

'College Week' comes to Fairview Middle School

Fairview Middle School and UC Santa Cruz Gear Up recently partnered to launch the very first "College Week" held at school. During College Week, all students learn about the various California college and university systems, admission requirements, career clusters, and the overall value of a college education with the goal of motivating students to set academic goals that will get them to the college or university of their choice upon high school graduation.

Along with the in-class discussions, lunch time activities and competitions give students the chance to have fun while thinking about their future. One day for example, students had to "Dress for Success" by digging through clothes piles where each piece of clothing represents a job title, a salary and a job description. Students who completed their "Success"



Angelica Arce reaches into a tub of mysterious brown muck.

outfit first received college paraphernalia as prizes.

Teachers across Fairview Middle School are talking with their students about the value of a college education and sharing their college experiences with the hope of motivating students to improve or maintain their grades, set goals for graduating high school and thinking about a college education that will lead them to a rewarding career.

The week was capped off by a door decorating competition, a college scavenger hunt

and "A-G Fear Factor" where students had to answer math, history, science and English questions after having experienced a Fear Factor-type challenge. Winners were rewarded with UC Santa Cruz and other campus t-shirts.

Al Velasquez, principal of Fairview Middle School, would like to thank the Gear-up group for all of their support during the college week activities. The staff could not have done all of these activities without their support.

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Richard Sitts/South County Newspapers

Fairview Middle School students and teachers decorated bulletin boards and doors with college themes during the school's recent "College Week." Shalini Thompson's eighth grade science class chose West Point and other military academies for its bulletin board theme. Thompson, middle, was assisted by two of her students Haydee Hernandez, left, and Elizabeth Gandara. Other students who helped were Austin Amrillas, Isaac Fernandez and Noe Vasquez.



Fairview Middle School students Martin Diaz and Isiah Bledsoe take part in "College Week" activities.



Fairview Middle School staff members Sally Smith and Kent Van Vuren join in the fun during "College Week."



Nino Bachar, left, and Angelica Arce join forces in a contest during "College Week" at Fairview Middle School.

