Students at Mount Logan Middle School participate in 'college week'

Kelly Cannon   Nov 8, 2013

Teachers at Mount Logan Middle School are getting students excited about going to college by sharing information about their own former universities. The college week is the result of a Utah State University Stars GEAR UP grant aimed at getting kids thinking about college at a young age.

“We're really trying to push teaching these kids about college so they start setting goals and know they can achieve anything if they start right now,” said Kris Monson, director of the GEAR UP program at Mount Logan Middle School.

The entire week was dedicated to informing students about different colleges and universities they could attend after high school.

“We started out Monday. The teachers all wore their T-shirts or sweatshirts from their alma mater,” Monson said. “They talked to the kids about their college and why they attended college.”

On Tuesday, students took part in a scavenger hunt. Clues were hidden around the school with questions such as “What is the minimum required high school GPA to get into USU?”

On Wednesday, Big Blue, the USU Aggies mascot, and a group of USU cheerleaders came and ate lunch with the students.

The highlight of the week was a room-decorating contest in which teachers decorated their classrooms with paraphernalia from their alma maters.

“I have 15 teachers who are participating. I've got people from Utah State coming down, and they'll look and judge, and whoever wins the best-decorated room gets a half day off with a sub. And the principal is going to be the sub,” Monson said. Represented universities included Virginia Tech, Western Michigan, Lewis Clark College, Florida State and nearly all of the universities in Utah.
Monson said the students have really enjoyed participating in the different activities and learning about the different colleges available to them.

“They've really gotten into it. Some of the kids have worked with the teachers to help decorate the rooms, and it's been really great,” Monson said. “I know a lot of the teachers have really talked to these kids about going to college and how they can get a scholarship.”