





here does a Native American single mother with two children and two jobs turn to earn a college degree? For Harmony Blancher, the answer was as close as her home computer—and the Enduring Legacies distance learning program that the K-20 Education Network delivers to her desktop.

Enduring Legacies seeks to increase college access and success through more cohesive degree and transfer programs, stronger support services, and a curriculum developed by a partnership of tribal communities and educational institutions. Via the K-20 Education Network, students can earn an Associate of Arts degree online through Grays Harbor College that is fully transferable to four-year colleges—including The Evergreen State College's upperdivision reservations-based, community-determined program.

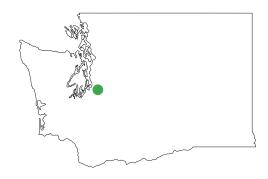
After seven years of struggling to earn an Associate of Arts degree, Blancher entered Enduring Legacies' distance learning program in 2004. "It's brilliant," she says, "a great combination of online courses with the extra support of some face-to-face time and hand-picked instructors who designed a culturally relevant curriculum."

To date, more than 150 students have graduated from Enduring Legacies and gone on to careers including law, higher education, and tribal community schools and programs. Blancher, who has been off public assistance for several years and is the Academic Affairs Information Specialist at the Muckleshoot Tribal College, wants to do more to help others find their way through school to self-sufficiency.

"Without Enduring Legacies, I don't know that I would have stayed in school," Blancher says. She is now earning a bachelor's degree in human development online through Washington State University—also brought to her by the K-20 Education Network. Her ultimate goal? "Maybe a doctorate in psychology."

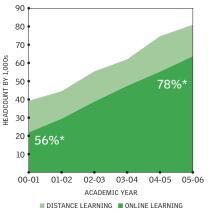
Harmony Blancher
Academic Affairs Information Specialist,
Muckleshoot Tribal College
Auburn

Grays Harbor College Online Degree Graduate
WSU Distance Learning Student



Supporting the Rise in Online Learning

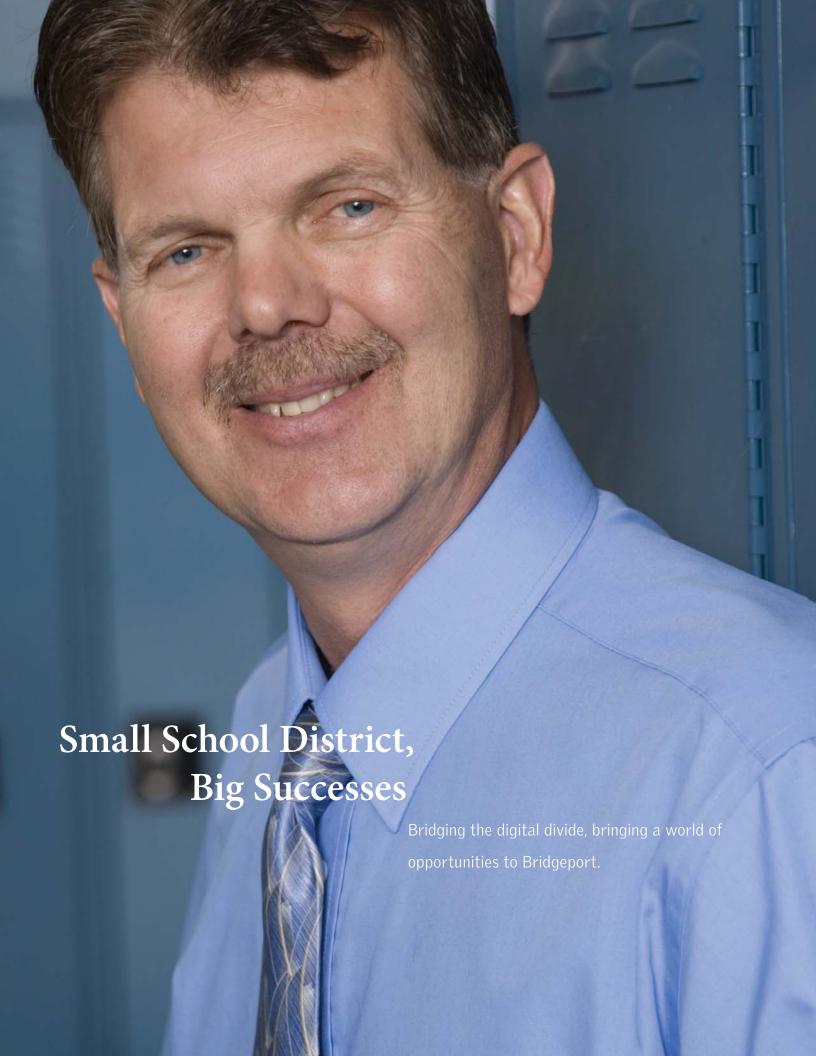
Community and technical colleges are responding to their students' needs by significantly increasing their distance learning options, and online learning is the mode that has increased most of all—from 56% of all distance learning in 2001 to 78% in 2006.



