

# 2022 ANNUAL REPORT



## LETTER FROM THE BOARD CHAIR



MARY SNAPP

I am grateful that my parents instilled in me a love for learning and a discipline to pursue postsecondary education. I knew that in my rural midwestern town, where the focus was agriculture, not many had the same opportunity as I did. I was fortunate to channel their support into a bachelor's degree from the University of Kansas, and later a law degree from Michigan. Now in Washington state, many years later, I still see the barriers for many students in our state, and the pressing need for STEM literacy and education beyond high school.

We know that these skills create access to meaningful, family-sustaining wage careers and economic mobility. One of the things that drew me to board service at Washington STEM is that we work to remove barriers to these critical skills and pathways, creating more equitable access for students of color, rural students, girls and young women, and students experiencing poverty—populations that often face barriers to both.

Last year, we published a technical paper entitled *High School to Postsecondary: Improving Outcomes through Inclusive School-based Inquiry*. We learned that an incredible 88% of students surveyed aspire to pursue education beyond high school. With roughly 40% of our state's students currently on track, there is much work to be done to close the gap between aspiration and attainment.

In 2022, we also launched the *Central Puget Sound Village STEAM Council (The Council)* focused on promoting STEM education for young Black and Brown early learning scholars throughout the Central Puget Sound region. We co-authored and helped pass legislation that will support dual credit courses and programs that help high school students take college level courses, and we successfully launched our 2022-2024 strategic plan. Just a few among many accomplishments thanks to your support and our deep partnerships with regional Networks.

Though we are finding our way with post-pandemic life, one thing is very clear: there is much more work to be done to support students and the learning loss and missed opportunities caused by the pandemic. We need to create a system that supports all students who wish to pursue a 2- or 4-yr degree, apprenticeship, or certificate. We need to ensure that our littlest learners are math ready, and that families have access to affordable early learning and care—and that those care providers and teachers are paid a family-sustaining wage.

We see the challenges for sure, but also the great opportunity. We are resilient, more committed than ever, and ready to accelerate our work with all of you.

## THANK YOU TO OUR DONORS

VISIT [WWW.WASHINGTONSTEM.ORG/2022ANNUALREPORT](http://WWW.WASHINGTONSTEM.ORG/2022ANNUALREPORT) TO SEE ALL OUR DONORS SUPPORTING STEM EDUCATION ACROSS THE STATE

## 2022 HIGHLIGHTS

### ENGAGED 41 BUSINESS CHAMPIONS

Partnered with the Washington State Department of Commerce and regional network partners to engage 41 business champions who committed to providing better access to child care options through family-friendly employee policies.



### CREATED DATA DASHBOARDS AND INTERACTIVE MAPS

Created data dashboards and interactive maps in partnership with the Washington State Department of Children, Youth, and Families (DCYF) to help inform early learning planning at local, state, and regional levels.

### CO-LED THE IMPLEMENTATION AND SCALING OF CAREER CONNECT WASHINGTON

Co-led the implementation and scaling of *Career Connect Washington (CCW)*, a statewide initiative committed to creating work-based learning programs that launch students into careers via college, apprenticeships, and other postsecondary credential programs.

### CO-DESIGNED STORY TIME STEAM EN ACCIÓN/IN ACTION

Co-designed Story Time STEAM en Acción/In Action in close partnership with BIPOC librarians from the Central Puget Sound region (King and Pierce counties) to create culturally responsive strategies to share math concepts through story time.

### SUPPORTED STEM EDUCATION FOR YOUNG BLACK AND BROWN EARLY LEARNING SCHOLARS

Launched the *Central Puget Sound Village STEAM Council (The Council)*, focused on supporting STEM education for young Black and Brown early learning scholars throughout the Central Puget Sound region.



### PUBLISHED HIGH SCHOOL TO POSTSECONDARY: IMPROVING OUTCOMES THROUGH INCLUSIVE SCHOOL-BASED INQUIRY

Published *High School to Postsecondary: Improving Outcomes through Inclusive School-based Inquiry*, revealing that 88% of students surveyed aspired to pursue education beyond high school.

