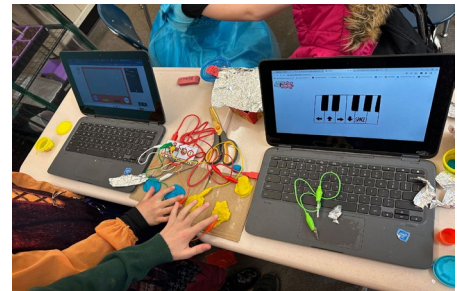
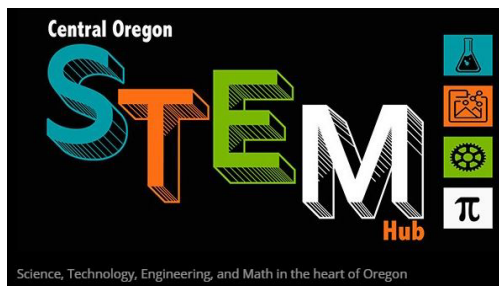




## Central Oregon STEM Hub



### Organization

Backbone Organization: High Desert ESD  
Counties in Region: Deschutes, Jefferson, Crook & Lake  
Sq. Miles in Region: 16,191  
STEM Hub Director: Tracy Willson-Scott  
Email: [Tracy.willson-scott@hdesd.org](mailto:Tracy.willson-scott@hdesd.org)  
Website: [centraloregonstem.hdesd.org](http://centraloregonstem.hdesd.org)

### Central Oregon STEM Schools

During the 2021-2023 biennium, the STEM School Program focused on piloting a system of supports for K-8 schools pursuing STE(A)M transformation as well as development of a certification for K-8 Schools seeking a formalized STE(A)M School Certification. The Portland Metro STEM Partnership acted as the lead Hub, while collaborating with and

### By the Numbers

# School Districts: 14  
# Students: 32,859  
# Educators participated in Professional Development: 2,242  
# Educator Hours in Hub PD: 11,075  
# Students participated in STEM Hub Programs: 14,922  
# Student hours in STEM Hub Supported Programs: 50,162

supporting Central Oregon STEM and the other four participating Hubs. Over the course of two years, teachers and administrators at Buckingham Elementary School in Bend and Sisters Elementary School in Sisters, devoted many additional hours and resources to cultivate a school-wide STEM culture. Schools were recognized as Oregon STEM Schools through a series of assessments, collaboration with peers, community support, and the potential for closing opportunity gaps for historically underserved students.



## Computer Science

As demand from industry increases and the Oregon Department of Education works toward a Statewide Implementation Plan for Computer Science Education, the Central Oregon STEM Hub continues to support regional K-12 students and educators in Computer Science. Between February 2023 and August 2023, we reached 5,831 of our students. Strategies and initiatives include:

Our Coder in Residence program provides youth with hands-on computer science focused STEM activities. We are onsite in the classroom allowing us to meet educators where they are and provide students with amazing experiences – Between February and June 2023 we made 86 school day classroom visits in 43 different schools.

Our Out of School Programming includes computer science activities at school and community STEM events for youth and family; after-school programming and youth summer programming camps in rural communities including Warm Springs, Madras, La Pine, Lakeview, Paisley, and North Lake.

In addition, we host a variety of professional development for traditional Pre-K through 12<sup>th</sup> grade as well as for out-of-school educators. Helping teachers learn how to spark interest early helps excite our youth and inform them so they know what potential computer science pathways are available in middle school, high school, and beyond.

## Career Connected Learning

The Central Oregon STEM Hub works with over 90 industry, community, and higher education

partners to connect education to careers for targeted students who typically don't have access. These efforts help students visualize possibilities for their futures and provide educators with industry and community relationships. Strategies and initiatives include:

Our partnership with the Warm Springs K-8 Academy which engages 8<sup>th</sup> grade AVID students in Science Exploration lessons at the Central Oregon Community College in Bend; advanced manufacturing industry 'Learn it Make It' tours in Redmond; and Vet Tech experiences in Redmond and Tumalo.

Our Science Explorations program welcomes six rural middle schools to the Central Oregon Community College campus semi-annually for a hands-on science lesson. Instructors focus on the sciences as well as share their career journeys. We follow up with post-experience classroom lessons on career opportunities in STEM fields.

The annual Central Oregon Skilled Trades Fair, Health Career Expo, and Career in Tech events brings over 200 industry partners to share their career experiences with high school students.

Our internship partnership with KEITH manufacturing enables high school students to gain valuable experiences in manufacturing while building a local talent pool for industry.

Educator professional development for all age levels linking lessons and curriculum to local real-world applications and local professionals, including our week-long educator externships.