SUCCESS WITH STATE PARTNERSHIPS: SKAGIT STEM NETWORK

Students need strong science, technology, engineering, and math (STEM) skills to pursue Washington’s highest demand career pathways - from building airplanes to monitoring the health of apple crops to researching cancer treatments. Over the past few years, students in the Skagit Valley have received a strong STEM education 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. In 2017, 40 Skagit Valley students received college scholarships of up to $22,500 each to study STEM or health care.

CAREER CONNECT WASHINGTON

In 2017, Governor Inslee designated $6.4 million in federal funds from the Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act to support Career Connect Washington, an initiative designed to connect 100,000 students over the next five years with employer internships, registered apprenticeships, and other career connected learning to prepare them with high-demand jobs.

The newly formed coalition Career Connect Northwest received $957,255 to connect students with career connected learning. Career Connect Northwest will deliver sequenced career learning experiences and expanded apprenticeship opportunities to nearly 900 young adults, including mentorship opportunities, informational interviews, job shadows and structured work based activity.

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 Michelle Judson at mjudson@swsd.k12.wa.us/360-383-7086.