

Toughen up your classes for college

You're in the seventh grade. What can you do to start preparing for college? Take challenging courses! Here are five good reasons why you should take more difficult classes:

1. Colleges look at the high school courses you've taken and want to see that you weren't coasting through.
2. Tough courses give you the knowledge and skills you need to do college work.
3. Students who take challenging courses score higher on the ACT. (And a higher ACT score means a higher chance to succeed in college and more KEES money.)*
4. You'll be less likely to need remedial courses in college, and you may be able to finish college sooner.
5. You'll have more options for college and a career.

Source: ACT News You Can Use, January

* For more information on the Kentucky Educational Excellence Scholarship (KEES), visit the following KHEAA website: <http://www.kheaa.com/website/kheaa/kees?main=1>.



7th-Graders
GEAR UP!

You are never given a wish without also being given the power to make it come true.
— Richard Bach

College info hits the road

Has the College Info Road Show (mobile classroom) been to your school yet? Sessions held onboard are designed to provide an overview of student financial aid programs and services. Visitors are given the opportunity to create an account on GoHigherKY.org and can access helpful online resources for career assessments, scholarship searchers, KHEAA account information and more.

The mobile classroom visits middle schools, high schools, adult education centers, public libraries and other sites. Equipped with satellite Internet access, laptop computers, a projection unit and screen, and an instructor's podium, the Road Show uses state-of-the-art technology to connect students with the information they need to research, pursue and succeed in their educational future beyond high school.

Metcalfe Middle School debuts Gear Up

Metcalfe County Middle School (MCMS) has a mission of "Making Children More Successful." Consistent with GEAR UP Kentucky's goal to help students prepare and plan for college, Principal Allen Trotter and the MCMS administration, faculty and staff work to empower all students for future achievement.

Metcalfe County Middle School students participated in a GEAR UP Kentucky orientation designed to introduce new students to the GEAR UP program, its activities and benefits. Mike Mills, one of the GEAR UP Site Coordinators for the Elizabethtown Community and Technical College host institution, led the discussion.



GEAR UP Site Coordinator Mike Mills leads Metcalfe County Middle School's seventh-grade orientation.

Do you remember your GEAR UP Orientation? How has GEAR UP changed your view of college and/or life after high school since then? Want to tell us about it? See the back page on how to submit your own GEAR UP article for publication.

Find out more. Visit GoHigherKY.org/GearUp/
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