Leveraged Funding

OVERVIEW

STEM Hubs are a great investment for Oregon. The regional and collective work of STEM Hubs situates them well to leverage funding in support of STEM education. Portland Metro STEM Partnership tracks multiple types of leveraged funds including:

1. Grant and donation funding in support of regional STEM Hub work.
2. District investments of funding in support of regional STEM Hub work.
3. In-kind time dedicated by partners to participate in the work of the STEM Hub

Leveraged Funds

The following values represent funds leveraged during the current biennium, 7/1/2017 - 6/30/2019.

Grants and sponsorships awarded to support PMSP initiatives

- $355,706.00 in grants have been awarded for work to occur this biennium.
- $915,021.00 in grants have been awarded for work to occur in future years.
- $125,000 in additional grants are in review.

District investments in PMSP initiatives

- From paying workshop fees for their educators to participate in PMSP workshops, to dedicating Teacher on Special Assignment (TOSA) time to High School Science and STEM School efforts, our current estimate of this value is for the current biennium is $676,800.00.
- An additional $473,800.00 has been spent so far by partner districts on science equipment to support the implementation of the regional Physics, Chemistry, and Biology courses.

In-kind time and resources dedicated by partners

- 10,510 hours been dedicated to participation in Hub professional development opportunities during the current biennium (7/1/17 - 11/28/18). At the federal volunteer rate of $24.69, this time represents an in-kind donation of $259,491.90.
- The Beaverton School District provides dedicated space for PMSP operations and programming. This in-kind support represents a value of more than $24,000 per biennium. Additional donated space for regional workshops and events represents a value of $10,200.

In total, the Portland Metro STEM Partnership has leveraged $2,715,018.90 this biennium alone.
ALIGNMENT TO STATE GOALS

Oregon STEM Education Plan
Portland Metro STEM Partnership’s work aligns to all four of the Oregon STEM Education Plan (2016) Goals and most of the initiative areas (those listed are illustrative not inclusive of all areas):

● GOAL #1: Inspire and empower our students to develop the knowledge, skills, and mindsets necessary to thrive in a rapidly changing, technologically rich, global society.
  ○ Increase time on science in elementary and middle school, consistent with the Next Generation Science Standards (NGSS) and integrating it with other subject areas.
  ○ Increase the use of culturally relevant, place-based contexts as a basis for student inquiry and applied learning projects.
  ○ Increase student interest, understanding, and success in mathematics through applied learning approaches and proficiency-based advancement.

● GOAL #2: Ensure equitable opportunities and access for every student to become a part of an inclusive innovation economy.
  ○ Increase student & family access to understandable, up-to-date market data regarding high-wage, high-demand career opportunities by improving student advising, career counseling services, and guidance tools.
  ○ Increase access to quality, STEM-rich early learning environments for underserved families.
  ○ Increase student & family access to culturally relevant, community-based STEM/CTE programs.

● GOAL #3: Continuously improve the effectiveness, support, and the number of formal and informal P-20 STEM educators.
  ○ Increase time and funding for educators to engage in professional learning opportunities regarding effective STEM and CTE teaching strategies, including applied, project-based approaches, and which develop their own positive STEM identities.
  ○ Increase principal and administrator understanding of the importance of STEM and CTE,
  ○ Increase opportunities for STEM/CTE educators to experience STEM in industry.

● GOAL #4: Create sustainable and supportive conditions to achieve STEM outcomes aligned to Oregon’s economic, education, and community goals.
  ○ Build the capacity, effectiveness, and connectivity of STEM-related professional networks for educators, administrators, community-based non-profits, and other partners.
  ○ Work with the Oregon Department of Education and the Oregon Science Teachers Association to include accountability in science as part of the state’s plan for the Federal ESSA.
  ○ Work with STEM and CTE employers to increase the number of employee volunteers engaging in education programs both in, and out of school.

FUTURE READY OREGON INITIATIVE

Governor Kate Brown launched the Future Ready Oregon Initiative to address the future workforce needs through education investments. Portland Metro STEM Partnership and the regional STEM Hub network can be a key pipeline strategy for the Future Ready Oregon initiative; However, STEM education needs to begin in early childhood and be well supported through elementary and middle school so that students have the interests and confidence as well as foundational knowledge & skills needed to be successful in high school CTE programs. STEM Hubs are also among the primary state strategies to increase hands-on learning and time on science in school districts across the state; however, investments in STEM education at the elementary level as well as additional STEM Hub funding are needed to support this pipeline work.