



November 30, 2018

Governor Jay Inslee
Office of the Governor
PO Box 40002
Olympia, WA 98504-0002

Dear Governor Inslee,

Thank you for your leadership on career connected learning. Your vision to better meet the needs of our young people will provide students with multiple pathways to achieve academic and career success while providing employers with great talent to fill the 740,000 job openings here in Washington in the next five years.

We stand ready to work with you to make this vision a reality. The Career Connect Washington Plan aims to scale existing programs, expand opportunities and integrate more career connected learning into Washington schools.

The pilot efforts you supported in 2018 prove that the strategies in the Career Connect Washington Plan can succeed. Based on the research conducted as part of the plan, we know that parents and students are eager for these new pathway opportunities. More than 75 percent of voters across the state agree we should do more to advance these efforts for our students, regardless of political party, region, gender, race or other demographics.

This is a “go big or go home” moment. If we continue to fund small individual programs without necessary system integration, we will fail in achieving the scale necessary to offer opportunities to all students. There will be an ongoing disconnect between the people who grow up here and the new Washington state economy.

Your focus and leadership have positioned Washington to be the first state in the nation to make career connected learning a part of how 100% of students are educated. Let’s seize this opportunity and move forward. We are ready to work with you to make the necessary policy changes, support the needed budget requests and spread the word in our communities to make this plan a reality for Washington students. This will not only be great for students— it will keep our economy strong.

Sincerely,

Abby Jo Sigal, Executive Director, The James and Judith K. Dimon Foundation
Aerospace Joint Apprenticeship Committee (AJAC)

Amazon

Dr. Amy Morrison Goings, President, Lake Washington Institute of Technology

Ballmer Group

Ben Bagherpour, VP of Site Services & Government Affairs, SEH America

Bill Lyne, President, United Faculty of Washington State

Brad Gray, President and CEO, NanoString Technologies, Inc.

Cheryl Roberts, Ed.D., President, Shoreline Community College

Chris Reykdal, State Superintendent of Public Instruction

Craig W Philips, President, Kineta Inc

David Beard, Policy & Advocacy Director, School's Out Washington

David D'Hondt, Executive Vice President, The Associated General Contractors of Washington

David Etwiler, CEO, Siemens Foundation

Diana Birkett Rakow, Vice President of External Relations, Alaska Airlines

Diane Sosne RN, MN, President, SEIU Healthcare 1199NW

Dow Constantine, King County Executive

Emily Yim, Executive Director, Washington Alliance for Better Schools

Eric LeVine

Dr. James L. Gaudino, President, Central Washington University

Jan Yoshiwara, Executive Director, Washington State Board for Community and Technical Colleges

Mayor Jenny A. Durkan, City of Seattle

John Engber, John Engber & Associates, Inc.

Jon DeVaney, President, Washington State Tree Fruit Association

Kevin Lavery, Chair, Washington State Board of Education

Kristofer T. Johnson, President, Association of Washington Business

Leslie Alexandre, DrPH, President & CEO, Life Science Washington

Meg O'Connor, Bannecker Public Affairs

Michelle Najera, Sr. Development Scientist, AGC Biologics

Michelle Price, Superintendent, North Central Educational Service District 171

MJ Bolt, State Board of Education, Board Member, Eastern Washington Elected Representative

Naria K. Santa Lucia, Executive Director, Washington State Opportunity Scholarship

Perry England, Workforce Board Chair & Vice President, MacDonald-Miller

Scott Morris, Chairman and CEO, Avista Corp.

Dr. Susan Enfield, Superintendent, Highline Public Schools

Susan Mullaney, President, Kaiser Foundation Health Plan of Washington

Trish Millines Dziko, Executive Director, Technology Access Foundation

Urban League of Metropolitan Seattle

Washington State Commission on Hispanic Affairs

Washington State Developmental Disabilities Council

Washington STEM

Washington Technology Industry Association

Attached: Plan Summary