

WHY STEM? WHY NOW?

The facts speak for themselves.

IN THE 21ST CENTURY, STEM = OPPORTUNITY.

We won't rest until every student in Washington is prepared to succeed in our STEM-driven economy.

A SOLID FOUNDATION IN STEM WILL HELP OUR **NATION'S** STUDENTS SUCCEED.

3x 

In the last 10 years, **growth in STEM jobs** has been three times greater than non-STEM jobs.

LET'S MAKE MATH AMAZING

In the next decade, almost all of the fastest-growing jobs will require STEM skills. Yet **61% of middle schoolers** would rather take out the garbage than do their math homework.



IN 2011 Only 30% of U.S. high school graduates were **ready for college work in science.**



Only 45% were **ready in math.**



ONLY 6



We need to **keep students interested in STEM**, throughout their schooling. Out of every 100 9th graders, only six graduate from college with STEM degrees.



IT'S TIME TO REIMAGINE AND REVITALIZE STEM EDUCATION IN **WASHINGTON**

#1

Our state's STEM economy is strong and will only grow stronger. Washington ranks #1 in the concentration of STEM jobs.

24%

By 2018, we'll see a 24% increase in STEM jobs – **seven points above the national average.**



In Washington, the mismatch between the skills required for available jobs and individuals with those skills is **growing faster than in every state** but one: Delaware.

49th OUT OF 50

45,000

JOBS IN WASHINGTON WILL GO UNFILLED

There are 23,200 unfilled STEM jobs in Washington as a result of the **job skills gap**. This **gap is growing and will be 45,000 by 2017.**

4th VS. 46th

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



2 HOURS 

Almost half of Washington's 4th grade teachers report teaching science less than two hours per week. **Only four states reported less science instruction.**

WE CAN DO BETTER

Washington's **achievement gap ranks in the top 10** nationally.

