

Dear Colleague,

In response to the challenge of increasing literacy in the fields of science, technology, engineering, and mathematics (STEM), Washington State Leadership and Assistance for Science Education Reform (LASER) invites you to the STEM Education Leadership Institute, Monday, June 22, 2015 through Friday, June 26, 2015 in western Washington. This week-long residential experience is an event designed to prepare schools, school districts, or regional teams to develop STEM-focused efforts. With the adoption of the 2013 Washington State Science Learning Standards (or WSSLS, formerly NGSS) educators statewide need support to make the changes implicit in WSSLS.

This Institute responds to the challenge represented in HB1872 to increase STEM literacy in the Washington by creating professional development programs for leadership teams that bridge the four areas of science, technology, engineering, and mathematics, and support networks of educators state wide.

The Institute also provides a roadmap with multiple routes by which K-12 schools in Washington can address the top recommendations of both HB1872, and the 2010 STEM Work Group report to the Governor and State Legislature. The report made the following recommendations for the 2010-2020 decade:

- Improve the teaching of STEM throughout K-12;
- Establish a deep and sustained commitment to STEM innovation throughout K-12; and
- Ensure strong community and business engagement for STEM education.

Washington State LASER believes that to reach the education and employment goals articulated by HB1872 and Governor Inslee requires a coherent, system-wide effort that begins at the earliest grades and coherently and effectively connects a high-quality grade school STEM program to strong efforts at the secondary level leading to well-prepared K-12 students entering post-secondary education and the workforce.

After participating in the LASER STEM Education Leadership Institute, participants will have the skills to translate Institute learning experiences into a STEM Education Action Plan that:

- reflects their commitment to STEM education by choosing a STEM education pathway to develop science, technology, engineering, and mathematics learning opportunities for all students;
- shows the team's understanding of the context in which they work (local, state and national) by setting goals and identifying the critical issues associated with these goals

Lead Organizations:



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Working to create
critical thinkers
and empower the
next generation
of innovators.

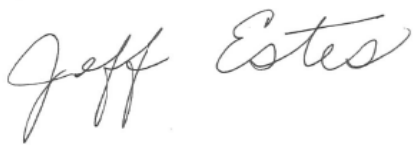
- leverages prior efforts to: build students' abilities, understandings, skills and habits of mind in the areas of inquiry, problem-solving, and design; improve achievement, college and work readiness; and demonstrate the connections between academic learning and the world beyond the classroom;
- meaningfully integrates the current national *Common Core State Standards in Mathematics, English Language Arts, National Technology Education Standards, the 2013 Washington State Science Learning Standards (NGSS), and the National Technology Education Standards.*
- uses current education research, strategies, and technologies to design highly effective STEM education programs;
- applies strategies for building awareness of a shared vision for STEM learning and teaching with all formal and informal stakeholders; and
- incorporates a plan to evaluate/provide feedback for continuous improvement

The Institute program is designed for schools, school districts, or regional teams. We realize that every team may be at a different stage of readiness for the Institute experience. Your completed application will help us address your specific needs.

The Institute is a partnership between Washington State LASER, the Washington State Office of the Superintendent of Public Instruction (OSPI), and the Pacific Northwest National Laboratory with major funding support from the Boeing Corporation. While this support covers approximately half of the cost of the Institute, a team of five will need to pay a \$6000 registration fee. This fee includes hotel accommodation, breakfast and lunch each day, one dinner, and all instructional materials.

An on line application is available at <http://www.wastatelaser.org/Professional-Learning/stem-education-leadership-institute>. We hope to see you at the STEM Education Leadership Institute.

Sincerely,



Jeff Estes,
Washington State LASER, Co-Director
Manager, Science & Engineering Education
Pacific Northwest National Laboratory



Ann McMahon,
Washington State LASER, Co-Director
Vice President of Science and Education
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