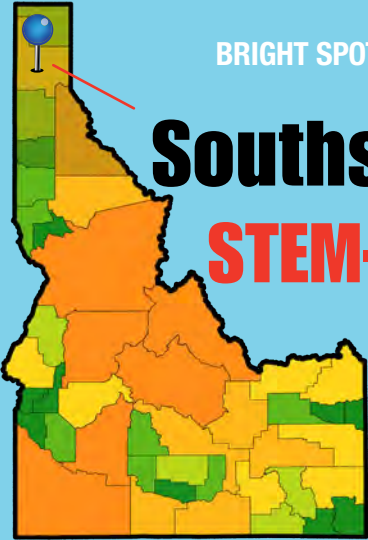


BRIGHT SPOT STEM CAREERS IN SIGHT

Southside Elementary STEM-azing Cocolalla



INDUSTRY'S EXCELLENT EDUCATORS DEDICATED TO STEM - INDEEDS

Each year at the Idaho Technology Council's Hall of Fame event, the organization awards and recognizes innovative leaders who have made a significant contribution to the state's technology community. Innovative educators play a critical role in Idaho's technology future by building the bridge from classrooms to careers with skills that students need for the future.

Lynette Leonard, Librarian at Southside Elementary in Cocolalla, received the Idaho STEM Action Center Industry's Excellent Educators Dedicated to STEM (INDEEDS) Award at the event. INDEEDS is an annual peer-nominated, industry-selected award supported this year by leaders from Micron, Idaho National Laboratories, VINYL, Trailhead, Discovery Center of Idaho and Idaho Technology Council.

Lynette believes every child should have the same access to STEAM skills no matter their geographical location, social economic status and/or ethnicity. This has motivated her to bring STEAM resources to the students of the small, rural school of Southside Elementary, an Idaho STEM Action Center designated STEM School. She incorporates STEAM skills in all her library and computer lab lessons and collaborates with classroom teachers. Lynette created a makerspace in her library, started a 3D printing team, created a summer STEAM camp, hosted STEAM career nights, implemented a library wax museum night and is an instrumental leader in progressing STEAM education. Lynette's dedication to bringing STEAM resources to children has led to creating the first STEAM SmartLab classroom in the state of Idaho at Southside Elementary.

Southside Elementary's northern Idaho brand of innovation was well-represented when Lynette's teams took three out of four awards at the regional 3D design and fabrication student competition hosted by Idaho STEM Action Center. The competition teaches kids about 3D fabrication and design. Student designs addressed Idaho resource challenges with solutions that improve water quality and mitigate fire damage. The Bureau of Land Management and a local welder lent expertise to student teams in their development phase. Showcase judges are STEM professionals from Northern Idaho College, Schweitzer Engineering Labs and other northern Idaho regional Idaho STEM Action Center partners.

"They are learning the STEAM skills and the things that will help them be successful. It may be a challenging program, but the outcome and the learning that comes from it is worth those challenges", said Leonard. Southside Elementary students are turning STEM learning opportunities and collaborations into innovative local resources and solutions.



STEM stands for Science, Technology, Engineering and Math. It's in these subjects that students learn the skills of critical thinking, problem-solving and collaboration— skills that translate to success in many fields. The STEM Action Center is here to support this development and provide Idaho with the talent pipeline it needs for its economy to thrive. Idaho can generate a strong, STEM-competent and competitive workforce that will make us become a prime STEM business destination.





We build STEM through:

EDUCATOR ACCESS

to STEM professional development throughout Idaho

36,000
EDUCATOR INTERACTIONS

WORKFORCE

development-focused partnerships with **INDUSTRY** and **UNIVERSITIES**

8,000
STEM EDUCATION interactions through communities and businesses

Student STEM COMPETITIONS and camp support

500,000
STUDENT INTERACTIONS

Today's students will be tomorrow's workforce, and the STEM Action Center has been created to develop the STEM-skilled talent that Idaho employers need.

Astronaut Inspired Meridian



TODAY'S EFFORTS. TOMORROW'S SUCCESSES.

Industry participation is essential for success, and we're here to help make that participation easier. We've created many ways for Idaho businesses to engage with STEM education. From mentoring and volunteering to donating and partnering, you can help move the economy forward by closing the gaps in Idaho's workforce. Let us help you help Idaho!

LEARN MORE

To learn more about the STEM Action Center's strategies, success stories, and positive impacts in your community, email: admin@stem.idaho.gov.



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