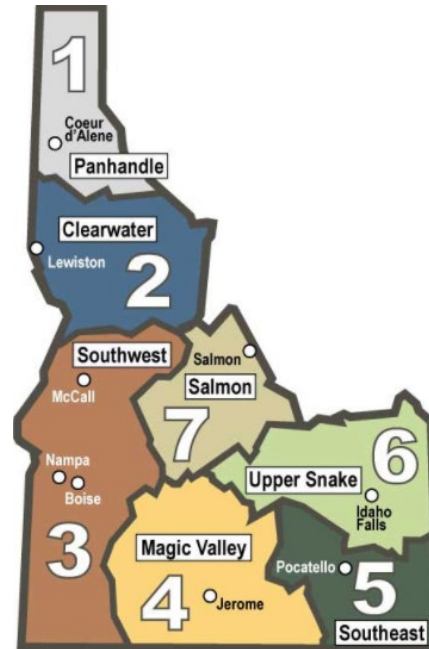


Regions 1 & 2 EcosySTEM Hub



Development and Focus Groups Report
Presenters: Melinda Davis and Susan Stauffer

GREAT TEAMWORK!!!

- Both regions
- Various sectors
- Nez Perce and Coeur d'Alene Tribes

Barb Mueller and staff, Gizmo in Coeur d'Alene * Bob Quant, NIC Comp Science * Steve Beyerlein, UI Engr * Rachel Jameton, Teaching and Learning Center LCSC * Christine Frei, Clearwater Economic Development Association * Kay Seven, Nez Perce Tribe * Ciarra Greene, Northwest Indian College * John Cassleman, Schweitzer Engr Labs * Sarah Walters, Science teacher in Riggins

Timeline

Nov: Identify partners and capture ideas in Padlet

Dec: Committee wrote and Gizmo submitted focus groups proposal to STEM AC

Jan: Focus group leaders identified invitees

Feb-Mar: Focus groups!

Apr: Focus groups summary

Future: Possibilities include....

- Consider the working groups' goals being presented today
- Communicate what is available and desired within our regions
- Continue building our network
- Include student voice
- Survey broader sample of partners to further identify resources and needs

Goal: Information to guide the hub in setting mission and goals and developing a plan

Information Asked

- ▶ What programs are out there?
- ▶ What are primary reasons for engaging in STEM education?
- ▶ What are the opportunities and resources available to improve STEM education?
- ▶ What do you see as the need that a hub can help with?
- ▶ What are the barriers filling that need?

Partner Groups

- ▶ K-5 Educators
- ▶ 6-12 Educators
- ▶ Higher Education
- ▶ Business and Industry
- ▶ Nonprofit and Community Organizations
- ▶ Government and Agencies
- ▶ Students

General Findings

- ▶ Participation was good- but didn't always represent both regions or diversity of roles/organizations
- ▶ Common expression of need for awareness of opportunities and/or resources and better communication
- ▶ Opportunity for better synergy between partner groups
- ▶ Student voice was somewhat limited and is an area where we could dive deeper

K-12 Educators

- ▶ K-5 utilize outdoors for STEM education- **Goal** to build excitement
- ▶ 6-12 recognize the importance of CTE- **Goal** to develop skills that they will need in the future
- ▶ **Opportunity**- provide teachers with more fundamental Science training OR with professional expertise from the communities
- ▶ **Need** for better awareness of who is out there and what they are doing- **Collaboration**
- ▶ **Barrier**- Lack of TIME for both teachers and students- competing with other activities

Higher Education

- ▶ **Goal-** getting students excited about STEM fields
- ▶ **Opportunities** (build relevance)
 - ▶ to develop “real world” skills
 - ▶ Integrate cultural knowledge
- ▶ **Need** for networks- to connect colleges and secondary schools and to connect with real world experts
 - ▶ Get rid of silos
- ▶ **Barrier-** TIME

Business and Industry

- ▶ Driven by workforce needs- **Goal** to fill the pipeline
- ▶ **Opportunity**- raise career awareness
- ▶ **Need** to provide real experiences/hands-on/lab work (relevance)
- ▶ **Barrier**- employers don't know about the programs that are available

Government and Other Agencies

▶ **Goals**

- ▶ Build Awareness of STEM careers
- ▶ Build excitement

▶ **Opportunities**

- ▶ Make STEM relevant
- ▶ Place Based Education
- ▶ Increase diversity and inclusion

▶ **Need-** Access to STEM expertise and resources for programs

▶ **Barrier-** Difficulty getting partners involved, no awareness of what others are doing

Nonprofit and Community Organizations

- ▶ **Goal** - Connect STEM education to career pathways
- ▶ **Opportunity**- Coordinate and connect industry and education
- ▶ **Need**- Conduit for information and hub for partners to connect
- ▶ **Barrier**- Time- competing with other activities

Students

- ▶ These students had positive STEM experiences
- ▶ Both in school and out of school
- ▶ Interest began early
- ▶ Educators played a huge role in motivating them
- ▶ Parents/family were supportive
- ▶ They want more hands-on and place based or outdoor opportunities

THANK YOU!

Contact Susan Stauffer to be added to the roster

Contact Melinda Davis or Susan Stauffer with any questions

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