\* ONLINE LEARNING AS PERCENT OF

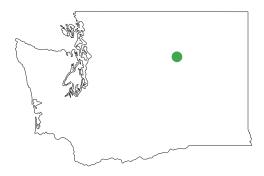
TOTAL DISTANCE LEARNING





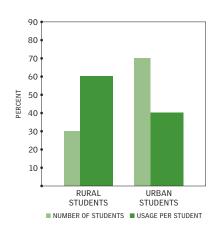


**Gene Schmidt**Superintendent of Bridgeport School District
Bridgeport



Rural Students: Our Biggest K-12 Users

While urban students make up 70% of the K-20 Education Network's total K-12 student participants, the network is actually most heavily utilized by rural students—who use it to access educational opportunities not otherwise available in their communities.



A s news stories and a flurry of state and national awards suggest, something remarkable is going on in Eastern Washington's small, remote Bridgeport School District. And Superintendent Gene Schmidt will be the first to tell you that it couldn't happen without the K-20 Education Network.

Together with devoted teachers, administrators, parents, and statewide educational partnerships, the resources delivered by the K-20 Education Network are helping the 733-strong student body make dramatic gains in everything from WASL scores to college preparedness. The fact that 86 percent of Bridgeport's students qualify for free or reduced-cost lunches and 88 percent speak Spanish as a first language poses challenges that make these results especially remarkable.

- The percentage of 10th-graders meeting WASL reading standards increased from 40.9 percent in 2001 to 62.2 percent in 2005—an increase of over 50 percent.
- With K-20 Education Network access to the Washington Occupational Information System (WOIS), Bridgeport students can research a wide world of careers—and see clear, educational paths to achieving them.
- Through the "College in the High School" program, and partnerships with Central Washington University, Washington State University, the University of Washington, and Wenatchee Valley College, students can earn up to 20 college credits in courses delivered over the K-20 Education Network.

"The K-20 Education Network is the conduit that makes all of these things possible," Schmidt says. "It has created a new paradigm of possibilities that have our students and the entire community excited. Now they expect that they can succeed."



ow can a registered nurse living in a small rural town like
Prosser get an advanced mental health degree without
leaving her home, family and job to do it? Through the K-20
Education Network, Heather McClure found a way to learn where she lives—and where her new skills are desperately needed.

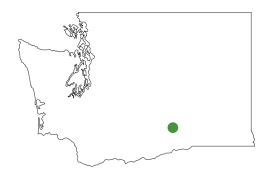
McClure earned her advanced degree through Washington State University's Medically Indigent Rural Area (MIRA) Psychiatric Nurse Practitioner Education project, which was launched on the K-20 Education Network in 2000 to address the many rural communities that have little or no mental health care. MIRA has become a national model for distance education that allows graduate nursing students in rural areas to attend classes remotely, earn the supervised hours required for their licenses, and receive a master's-level psychiatric nurse practitioner degree—all without relocating.

Without the distance education that MIRA and the K-20 Education Network make possible, McClure says, "I wouldn't have found my calling or used my strengths to the fullest. I wanted to stay here and give back to my community, where I know the culture and people trust me."

MIRA has helped multiply her success many times over. To date, 67 of MIRA's 75 graduates have remained in their home counties, and disproportionately high suicide rates have decreased in many of Eastern Washington's rural communities.

