



Policy & Advocacy in 2022: Our Priorities

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PRESENTING



PLATINUM



WASHINGTON STEM ADVOCACY 2021 – YEAR IN REVIEW

-  **Early Learning:** Comprehensive Early learning and childcare reform
SB 5237, *Sen Claire Wilson and Rep Tana Senn.*
-  **Career Pathways:** maintenance of funding for Workforce Investment Education Account funded in Budget. HB 1504, *Rep Frank Chopp*
-  **Broadband expansion & Digital equity** funded in Budget. HB1365, *Rep Mia Gregerson.*
-  **Dual Credit reform for equitable access** HB1302, *Rep April Berg.*
-  **Statewide Office of Equity:** funded in Budget. *Rep Mia Gregerson.*

LEGISLATIVE PRIORITIES YOUTH PERSPECTIVES



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Carbon-Free Electricity Associate at Rocky Mountain Institute

Ph.D in Nanotechnology and Chemical Engineering from University of Washington



Evelyn Grace Shapiro-Tamez

Eisenhower High School, '22
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WASHINGTON STEM 2022 POLICY COMMITTEE



Chanel Hall
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Lorie Thompson
Director, Capital Region STEM Network



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Molly Jones
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Shirline Wilson
Executive Director, Education
Reform Now



Fernando Mejia-Ledesma
Washington State Lead Organizer,
Communities for Our Colleges



Kairie Pierce
Lead Workforce Development
Director, Washington State Labor
Council, AFL-CIO

WASHINGTON STEM LEGISLATIVE PRIORITIES EVALUATION FRAMEWORK



EQUITY

- ▶ Does this policy **focus students of color, students from low-income backgrounds, rural students, and/or young women**?
- ▶ Will this policy **advance racial equity** by contributing to closing the opportunity gap?
- ▶ Does the policy **include input** provided by a diverse set of stakeholders and members of communities impacted by the policy?



IMPACT

- ▶ Does the proposal **enable**:
 - ▶ more students to be employed in high-demand, family-sustaining careers?
 - ▶ access to high-quality early learning, with a focus on early math and STEM education?
 - ▶ transparent, timely, and clear data sharing about the Washington education system and workforce?
- ▶ Is there **evidence and research** that suggests that this proposal is the right thing to pursue?



STRATEGY

- ▶ Is Washington STEM in a position to successfully act on or influence this issue?
- ▶ Is the policy change viable in the upcoming session? Does it have bipartisan and bicameral support?
- ▶ Is there a clear vision about what needs to happen legislatively to move the policy issue forward?
- ▶ Is there risk in not including the proposal in our agenda?

WASHINGTON STEM 2022 WHAT TO EXPECT IN SESSION



Orlando Cano

Washington STEM Contract
Lobbyist

- ▶ Short session: January- March, 2022.
- ▶ Fast paced- 60 days.
- ▶ Supplemental budgets.
- ▶ Foci: COVID recovery, Public safety, Infrastructure & transportation.
- ▶ State revenue forecast *optimistic*.
- ▶ Federal relief funds & infrastructure bill.
- ▶ 2022 election year.



WASHINGTON STEM 2022 LEGISLATIVE PRIORITIES

- ▶ **Systems improvements in Early STEM**

Support the ongoing creation and usage of **State of the Children reports** which provide an in-depth look at the health of our early learning and child care systems

- ▶ **Equitable access to Computer Science**

Increase access to Computer Science by supporting **regional implementation**, and increasing community partnerships & strategic planning working through the Educational Service District regional structure

- ▶ **Annual Reporting on equity in access to Dual Credit**

Enable evidence-based **systems-change in Dual Credit** in Washington state through data disaggregation & accountability metrics

- ▶ **Expansion of career connected learning opportunities (Career Connect WA)**



Join the Washington STEM Advocacy Coalition

sign up at [washingtonstem.org/advocacy](https://www.washingtonstem.org/advocacy)

- Amplify** collective impact
- Disseminate** information
- Empower** smaller orgs and partners
- Organize** members around key issues
- Enable** intersectional and evidence-based policy



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WASHINGTON STEM 2022 ISSUES EVALUATED

- ▶ **Access to Computer Science**
- ▶ **Equity in access to Dual Credit**
- ▶ **Systems improvements in Early STEM**
- ▶ **Continued expansion of career connected learning opportunities**
- ▶ Community based career navigation coalitions
- ▶ Strengthening apprenticeships for future workforce (Sen Keiser & Sen Randall)
- ▶ Digital Equity Act (Rep Gregerson)