

Strategic Target: 1.1a, 2.3a
10/18/2013
Subject: STEM Externships
STEM Leadership Team

Teachers from the Washington Alliance for Better Schools (WABS) externship program met on October 15th to debrief their summer experience. The following are excerpts from the discussion highlighting the impacts from their placement in local STEM business:

“Having not worked outside the classroom, I realized that 21st Century Skills/soft skills are equally as important as content knowledge. We should intentionally teach these within the context of classes.”

“Workplace success is heavy connected with the use of technology. As teachers, we should give students every opportunity to use technology within lessons. This is how they will solve problems post-graduation. Our classrooms should mirror this.”

“STEM learning is more than the connections between the STEM disciplines. It is also about how you approach a problem and where you go to find information.”

“In the real world people are not consciously choosing to apply math, science, or other content areas to solve a problem as though they are isolated entities; they are just solving problems with the knowledge that they have on hand. Our classrooms should do the same.”