

PASS ALONG THE POWER OF STEM

KEY MESSAGES



STEM EQUALS OPPORTUNITY FOR EVERY STUDENT IN THE 21ST CENTURY

STEM isn't just for scientists and engineers.

Key to thriving tomorrow is a foundation in science, technology, engineering, and math today.

Just as language literacy was a requirement in the 20th century, STEM literacy is a requirement in the 21st.

The creativity and critical thinking skills that come with a foundation in STEM are in high demand, for all kinds of jobs, across our state.

STEM is the best ticket to a good job in today's market and the only ticket to a good job in the economy of the future.

STEM is a necessity for every student regardless of their background or the path they pursue.

It's simple: in the 21st century, **STEM opens doors.**

Prioritizing STEM is a chance to tackle the opportunity gap for students who have been historically underserved and underrepresented.

With STEM, we can prepare the next generation to seize the opportunities and tackle the toughest challenges in the 21st century.

STEM IS A GAME CHANGER FOR OUR STUDENTS AND OUR STATE

Investing in STEM education is an investment in our future.

The vitality of our communities and our state depends on our willingness to power student success in STEM.

In the past ten years, STEM jobs have grown three times faster than non-STEM jobs.

Nationally, there will be **1.8 million STEM job openings** in 2018.

STEM is influencing every career out there; in the next decade, most of the 30 fastest-growing jobs will require STEM skills.

Washington's economy is rooted in STEM. Yet too few of our students see STEM's power or possibilities.

Washington ranks 4th in the country for technology-based corporations, but **46th** for participation in science and engineering graduate programs.

We need to close the growing gap between the skills people have in our state and the skills our economy requires.

Prioritizing STEM will bolster communities' ability to **diversify and strengthen their local economies.**

We can't leave any talent on the table; we need to ignite the imaginations and capacities of all young people in Washington.

IT'S TIME TO REIMAGINE AND REVITALIZE STEM EDUCATION

National momentum and local action has created an unprecedented window of opportunity.

From our nation's capital, to our state's top employers, to Washington educators – there's clear agreement that **we need to bring STEM to life** in new ways to inspire and engage the next generation.

We can close the gap between what we know and what we do, reaching every student and improving opportunities for those traditionally underserved and underrepresented in STEM fields.

There are evidence-based practices that we can implement today.

There are Washington teachers pioneering great things just waiting to be discovered and shared.

There are other talented educators ready for the tools and resources to help them reimagine STEM education.

From teacher preparation to curriculum and professional development, the focus on STEM is at an all-time high.

Our kids can't wait and neither can our state; improving and funding STEM education for every student will take all of us working together like never before.

POWERED BY WASHINGTON STEM

Washington STEM advances excellence, equity, and innovation in science, technology, engineering, and math education.

