



**GEAR UP** SOUTHERN  
WEST VIRGINIA  
CONCORD • NEW RIVER CTC

## News Release

### For Immediate Release

Sept. 28, 2023

What: National GEAR UP for College Week

### Contact

Jessica Lilly

304-384-5981 or 267-684-5427

[jgearup@concord.edu](mailto:jgearup@concord.edu)

[www.concord.edu/gearup](http://www.concord.edu/gearup)

### **W.Va. Governor Jim Justice Proclaims Sept. 25-29, 2023 as *National GEAR UP for College Week* to Honor GEAR UP Southern West Virginia's Work**

**Athens, W.Va.** - Governor Jim Justice has proclaimed this week as *National GEAR UP for College Week*. The is to support the work of GEAR UP Southern West Virginia (GEAR UP SWV). The program helps students graduate from high school and succeed in postsecondary education.

Students, teachers, and other members of the GEAR UP family are hosting events to celebrate education across the country. GEAR UP SWV has hosted activities for students in Wyoming, Mercer and Summers Counties already called, What's up with GEAR UP Southern West Virginia. The students are learning about careers in agriculture and plant science and even get to take home a succulent plant.

The What's up, GEAR UP Southern West Virginia Regional Tour continues next week. On Tuesday, October 3 the team will be in Monroe County and on Wednesday, Oct. 4 students, and parents are encouraged to attend at the Erma Byrd Center.

GEAR UP stands for Gaining Early Awareness and Readiness for Undergraduate Programs and is part of a national grant program funded through the U.S. Department of Education. GEAR UP SWV works with two grade levels, currently 7th and 8th graders, in Mercer, Monroe, Summers, Raleigh, and Wyoming Counties to ensure high school graduation. The program also informs students and families of ways to succeed in a postsecondary education and ways to help fund it. GEAR UP SWV supports teachers, administrators, students, and families on this educational journey.

GEAR UP SWV; securing a legacy of strength and resilience in Appalachia. Find more information on GEAR UP SWV social media pages and on our website, [conord.edu/gearup](http://conord.edu/gearup).

**-GUSWV-**