

Business Education Compact

Impacting 400,000+ Students and Teachers since 1984

“*Students were able to see a "real life" engineer, and hear about how their current schooling and studies can affect them in the future. Several students have since decided they want to be engineers!* Teacher comment—National Engineers Month 2009”

BEC Vision

Teachers *inspire* learning

Students *engage* in learning

Businesses *thrive*

BEC Mission

We make learning real by:

Connecting the classroom and workplace with hands-on, innovative learning experiences for students and teachers

Creating and **leading** working partnerships with business and education

Advocating for quality education in Oregon

The Business Education Compact (BEC), a 501(c)(3) non-profit, has been investing in quality education in Oregon since 1984. Our innovative programs and services connect students with their future and give teachers tools to create enthusiastic, lifelong learners.

Teaching & Learning Initiative

The BEC is leading a statewide initiative to transform K-12 education in Oregon and dramatically improve student achievement outcomes through Proficiency-Based Teaching and Learning (PBTB). We are driven by a vision in which:

Every student is excited about, fully engaged in, and owns their learning—clearly understanding academic expectations and challenging themselves to become proficient in all subjects; and

Every student earns a high school diploma that is a meaningful predictor of post-secondary success; they will have the knowledge and skills to think critically, to communicate effectively, to innovate and to adapt in an ever-changing world.

With a focus on the professional development needs of teachers, statewide workshops and clinics are changing the ways educators engage students and inspire lifelong learning. This Initiative is playing a critical role in helping teachers, administrators and school districts implement the new Oregon diploma standards by 2012.

Since 2005, nearly 1,800 teachers have participated in this Initiative, impacting more than 50,000 Oregon students.

National Engineers Month

Science, technology, engineering and math (STEM) skills are essential to a vital economic future for Oregon and the nation. Each February, the BEC orchestrates a major community initiative, sending hundreds of professional engineer volunteers into K-12 classrooms across Oregon to ignite interest in science and math. Through age-appropriate presentations and demonstrations, these volunteers raise student awareness of the opportunities and rewards of being an engineer.

In 2010, 350 professional engineers visited 870 elementary, middle and high school classrooms, reaching nearly 24,000 students across 24 Oregon and SW Washington counties.

Student Internships

Year-round, in-depth internships create a practical connection between classroom and workplace, amplifying the impact of academic learning with experiential learning. High school students “sample” potential career fields while gaining a deeper understanding of how classroom learning is relevant to their future. College students meet their learning objectives with practical experience and advanced training in their field of study. For both high school and college students, BEC internships help in making informed career decisions and curriculum choices consistent with their interests.

The BEC handles all the details—from recruiting to matching, interview scheduling, new hire orientation, progress monitoring, etc. More than 3,000 students have been placed in full-service internships.

Techno Science Supersite

Learning in STEM-related areas is promoted through this Intel-sponsored website where students, teachers and parents can explore a world of opportunities. From camps and classes to clubs, contests, fairs and scholarships, the Techno Science Supersite identifies a vast array of resources available to Oregon youth.