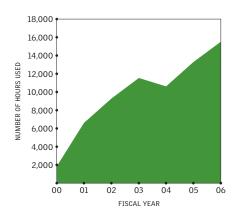
Heather McClure
Psychiatric Nurse Practitioner at Sunnyside Clinic
Prosser

Washington State University Intercollegiate
College of Nursing Masters Degree Graduate
WSU Distance Learning Student



Helping Videoconferencing Take Off

Through the K-20 Education Network, videoconferencing has become easy, accessible to all, and essential to some of the state's most important and innovative distance learning programs across all K-20 sectors.





# Working for Washington State

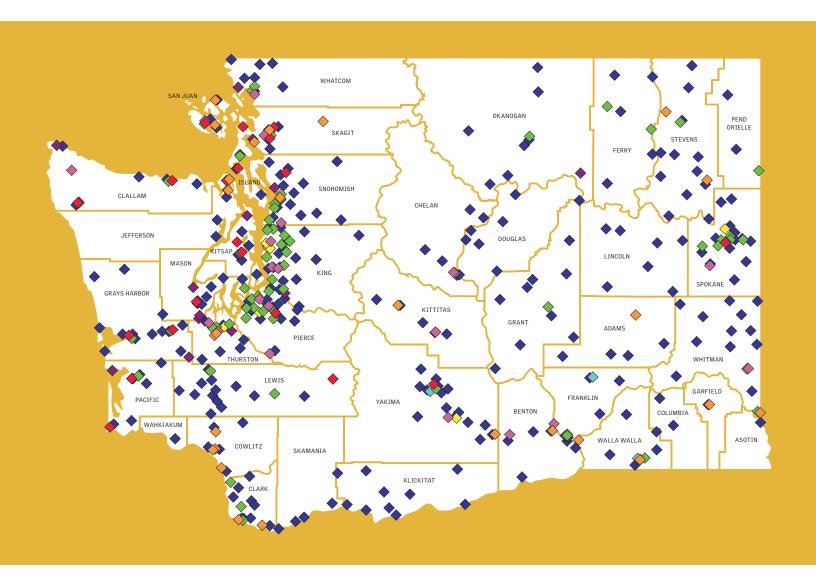
The power of equal access to a world-class education.

Founded in 1996, the K-20 Education Network is a visionary solution to a unique convergence: the advent of the statewide broadband transport network; the diverse needs expressed by all sectors of the educational community; and the state's will to build a single, reliable, cost-effective solution. The result is the nation's first high-speed, high-capacity network linking colleges, universities, K-12 school districts and libraries statewide and providing a remarkable world of educational resources students can access anytime, anywhere.

In an age when technology is critical to success in learning and life, the K-20 Education Network delivers on Washington State's priority to provide a world-class public education. We provide an open network that is highly reliable, centrally managed and economical, with equal access for all participants. In the process, we enable more efficient use of scarce teacher resources and sought-after programs, making them available to students in communities large and small, urban and rural. By dissolving the digital divide and empowering students to learn where they live, we enable them to succeed in, and contribute to, our state's local communities and economies.

We also encourage and empower the educational community to use technology in exciting ways. We do so by showcasing how others are using the network to collaborate and create inspiring applications—and by providing solutions, synergies and partnerships that break new ground in linking education and technology.

A stronger state with every connection. Across Washington, from kindergartens through colleges, the K-20 Education Network is connected to 496 institutions—and growing.



- ♦ K-12 District/ESD (307)
- Community/Technical College (73)
- Public College/University (46)
- ◆ Tribal Education Center/Tribal College (13)
- ♦ Independent College/University (8)
- Public Library (26)
- Telemedicine Site (20)
- Correctional Facility (3)