### REACHED 2,346 EARLY EDUCATORS AND FAMILIES WITH MATH-SPECIFIC PROGRAMMING

Reached 2,346 early educators and families with math-specific programming, resources, and professional development, increasing their knowledge and confidence in engaging in math learning with young children.

### SUPPORTING 70+ SCHOOL DISTRICTS

Worked to increase equity in K-12 science education through the *Washington State LASER Program*, supporting 70+ school districts through culturally relevant STEM education strategic planning, implementation support, and connections with various STEM initiatives and programs.



### HELPED PASS HB 1867

Co-authored and helped pass HB 1867, legislation that requires dual-credit data reporting, including course completion and successful transcription of credit, and ensures all measures are available by race, income, gender, geography, and other demographics.



### HONORED REPRESENTATIVE DAVE PAUL

Honored Representative Dave Paul, primary sponsor of HB 1867: Dual Credit Program Data, as the 2022 Legislator of the Year for his strong leadership and efforts to increase access to Dual Credit.

# STORIES OF CHANGE



## HIGH SCHOOL TO POSTSECONDARY (H2P) – STUDENTS HAVE BIG ASPIRATIONS!

2022 saw the culmination of a three-year project at Washington STEM that looked at student enrollment in dual credit courses, student aspirations for after high school as well as teachers' and administrators' perceptions. Students surveyed showed that 88% of students aspire to pursue postsecondary credentials, post-high school. The report, *High School to Postsecondary: Improving Outcomes through Inclusive School-based Inquiry*, was released in November and is the jumping off point for expanding this research into 26 more schools across the state in the coming year.



## EARLY LEARNING—EN ACCIÓN—NEW WAYS TO CULTIVATE MATH LOVERS

Story Time STEAM in Action / En Acción is a new project (inspired by Story Time STEM). It is designed to foster authentic, community-centered, shared reading experiences that encourage young readers to explore STEAM concepts during story time. This community-led project reflects the opportunity for Black, Indigenous and Latinx librarians to co-design story time with their culture, their language, and their community-based values at the forefront.

Dr. Sabine Thomas is Director of Central Puget Sound Region and is leading this project. "We hope that through the magic of storytelling, Story Time STEAM in Action / en Acción illuminates the minds of our young Black and Brown scholars and fosters their identity as scientists and mathematicians," she said.



## DUAL CREDIT LEGISLATION PASSED

A big moment in 2022 was the passage of Dual Credit legislation to support courses and programs that help high school students take college level courses. This prepares them for higher education AND saves money. But our research showed that schools had little information about who was taking these courses—and who was not. This new legislation requires schools to track and report on students' geographical location, income level, race, gender and other factors. This broader data will empower schools to help students overcome barriers to postsecondary college and career goals.



