News release



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Scott Fancher to speak at Everett Public Schools Foundation Breakfast Boeing executive will emphasize importance of STEM education, March 21 from 7:15 – 8:30

The Edward D. Hansen Conference Center at the Comcast Arena in Everett will once again hold a capacity crowd for the Everett Public Schools Foundation Breakfast on Thursday, March 21.

Fancher, Vice President and General Manager of Airplane Development for Boeing Commercial Airplanes, is naturally a proponent of STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering and Math) education in schools today. Fancher will speak to all gathered about the critical importance of preparing all of today's students with STEM skills to prepare them to be contributing citizens of tomorrow.

In addition to Fancher, students will be breakfast headliners. "We know among the crowd pleasers that morning will be the robotics team demonstrations," notes Foundation Executive Director Kristie Dutton. "The Heatherwood Hawkbots and Jackson High FIRST Robotic Team 2910 are relatively new competitive robotics teams. However, they have taken state and regional awards in their short tenure, and the Foundation is proud of helping to support their talent and enthusiasm for learning."

When people arrive for breakfast on March 21, they will be greeted by Monroe Elementary's unique Steel Drum Band and cheered on by the Everett High cheer squad. Penny Creek students wearing "Think STEM" T-shirts will help people find their tables – no easy feat in a crowd expected to exceed 300. Once at their tables, the audience will enjoy the sounds of the H.M. Jackson High School Jazz Ensemble. For those arriving early enough, the H.M. Jackson High robot will be on display with students available to show how it works.

Everett High School's NJROTC will present the colors, and Jefferson Elementary Principal Elizabeth Nunes will sing the national anthem.

In 2012, the Foundation set a breakfast fundraising goal of \$100,000 and exceeded that by more than \$20,000. This year's goal is \$128,000. Dutton explains, "The Foundation's 27-member board roster includes folks from local government and business community, invested community members, parents of students and Everett Public Schools staff. This committed group of volunteers helps choreograph this event each year, believing that the entire community has roles to play in educating the community's children.

"Due to the generosity of our breakfast sponsors, ALL funds raised at the breakfast will support the work of the Foundation, investing resources to inspire innovation, excellence and achievement for all learners in Everett Public Schools." For more information about <u>Foundation programs</u>, visit its website. To reserve a place for the March 21 breakfast, email <u>Kristie Dutton</u> or call 425-385-4695.