



# **REGIONAL IMPACT REPORT**

Washington students need strong science, technology, engineering, and math (STEM) skills to pursue Washington's highest demand career pathways that lead to family-wage jobs, from advanced agriculture, ground-breaking biotechnology, to 21st-century manufacturing. Over the past few years, students in the <u>Snohomish STEM Network</u> have received cradle-to-career STEM education opportunities thanks to our partnership with the Washington State Legislature.

## **DUAL CREDIT EQUITY IN SNOHOMISH COUNTY**

Dual credit programs allow students to concurrently earn high school and college credit, reduce the time (and money) required to complete a 2 or 4-year degree, and is correlated with a higher likelihood of enrolling in post-secondary education, yet many students don't access this resource. Snohomish STEM and NW Washington STEM are working with comprehensive high schools in the region to survey students and staff regarding dual credit and compare demographics of who is being served by this resource. By gathering additional data, we will identify needs and work to close the equity gaps within dual credit access.

# STEM NETWORKS SPARK CHANGE

STEM Networks are deeply rooted in their communities and provide local expertise to ensure that local needs are met. Each area of our state is unique and STEM Networks know how to drive maximum impact in STEM for every student in their region.



### FAFSA AND WASFA PARTNERSHIPS

Snohomish STEM is partnering with Everett Community College establishing new EvCC student work-study positions to provide peer support for current Snohomish County high school students from targeted populations to encourage financial aid interest, initiation, and completion. Through legislative funding, Snohomish STEM directly supported 3 school districts in hosting 6 financial aid events both virtual and in person. Information was also shared via postcards in multiple languages to reach over **1,000 students** and parents in the region. Additionally, Snohomish STEM and NW STEM, in partnership with College Success Foundation, Washington College Access Network and Futures NW, are implementing a financial aid completion campaign based in peer to peer social media engagement.

In partnership with the <u>12th Year Campaign</u>, <u>Edmonds School District</u> hosted a breakout room in November for students, parents, and caregivers to ask questions about financial aid and learn about applying to colleges and programs. The Snohomish STEM Network supported outreach and turnout for the event through postcard mailers and social media.

### **CAREER CONNECT WASHINGTON**

Career Connect Washington funding supported development of career connected learning programs at the <u>Wood</u> <u>Innovation Resource Center in Darrington</u>, including aligned robust career exploration and career preparation experiences to introduce students with the new industry in addition to other local options. This year, growth in the Career Connect Washington Snohomish Region reached 13 intermediary grantees and 18 Career Launch Endorsed programs. Industries supported include Healthcare, Maritime, Aerospace, IT, Restoration Ecology, and Manufacturing Technology. STEM Like ME! (SLM!) is an invaluable asset for Snohomish County's career connected learning system and essential in a meaningful High School and Beyond Plan. This year, Snohomish STEM presented the new gamified <u>'STEM Like Me, To Go!</u> program to 7th grade students at Centennial Middle School in December. Students explored STEM careers and learned about career pathways needed to get there.

Snohomish STEM Network also developed Live Here. Learn Here. Work Here. a career connected learning program implemented in Darrington that aligns with the High School and Beyond Plan. This new regional YouTube channel provides rural students with the opportunity to virtually connect with local talent, and for teachers to easily implement and assess impact without additional planning or resources. Additional programs will support rural high school students through a hands-on problem-solving unit and internship experience.

#### EARLY LEARNING/CAREER PATHWAYS UPDATE

In Partnership with ESD112, math literacy early learning professional development for "Math Anywhere!" training was implemented in 2020 and 2021, resulting in training for 80 professionals, who then trained an additional 116 colleagues (196 total) and reached close to **1,200 families** in Island, San Juan, Skagit, Snohomish and Whatcom counties. Economic Alliance Snohomish County held a community event "<u>Rethinking Workforce Investment</u>," centering on pandemic impacts on early learning and leveraging data from the <u>State of the Children's Report</u> to inform strategy for investing in high quality early learning experiences as a means of investing in future talent.

#### **THANK YOU**

We thank the Washington State Legislature for their engagement with STEM education issues and the Snohomish STEM Network. Our collective and ongoing impact on Washington students means that every student, from our earliest learners to those on their way to a STEM career, are prepared to thrive in Washington's innovation economy. Our collaboration with the Legislature is essential as we work to strengthen our education systems so students in our region can thrive and contribute to the vitality of their communities.

If you have any questions, please contact Snohomish STEM Network Director, Angie Sievers at <u>angies@snohomishstem.org</u>. or by phone at (425) 248-4221.