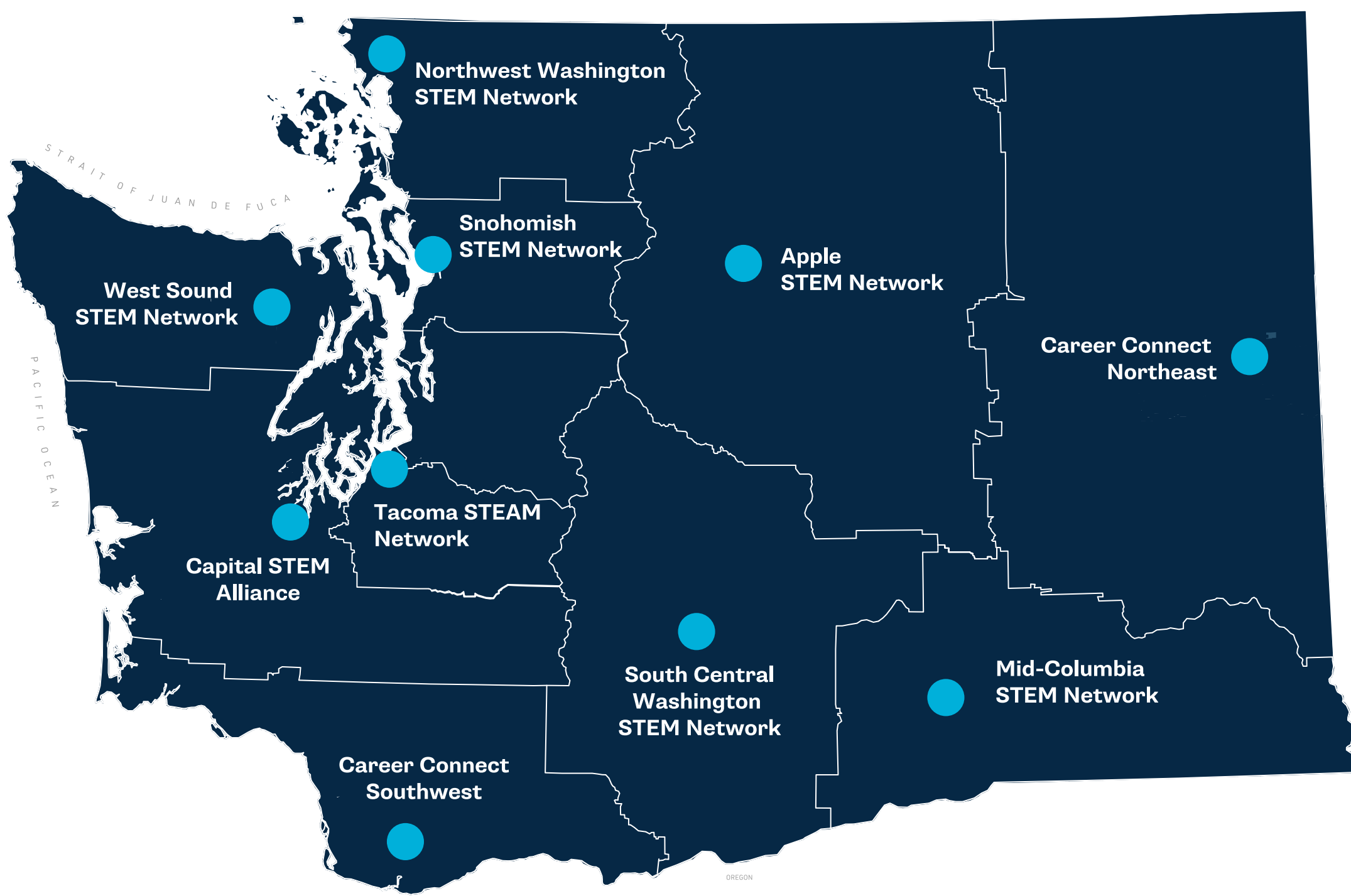
## RISING STARS SHINE BRIGHT AT SUMMIT

As their names rang out in the crowded banquet hall, eleven high school students—our 2022 Rising Star awardees—rose to their feet. Each of these young women journeyed from around the state to tour Microsoft's campus in Redmond and be recognized at our annual Summit luncheon.

*"Washington STEM keeps equity and young people at the center of everything they do. They have been a critical thought partner and co-creator of the framework, approach, and implementation strategy for Career Connect Washington—work that has led to a 30% growth in enrollment of equitable, work and education integrated paid experiences for young people under age 30."*

