

# 2021 ANNUAL REPORT

CELEBRATING 10 YEARS OF SERVICE

## LETTER FROM THE INTERIM CEO

LEIGHAN, INTERIM CEO

Over the last two years, I've found the concept of time has shifted, become more fluid, precious, and the things that punctuate the moments of any given day have taken on a different shape and cadence. In this second year of collectively weathering the pandemic, and in a year when I've had the privilege of serving as Interim CEO at Washington STEM, there has been a lot of time spent reflecting on our ten-year history and evolution, our collective impact, and where we want to go in the next three years.

[READ THE FULL LETTER](#)

## THANK YOU

TO OUR DONORS SUPPORTING STEM EDUCATION ACROSS THE STATE

[SEE OUR DONORS](#)

## 10 YEARS OF IMPACT

In 2021, Washington STEM celebrated its 10th anniversary. With each passing year, we have learned valuable lessons, deepened our relationships with STEM Network partners and other allies, and sharpened our focus.

## RAISING AWARENESS

**2013**

Built relationships with and galvanized three regional STEM Networks based in Spokane, South Central WA, and South King County.

**2013**

Began public polling to assess awareness of STEM across Washington. Initial results showed 32% of residents surveyed were aware of science, technology, engineering, and math as a subject focus.

**2014**

Recruited four additional STEM Networks based in West Sound, Snohomish, Southwest WA, Mid-Columbia Region.

## FINDING OUR NICHE

**2015-2018**

Worked in 5 distinct program areas—computer science education, career connected learning (CCL), early math, engineering, teacher professional development.

**2017**

Co-led the Engineering Fellows Program with Washington MESA.

**2018**

Led Governor Inlee's Career Connected Learning summit, resulting in significant initial investment of Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act funds for Career Connected Learning.

**2017**

Supported Governor Inlee's Career Connected Learning initiative, which officially became Career Connect Washington in 2019.

**2017**

Integrated operations with Washington State LASER, which provides leadership and strategic planning support to help improve science/STEM implementation at the school and district level.

**2017**

Invested in and documented best practices for Career Connected Learning.

## DEEPENING ENGAGEMENT

**2019**

STEM Network system maturing, working collaboratively, and engaging in collective action.

**2019**

Polling indicated awareness of STEM had grown to 39%.

**2019**

Work to engage more deeply in diversity, equity, inclusion, and belonging work—aligning stated organizational values and conceptual equity frameworks with work plans.

## 2021 STORIES OF CHANGE



### DEVELOPING EQUITABLE DUAL CREDIT EXPERIENCES

Thanks to some fertile ground laid by our South Central STEM Network partner, we had the opportunity to work with Chanhover High School in Yakima to assess their system for educating and engaging students around dual credit opportunities and college and career readiness.



### THE STATE OF THE CHILDREN REPORT SERIES: FROM INSIGHT TO ACTION

We worked with Washington Committee for Children to develop State of the Children—a set of regionalized reports that use data on affordability, access, and quality to draw a light on the precarious position of Washington's early learning systems.



### WASHINGTON STEM RISING STAR AWARDS

In 2021, we piloted an event that recognizes young women from across Washington for their achievements and engagement in STEM. The Washington STEM Rising Star Awards introduced us to some inspirational girls who will become the next generation of STEM leaders.



### 2021 LEGISLATIVE SESSION

On an annual basis, Washington STEM brings together a broad set of stakeholders to ensure that the policies we are championing are equitable. With the support of our statewide partners, we saw some big shared wins last year—including critical support for early learning with passage of the Fair Start for Kids Act.

"The Fair Start for Kids Act was a game changer not only for families furthest from opportunity, but for all families who have struggled to find care for their children, for care providers, and for women and communities of color who have been disproportionately impacted. The data and information Washington STEM provided was critical to the passage of this key piece of legislation."

**SENATOR CLAIRE WILSON**

30th LEGISLATIVE DISTRICT



## STEM NETWORKS: COMMUNITY IMPACT

Washington STEM invests in and works alongside a network of STEM partners that train and employ STEM education best practices within their communities. These ten regional STEM Networks and King County STEM Partners are made up of education, business, and community leaders and provide access to the best STEM education opportunities and careers in their regions.

[SEE OUR NETWORKS](#)

## 2021 FINANCIALS



[OUR BOARD](#)

[OUR TEAM](#)

[DOWNLOAD THE ANNUAL REPORT](#)

[DONATE TO WASHINGTON STEM](#)