STEM Education Innovation Alliance

MEETING AGENDA

DATE  October 2, 2019
TIME   9:00 AM to 3:30 PM
LOCATION Confluence Technology Center
             285 Technology Center Way
             Wenatchee, Washington  98801

TOPICS | New technology and innovation in evolving and lucrative agriculture industries and hydroelectric power research advancements

9:00 AM  Welcome & Introductions
          Gene Sharratt | Co-Chair, STEM Alliance
          Michelle Price | Superintendent, North Central Educational Service District
          Jim Richardson | President, Wenatchee Valley College
          Terry Leas | President, Big Bend Community College

9:30 AM  Research, Innovation and the Future of Washington State
          Noel Schultz | Edmund O. Schweitzer II Chair in Power Apparatus and Systems
          School of Electrical Engineering and Computer Science
          Voiland College of Engineering and Architecture
          Washington State University

10:15 AM Break (Patio Café)

10:30 AM Recommendations to Legislature
          John Aultman, Executive Policy Advisor for Higher Education and Workforce Development | Washington State Office of the Governor

10:45 AM Tree Fruit: Innovative Research, Innovative Education
          Moderator: Jim McFerson | Former Director, Professor of Horticulture
          Washington State University Tree Fruit Research and Extension Center

          “Climate Change Brings New Challenges for the Pacific Northwest Tree Fruit”
          Lee Kalcits | Assistant Professor: Tree Fruit Physiology
          Washington State University Tree Fruit Research and Extension Center

          “Underground Frontiers and the Soil Microbiome”
          Mark Mazzola | Research Plant Pathologist
          United States Department of Agriculture – Agricultural Research Service

          “Ensuring Fruit Quality via Next Generation Biomarkers”
          Loren Honaas | Research Molecular Biologist
          United States Department of Agriculture – Agricultural Research Service
“Breeding Apples for Washington State”

Kate Evans | Professor: Pome Fruit Breeding
Washington State University Tree Fruit Research and Extension Center

Synopsis

Sue Kane | Director of STEM Initiatives and Strategic Partnerships
North Central Educational Service District

Galactic Farmers – six middle school students – coding in agricultural applications
Almira, Coulee-Hartline Middle School (Coulee City, Washington)

12:15 PM  Lunch (Patio Café)

12:45 PM  School and Workforce-related Partnerships

Postsecondary/Computer Science Presentations

Sue Kane, Director of STEM Initiatives and Strategic Partnerships
North Central Educational Service District

Organizational Structure/Communications/Career Connect Washington

Dennis Conger, CCL @ CTE Graduation Pathways Director
Northeast Educational Service District and North Central Educational Services District
Overview and introductions of team members

Brandon Marsh, Assistant Director of Operational Technology
Wenatchee School District
Share Computer Tech 1 Youth Apprenticeship Program, and firsthand experience being the supervising journeyman

Amy Technivol, Youth Computer Tech Apprentice
Wenatchee School District
Share her experiences in the apprenticeship program and what it means to her

Susan Adams, Center Manager
SkillSource (Wenatchee)
Next steps, Q&A

1:45 PM  Break (Patio Café)

MESA: A Pathway to STEM Success

Karina Vega-Villa
MESA (Mathematics, Engineering, Science Achievement) Program Director
Wenatchee Valley College
1:55 PM  Hydropower Research Institute and Microsoft Strategic Partnership  
Kirk Hudson, Managing Director - Generation and Transmission  
Chelan County Public Utility District (PUD)  

Douglas County PUD Hydrogen Production Initiative  
Gary Ivory, General Manager  
Douglas County PUD  

2:30 PM  Legislative Priorities – The Work Ahead | STEM Education and Workforce  
Washington State Senate  
Senator Brad Hawkins, 12th Legislative District (Wenatchee)  

Washington State House of Representatives  
Representative Mike Steele, 12th Legislative District (Chelan)  
Representative Alex Ybarra, 13th Legislative District (Quincy)  

3:30 PM  Meeting Adjourn  

4:00 PM  Tours and Science Seminar Opportunities  
Attendees may join one of these tours or the informative science seminar offered to the public.  

Tours  
Members can carpool or drive individually to either the Rocky Reach Dam or Stemilt Growers, Inc. – about a 5 minute drive from the Confluence Technology Center.  

(1) Rocky Reach Dam | Chelan County PUD | Power Generation Technologies  
(2) Stemilt Growers, Inc. | “The Fresh Cube” Distribution Center | Use of Robotics, IT applications and new technologies to improve distribution and increase efficiencies  

Science Seminar | Confluence Technology Center (same room as meeting)  
“Using Decision Support tools to understand the past, improve the present, and anticipate the future of tree fruit Integrated Pest Management”  

Decision support tools developed at WSU allow us to evaluate historic pest management programs and develop and provide users with new programs that minimize costs, provide the best crop protection, and reduce unintended environmental consequences. The same tool set also allows us to evaluate how climate change will affect crop production, pollination, and pest management in the future.  

Vincent Jones | WSU Professor of Entomology, Director of WSU Decision Aid System, Washington State University Tree Fruit Research and Extension Center  

5:00 PM  Tours and Seminar Conclude
LOCAL PLANNING TEAM
Many thanks to the following people for developing the meeting agenda, pulling together these informative speakers and arranging the tours. What a great job!

Jim McFerson
Sue Kane
Karina Vega-Villa
Kirk Hudson
Dennis Conger
Michelle Price
Linda McKay
Debby Thompson
Gene Sharratt

FOR MORE INFORMATION AND ASSISTANCE
Ellen Matheny (STEM Alliance Manager) welcomes you to contact her at:
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