

News release



Everett Public Schools

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Everett Public Schools hosts second STEM Symposium

STEM, what is it? Why is it important?

The skills represented in the acronym *STEM*, or science, technology, engineering and mathematics are highly sought by employers today. STEM workers also earn more. According to a [2011 US Department of Commerce](#) report, STEM jobs have grown three times faster than non-STEM jobs in the last 10 years. The report predicts they will continue to do so for the next decade. During the economic downturn, more STEM workers stayed employed than did non-stem workers.

In a second of its community education symposiums, the district's STEM Symposium on August 22 and 23 will bring educators and business leaders together to plan STEM partnerships. The goal is to leverage local resources and expertise to help infuse STEM instruction into all classrooms so students are ready to lead and shape the future.

The first district community education symposium in August 2011 brought more than 100 K-12 and higher education representatives together with community members and business owners together. That discussion focused on how best to help students transition from high school into work, career or college.

This year, about 200 participants will join the district as it hosts a second symposium on August 22 and 23 to reach a common understanding of what 21st Century skills students need and, again, how we can partner with other individuals, businesses and educational agencies to ensure students have those skills. Speakers will include Mayor Ray Stephanson as well as representatives from Boeing, City of Mill Creek, Institute for Systems Biology, Everett Community College, Economic Alliance Snohomish County and Washington STEM.

An agenda including the event's speakers and topics is [available online](#).

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