

Subgrantee: Nevada System of Higher Education

Name of School: Western Nevada College

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Western Nevada College Ambassador GEAR UP Abstract 2012-2013

Western Nevada College is uniquely positioned to offer an exceptionally effective program that will increase the rate at which middle school students enter and successfully graduate from high school and enter a post-secondary institution in Nevada. The GEAR UP Ambassador position & program will coordinate with Silver Stage and Yerington, Mineral County, Schurz and Pershing County schools to deliver our *Highway to Higher Ed* program to the new GEAR UP cohort. This program will create a foundation for students to begin to explore career options and develop college readiness skills. This position will serve as the point of contact for GEAR UP the middle and high school personnel, students and their families.

The combination of career exploration and college readiness activities will empower the students to visualize a realistic vision of their futures, to make the independent decision to dedicate themselves to the pursuit of their education and career goals, and give them the tools to succeed. For these reasons, we have named this program the *Highway to Higher Ed*.