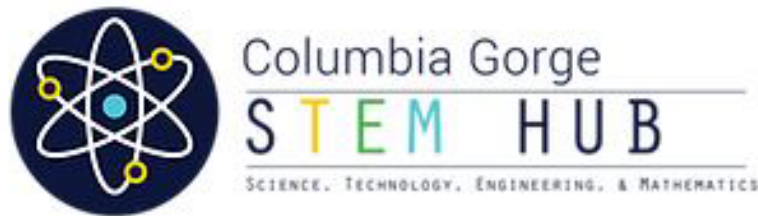




Columbia Gorge STEM Hub



Organization

Backbone Organization: Columbia Gorge ESD
Counties in Region: Gilliam, Hood River, Sherman,
Wasco & Wheeler
Sq. Miles in Region: 6,698
STEM Hub Director: Julie Cucuel
Email: jcucuel@gesd.k12.or.us
Website: GorgeSTEM.org

By the Numbers

School Districts: 10
Students: 10,426
Educators participated in Professional
Development: 499
Educator Hours in Hub PD: 3,964
Students participated in STEM Hub Programs:
13,286
Student hours in STEM Hub Supported
Programs: 94,997

Gorge STEM Fair

Each year, our STEM Hub hosts a widely attended community event, The Gorge STEM Fair. Our fair is sponsored by a variety of community-based organizations, educational groups and industry partners. Each sponsor provides a hands-on, engaging STEM experience for children and their families, exposing them to regional high demand, high wage careers in our region. For the summer of 2024, our Fair will take place on the campus of Columbia Gorge Community College, allowing students of all ages to explore the state-of-the-art Career Technical Education labs available to them. While our Fair has historically been attended by younger students, we hope to engage older students by bringing the STEM Fair to our local community college campus!

Computer Science

The Columbia Gore STEM Hub is committed to increasing access to quality computer science (CS) education for all K-12 students in our region. We believe that all students should have the opportunity to learn

computer science, and we are committed to making that happen. We offer a variety of programs and initiatives to support educators and students, including **cohort-focused workshops** to help educators learn about computer science, often paired with investments in computer science education equipment. We also invite educators to participate in regional and national computer science education offerings including the Computer Science Teachers Association, helping connect them to a broader network of computer science educators. We create and distribute **Regional Oregon STEM and Computer Science Education Week classroom kits** for elementary teachers to use during Oregon STEM and Computer Science Education Week, focusing on unplugged activities that support computational thinking for younger students. We have also **expanded our regional lending library** to ensure equitable access to CS materials/curriculum, free of charge, to educators in our region.

Career Connected Learning

The Columbia Gorge STEM Hub continues to foster Career Connected Learning through impactful initiatives. Most recently, the Hub conducted engaging Advanced Manufacturing 3-day Educator Externships, featuring six industry site visits and an in-depth exploration of Columbia Gorge Community College's Manufacturing program – bringing academic and industry worlds together while fostering student engagement. Additionally, the Hub's efforts in connecting students with local businesses through events like the College and Career Expo and pilot internship program between Dufur School and Cardinal Glass, further fortify partnerships and offer valuable insights into potential career paths. We strive to connect industry professionals to classrooms, providing classroom visits, industry site-visits and industry participation on our regional Collaboratory committee.