# K-20 Education Network Board

### **VOTING MEMBERS**

The Director of the Department of Information Services

Mr. Gary Robinson, Chair

# A person designated by the Governor

Ms. Judy Hartmann, Executive Policy Advisor, Office of the Governor

# One member of each caucus of the Senate

The Honorable Jeanne Kohl-Welles

The Honorable David Schmidt

# One member of each caucus of the House of Representatives

The Honorable Sam Hunt

The Honorable Glenn Anderson

# The Superintendent of Public Instruction

Dr. Terry Bergeson

# The Executive Director of the Higher Education Coordinating Board

Dr. James Sulton

The Executive Director of the State Board for Community and Technical Colleges

Mr. Charles N. Earl

## Information Services Board

Mr. Joe Dear, Executive Director of the Washington State Investment Board

### One citizen member

Mr. Marty Smith, Attorney, Preston Gates & Ellis

### NON-VOTING MEMBERS

# One community or technical college president

Dr. James Walton, President, Centralia College

# One president of a public baccalaureate institution

Dr. Thomas L. Purce, President, The Evergreen State College

#### The State Librarian

Ms. Jan Walsh

### One Educational Service District superintendent

Dr. Twyla Barnes, Superintendent, Educational Service District 112

# One school district superintendent

Dr. Chip Kimball,
Deputy Superintendent,
Lake Washington
School District

# One representative of an approved private school

Ms. Judy Jennings, Executive Director, Washington Federation of Independent Schools

# One representative of independent baccalaureate institutions

Dr. Douglas Astolfi, President, Saint Martin's University

# K-20 Network Technical Steering Committee (NTSC)

### **VOTING MEMBERS**

## A representative of the State Board for Community and Technical Colleges

Mr. Michael Scroggins, Chair, Director of Information Technology

# A representative of the computer or telecommunications industry

Mr. Frank Leeds, Vice President and CTO, Seitel Leeds & Associates

## A representative of the Higher Education Coordinating Board

Mr. David Mitchell, Network Administrator

### A representative of the Superintendent of Public Instruction

Mr. Marty Daybell, Deputy Superintendent and CIO

## A representative of the baccalaureates, appointed by the Council of Presidents

Ms. Terry Teale, Executive Director, Council of Presidents

### A representative of the Department of Information Services

Mr. Roland Rivera, Assistant Director for Telecommunications Services

### A representative of the Educational Services Districts

Mr. Tim Merlino, Chief Financial Officer, Educational Service District 112

# K-20 Education Network Program Office

Ms. Connie Michener, Executive Director, K-20 Education Network G

overnor Chris Gregoire knows that education is the most important investment we can make for our economy, our state and our future. That is why she is proposing the Washington Learns initiative to improve education for every Washingtonian, helping ensure they are prepared to compete and succeed in the global economy.

The K-20 Education Network plays a crucial role in delivering education service throughout Washington State. Conceived in 1996 to promote equal access to technology in education, the network now touches the educational lives of more than 1.5 million students in communities across the state. It delivers high-quality educational and research benefits that are used in K-12 classrooms, community colleges, public and private universities, tribal education centers, and public libraries.

These impressive successes of the past decade lay the basis for even greater impact in the future. The K-20 Education Network will enable Washington Learns to bring more value, and more success, to more people across our state.

The path we're on would not be possible without the collaboration, leadership, and support of the Governor, the Legislature, K-20 Program Office, K-20 Education Network Board, Network Technical Steering Committee, and our users. We thank all of them for their passionate and pragmatic support.

At a time when education is the most important investment we can make in our economic future, the K-20 Education Network will continue to make a significant contribution.

Sincerely,

**Gary Robinson** 

Chair, K-20 Education Network Board

Hary Bosins

# Connecting K-20 Students Across the State

Enriching the educational lives of over 1.5 million students

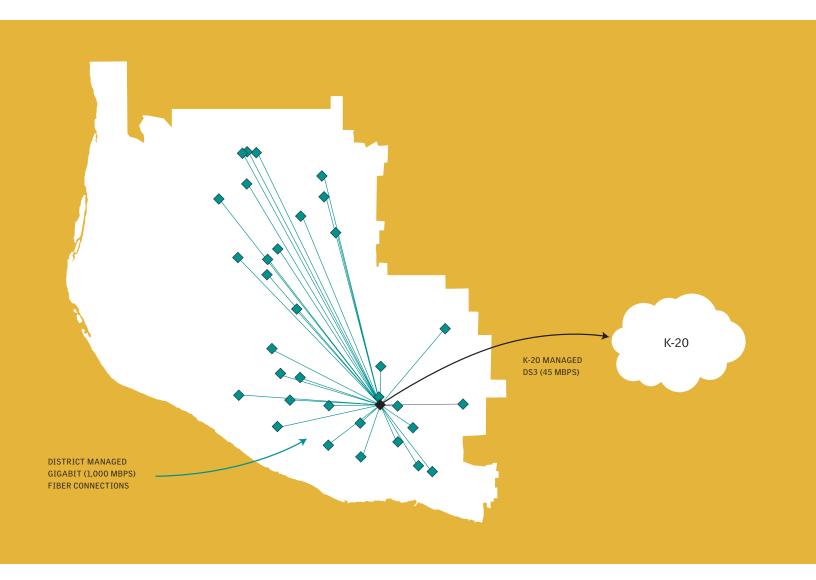
In its first decade, the K-20 Education Network has had a major positive impact on education in Washington State. In 1994, only 4 percent of the K-12 classrooms in the state were connected to the Internet. Most of those connections were relatively slow and had limited use for educational purposes. Today, the K-20 Education Network facilitates high-speed Internet connections to 98.9 percent of the state's K-12 classrooms.

