAR UP Day. Nearly 2,000 middle school students attended the conference, which featured 90 sessions for students and parents to attend.

McNair and Student Support Services Alum Samanta Souriya was honored as a semi-finalist for the Teacher of the Year Award from the Kansas Department of Education in 2015. Souriya is an ESOL teacher at Jardine Middle School.

USD 259 students who participate in Upward Bound Programs have the opportunity to participate in summer enrichment and college preparatory activities. Pictured above, Charlie Jenkins, a retired USD 259 teacher, helped 15 UBWP student earn 7.5 high school Government credits during the Summer 2015 Program/USD 259 Summer school session.

Precollege programs at Wichita State assist students with college and career exploration. Pictured above, Greg “The Himman” Williams explains the process of creating a radio show to Communication Upward Bound students.

Over 100 students participate in the District-Wide ACT Preparation Workshop designed to prepare students for the ACT; Talent Search, WSU Counseling and Testing Center, and USD 259 collaborate each spring to host the event held at WSU.

WSU Precollege programs sponsored 30 college campus visits in 2014-2015

Brad Webster, VUB Program Specialist, taught in the Wichita Public Schools from 1998 through 2013. He taught leadership (JROTC) at Curtis, Wilbur, and Truesdell middle schools. He also taught US and World History at Metro Mid-town Alternative High School. Webster serves as a Soldier in the Kansas Army National Guard.

The Homework Assistance Program (HAP) serves students from all TRIO/GEAR UP programs. USD 259 staff serve as tutors and mentors. These individuals work diligently with students to provide guided curriculum practices and help with homework assignments. Steve Thoron, Stucky Middle School, is pictured above assisting a student during a HAP tutoring session.

USD 259 instructors teach for several of the TRIO summer programs. Pictured above, North High Math Teacher Becky Marín leads a study session during the Upward Bound Math Science summer program.

USD 259 teachers contribute their skills to TRIO/GEAR UP programs

USD 259 students with TRIO/GEAR UP Alaska attended the conference, which featured 90 sessions for students and parents to attend.

Student Support Services alum Lupe Claudio participated in the first USD 259 Grow Your Own Teacher scholarship project. This scholarship was designed to get more minority teachers in our public schools. Lupe taught kindergarten at Cloud Elementary for several years.

Academic Development

CAREER EXPLORATION

NOTABLE TRIO/GEAR UP ALUMNI IN USD259

USD 259 TEACHERS CONTRIBUTE THEIR SKILLS TO TRIO/GEAR UP PROGRAMS

SUMMER ENRICHMENT

COLLEGE VISITS

ACT PREPARATION

Precollege programs served over 5,000 middle and high school students in 2014-2015

WSU Precollege programs

Academic Development