



SUCCESS WITH STATE PARTNERSHIPS: MID-COLUMBIA STEM NETWORK

Students need strong science, technology, engineering, and math (STEM) skills to pursue Washington's highest demand career pathways - from environmental remediation to monitoring the health of potato crops to advancing research in green energy. Over the past few years, **students in Mid-Columbia have received enhanced STEM education opportunities thanks to partnership with the Washington State Legislature.**



WASHINGTON STATE OPPORTUNITY SCHOLARSHIP

The Washington State Opportunity Scholarship is a commitment by state government and private-sector employers to increase the number of homegrown graduates prepared for the jobs key to our economy. **Over 2016 and 2017, 141 Mid-Columbia students received college scholarships of up to \$22,500 each to study STEM or health care, representing up to \$3,172,500 in scholarships for Mid-Columbia students.**

COMPUTER SCIENCE EDUCATION

In both 2015 and 2017, the Legislature approved funding to promote professional development, upgraded technology, and innovative efforts to engage underrepresented students and girls in computer science.

Mid-Columbia received **\$130,850 in special state funding through competitive grants for computer science education, which required an additional \$130,850 in matching funds and in-kind services to support student learning thanks to generous donations from Battelle, and other partners. ESD 123, The Reach, WSU-TC, and the Kennewick School District all received a portion of the state funds.**

Additionally, the Mid-Columbia region is part of a collaboration of 20 rural counties in eastern Washington receiving **\$190,000, leveraged by \$1,200,000 in private funds, to advance equitable access to computer science education through ESD 123.**

STEM CAPITAL GRANTS

The Legislature authorized **\$2,900,000 for a STEM capital grant to modernize River View High School's shop and CTE classrooms.** In the new classrooms, students will be able to take STEM science, 3-D printing, Engineering Development, Bio-Tech Lab, Animal Science, Floriculture, and Horticulture Science.

THANK YOU

We thank the Washington State Legislature for their engagement with STEM education issues. **These partnerships are a strong start, and we look forward to continued support to make the education system even stronger for Washington students.**

Got questions? Contact Deb Bowen at deb@stemlearning.org/509-420-9316.