



First Quarter Program Highlights

Annual Vaccine Clinic Returns

A great opportunity for Healthcare Pathway students to learn about careers in the healthcare field was the annual Flu and COVID Vaccine Clinic held at GAP School in October.

The students helped direct people to the gym, translate information, sat with nervous students, promoted getting vaccinated at school, and timed community members getting the Covid shot after they received it to make sure they didn't have any bad reactions.

Free vaccines were available to students, staff, and the community! The vaccine clinic is made possible by a partnership with the MN Department of Health and is hosted by the Alianza and GAP School Social Work teams..



Two of our Healthcare Pathway students with Healthcare Pathway Manager, Erika Ryan's, two sons (who received vaccines)!

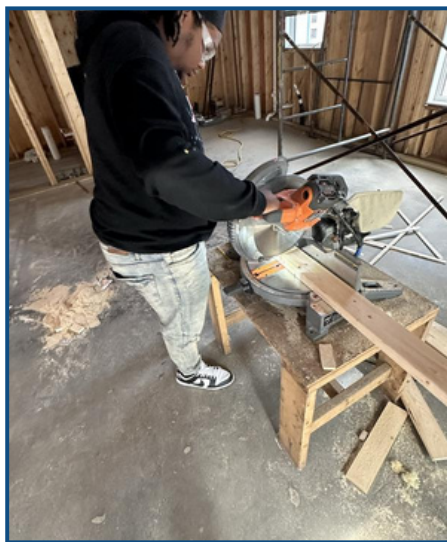
OSHA Training

A group of students in the Construction Pathway received Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA) training this month. Pedro Lopez, Regional Safety Director from Ryan Companies, provided the 10-hour training. Students learned basic safety and health information for entry level workers.



Page Street House Construction Updates

Construction Pathway students have been making good use of the warm fall weather to make progress on the second Page Street house. All of the windows, which were generously donated by Andersen Windows, have officially been installed! Students have now moved inside to work on the remaining interior projects.



Día de los Muertos

GAP School has a long history of participating in Día de los Muertos (Day of the Dead) celebrations! In the past, there have been community-wide celebrations involving many Westside organizations.

This year, we had a beautiful altar, or ofrenda, set up in the cafeteria through November 2nd. Día de los Muertos is a time to remember and honor loved ones who have passed away. Thank you to Rene Lopez, GAP School Case Manager and Art Teacher, for leading this celebration each year!



STUDENT SPOTLIGHT:

Two GAP School Students Selected to Attend YouthBuild Conference of Young Leaders (COYL)



Fernanda Mellado Soto (left) and Noy Thangnonsing

Two of our GAP School students, Fernanda Mellado Soto and Souliya (Noy) Thangnonsing, were selected to attend the 36th YouthBuild Conference of Young Leaders (COYL) in Washington DC in October. They were two of just forty-three young leaders selected from twenty states.

The Conference of Young Leaders brings together young leaders from across the country for three days of networking, leadership development, and service reflection. YouthBuild participants from across the country spend time learning even more about the importance of personal growth and community impact.

YouthBuild Global staff member, Steve Dosch, said, "It was a joy to meet Fernanda and Noy this week at CoYL. They were impressive and it was good to see them grow in confidence as the week went along... they seemed energized by the event!" Congrats to Fernanda and Noy!



"In Washington DC I learned that being patient, kind, brave and believing in yourself will always be important. I was nervous, and not sure why Erika chose me to go to the leadership events, but I am slowly understanding why she did ask me to go with Fernanda. The most important thing for me to remember, is to keep going, do my best, and that perseverance will NEVER fail us. I want to be a better leader for my community, my peers and also for myself and my future."

-Noy Thangnonsing

"When I arrived in Washington DC, nobody understood my English, and I was very shy! When I got to speak with staff more, I learned that there were many people there who also spoke Spanish, and they helped me through my first day! The days after this, I began to feel more comfortable, and I was so grateful and excited to be able to express my support of YouthBuild and all it does for communities and young people like me. This experience changed my confidence and my life as a young woman. I'm inspired to continue to be a leader in my program and my community!"

-Fernanda Mellado Soto

Mock Election

GAP School students got to participate in a mock election and voting the day before Election Day thanks to Students Voting, which is the Minnesota statewide K-12 mock election program.

Civic participation is a core Minnesota value, and Students Voting is a great opportunity to get good habits started early with soon-to-be voters. Participants got hands-on experience with the electoral process to cast a customized mock ballot and have their statewide and national votes tallied and shared a sense of the responsibility and power they hold, or will soon hold, as voters. This year, 528 schools across Minnesota registered to participate in this mock election!



TITLE I Updated Documents

GAP School, a contracted site of St. Paul Public Schools, engages in continuous improvement documented in the School Continuous Improvement Plan (SCIP) and Title I Plan. Our updated 2024-25 school year School Continuous Improvement Plan (SCIP), Family Engagement Plan (FEP), and Parent Compact can now be found on our website. We encourage you to review them all and reach out with any questions!

Visit: <https://www.gapschool.org/state-approved-alternative-high-school>

Important Dates:

- November 22: Registered Apprenticeship Panel Webinar (more info & register)
- November 25: Afternoon Open House/Conferences (Remote Learning)
- November 26: Morning Open House/Conferences (Remote Learning)
- November 27-29: No School (Thanksgiving Break)
- December 19: Half-Day
- December 20: Mid-Quarter Negotiations
- December 23- January 3: No School (Winter Break)



GAP SCHOOL'S MISSION STATEMENT

GAP School's mission is to empower communities challenged by transition and poverty through education and enrichment opportunities, social and emotional support, and training that leads to employment.

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