

**MEDIA ADVISORY
FOR IMMEDIATE
RELEASE**

July 12, 2016
#engineeringfellows



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WASHINGTON STEM AND WASHINGTON MESA LAUNCH ENGINEERING FELLOWS PROGRAM

Washington STEM and Washington MESA launched the Engineering Fellows program today to increase engineering education efforts throughout the state focusing on King County and the Yakima Valley. National STEM organization 100Kin10 provided funding for this innovative project.

Engineering Fellows is a highly competitive program that brings engineering expertise directly into fifth grade classrooms around the state. Thirty fifth grade teachers from the Yakima Valley and King County are collaborating with professional engineers and college/graduate engineering students to design and implement engineering design challenges that are integrated with their local curriculum.

“Teachers and engineers will work together through the Engineering Fellows program to create a high-quality STEM experience for Washington students,” said Patrick D’Amelio, CEO of Washington STEM. “Washington state is number two in STEM job availability, and Engineering Fellows will ensure students are ready to take advantage of these great opportunities.”

The project launches this week as the engineering fellows take part in an intensive Summer Design Institute at the University of Washington; the fellows will develop a menu of design challenges and teaching plans to be used during the 2016-2017 school year.

“The participating teachers and engineering practitioners are lending their experience and expertise to elevate instructional strategies to better engage and inspire the next generation of engineers, scientist and leaders,” said James Dorsey, CEO of Washington MESA.

During the school year, students will benefit from the experience of their teachers as they engage in design challenges. The Fellows will reconvene throughout the year during Saturday sessions to reflect upon and refine the design challenges. Over the next three years, Washington STEM and Washington MESA plan to expand the

program to ensure that almost 200 fifth grade teachers are equipped, empowered, and well-supported to engage students in engineering design challenges based on real-world problems

Engineering Fellows:

5th Grade Teachers	School	District
Visala Hohlbein	Bailey Gatzert Elementary School	Seattle Public Schools
Samantha Egelhoff	Thurgood Marshall Elem. School	Seattle Public Schools
Aubrey Ashenbrenner	Kimball Elementary School	Seattle Public Schools
Nicole Trudeau	Kimball Elementary School	Seattle Public Schools
Marcia Ventura	Maple Elementary School	Seattle Public Schools
Angie Nall	Arbor Heights Elementary School	Seattle Public Schools
Indi Ekanayake	Rainier Prep Public Charter	
Scott Hicke	Rainier Prep Public Charter	
Harrison Pasion	McMicken Heights Elementary	Highline Public Schools
Diana Ryan	McMicken Heights Elementary	Highline Public Schools
Chris Brase	Marvista Elementary School	Highline Public Schools
Nancy Becker	North Hill Elementary School	Highline Public Schools
Wendi Warren	Carriage Crest Elementary	Kent School District
Donna Pearson	East Hill Elementary School	Kent School District
Douglas Ferguson	Martin Sortun Elementary School	Kent School District
Julie Hagen	Covington Elementary School	Kent School District
Catie Larsen	Covington Elementary School	Kent School District
Amanda Henry	Meridian Elementary School	Kent School District
Ronna Garcia	Selah Intermediate	Selah School District
Jennifer Quigley	Selah Intermediate	Selah School District
Angela Steiner	Selah Intermediate	Selah School District
Kristen Bucknell	Union Gap School	Union Gap School District
Megan Beckstrand	Nob Hill Elementary School	Yakima School District
Ron Richter	Harrarah Elementary School	Mount Adams School District
Brian Buehler	Harrarah Elementary School	Mount Adams School District
Raymond Merkel	Washington Elementary School	Sunnyside School District
Ruth Kupp	Washington Elementary School	Sunnyside School District
Ann Aliberti	Chief Kamiakin Elementary School	Sunnyside School District
Hillary Fought	Hiawatha Elementary School	Othello School District

Students	Field / Major	School
Alan Aragon	Electrical Engineering	Columbia Basin College
Armand Shahbazian	Electrical Engineering	Seattle University

Barbara Medina	Mechanical Engineering	Seattle University
Kristina Stern	Mechanical Engineering/Computer Science	Seattle University
Kelemua Tesfaye	Civil Engineering	Seattle University
Samira Rezaei	Electrical Engineering	University of Washington
Kenjiro Goodson	Human Centered Design and Engineering	University of Washington
Holly Brunner	Materials Science Engineering	University of Washington
Farah Nadeem	Electrical Engineering	University of Washington

Engineers	Field	Firm/Foundation
Laura Grignon	Civil	Coughlin Porter Lundeen
Gino Mazzotti	Structural	Brown and Caldwell
Tom Corcoran	Structural	Integrus Architecture
Matt Nielsen	Mechanical	McKinstry
Michael Frank	Mechanical	McKinstry

About Washington STEM:

Washington STEM is a statewide nonprofit advancing excellence, equity, and innovation in science, technology, engineering, and math (STEM) education. For more information, go to www.washingtonstem.org.

About Washington MESA:

MESA engages thousands of educationally disadvantaged students so they excel in math and science and graduate with math-based degrees. MESA partners with all segments of higher education as well as K-12 institutions. For more information, go to www.washingtonmesa.org/.