**MAUD DAUDON**

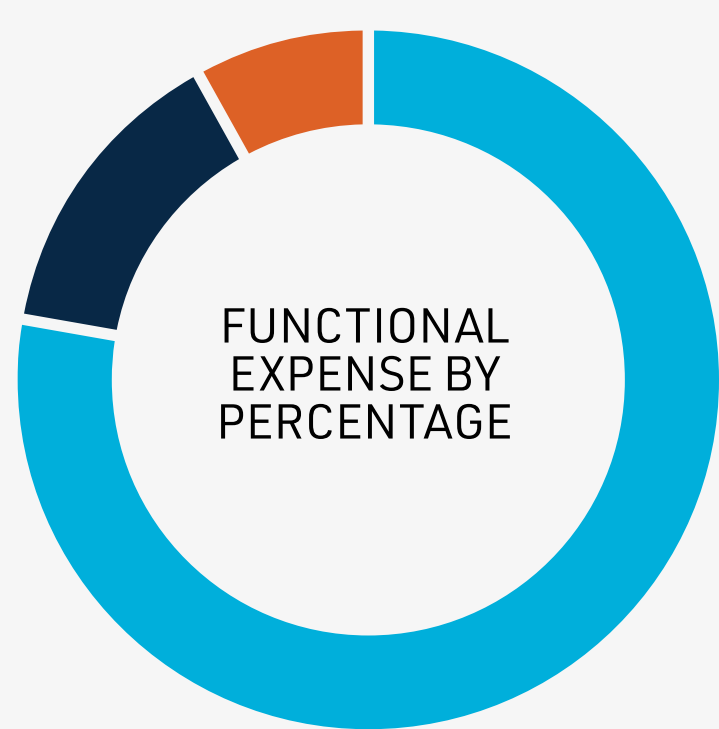
Career Connect Washington



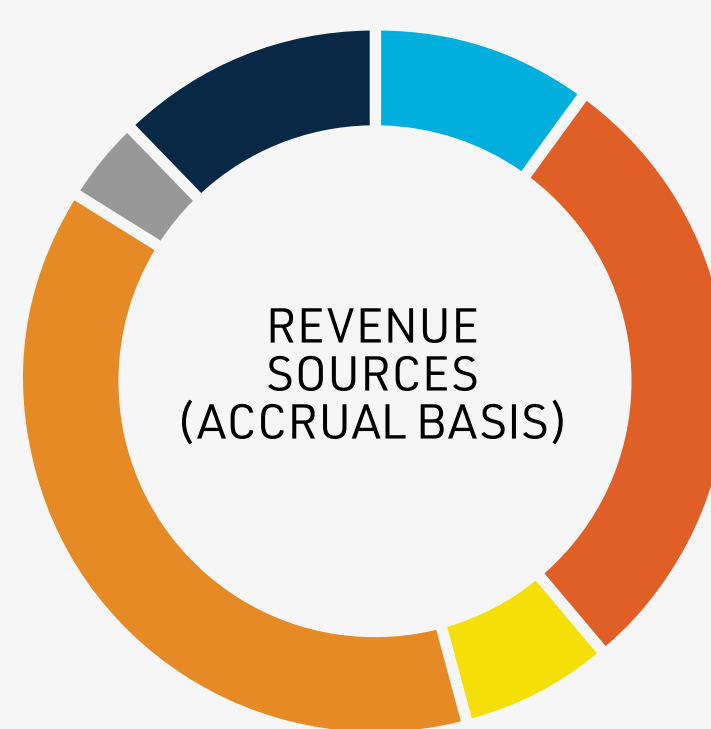
## 2022 REGIONAL NETWORK HIGHLIGHTS

Washington STEM convenes, invests in, and works alongside a network of regional partners that harness and employ STEM education best practices as well as collectively work to create well-lit pathways to education opportunities post-high school. These 10 networks are made up of educators, business, and community leaders and provide access to the best STEM education, opportunities, and careers in their regions.

## 2022 FINANCIALS



78% PROGRAMS  
14% MANAGEMENT & GENERAL  
8% FUNDRAISING



10% CORPORATE  
29% FOUNDATION  
7% INDIVIDUAL  
38% EARNED REVENUE  
4% EMPLOYEE RETENTION CREDIT  
12% FISCAL SPONSORSHIPS  
0% INTEREST INCOME