Likewise, the K-20 Education Network has had a similar impact on the state's higher education institutions. For students in the state's universities, community and technical colleges, and higher education branch campuses, the K-20 Education Network has become an integral part of their educational resources.

The K-20 Education Network has dramatically increased equal opportunities for students across Washington State, in communities large and small, rural and urban. In its first decade of progress, the network has made a tremendous difference throughout the K-20 community by connecting:

- More than 150 higher education locations
- More than 300 K-12 school districts and Educational Services Districts
- More than 2,000 K-12 schools and 57,000 classrooms
- Over 1.5 million students

See how deep K-20 Education Network connections run. Just one example of hundreds: Through K-20's link to the Vancouver School District alone, all 34 of its schools, including more than 1,200 classrooms and 20,000 students, are connected.



## **Vancouver School District Network Connects:**

- 34 schools (100%)
- 1,201 classrooms (100%)
- 7,442 standards based PCs
- 29 video systems
- 20,424 students

# Serving Millions, Saving Millions in Administrative Costs

School districts statewide run more cost efficiently with applications and services delivered over the K-20 Education Network.

The K-20 Education Network delivers administrative applications and support services to educational institutions throughout the state.

For K-12 school districts, entities like the Washington School Information Processing Cooperative (WSIPC) provide many of these services. With the support of local experts at the nine Educational Service Districts (ESDs), WSIPC provides districts with cost-effective, industry-competitive solutions to manage their most important information.

These solutions include comprehensive student-related data, with systems to manage everything from attendance and transportation to course scheduling and the cafeteria; human resources oversight—including staff credentials, benefits, payroll and time off; and financial management systems such as accounts payable, accounts receivable, asset management, purchasing and chart of accounts.

The K-20 Education Network has enabled WSIPC and the ESDs to serve local districts more effectively, and helped districts to better meet the increasing demands of data administration, accountability and

transparency. Without the network, each district would have been left to pursue its own locally-delivered solution at tens of millions of dollars in additional costs every year:

- WSIPC serves 281 of Washington's 296 school districts at about half the cost of similar services from private-sector providers. Services are voluntarily acquired and paid for entirely by participating districts.
- WSIPC manages \$6.1 billion dollars that are administered through the school districts.
- WSIPC services manage payroll, benefits and human resource requirements for 142,000 employees.

We also deliver similar types of online administrative applications and support services to all public higher education institutions in Washington State—providing increased access and flexibility to students, faculty, and administrators:

- Administrative applications include student management systems, financial systems, facilities management, and payroll/personnel systems
- Student-focused applications include class registration, financial aid status, student payments and accounts, transcripts, degree progress, library access, and academic advising.

"All the financial management information of the entire K-12 system is now dependent on the effective operations of the K-20 Education Network."

**Dr. Terry Bergeson**Superintendent of Public Instruction

# Making Technology Cost-Efficient, Scalable and State of the Art

Flexible, affordable—accessible to all

From its inception, the K-20 Education Network was designed to be cost-effective, scalable, and accessible to the statewide education community. By taking an enterprise approach from the outset—that is, coming together to build one network where others might build several—we have instilled efficiencies and economies of scale into the network. As we support the educational community's technology needs today, we are also building to meet its needs 10 years into the future.

# Increasing capacity, reducing costs

A decade ago, all K-20 connections were provided as T1s, with each T1 providing 1.5 megabits per second (Mbps) of data transmission. With the evolving needs of the educational community, and the rapid growth in applications such as streaming video, webcasting and video-to-the-desktop, demand for higher-bandwidth options from the educational community has been increasing.

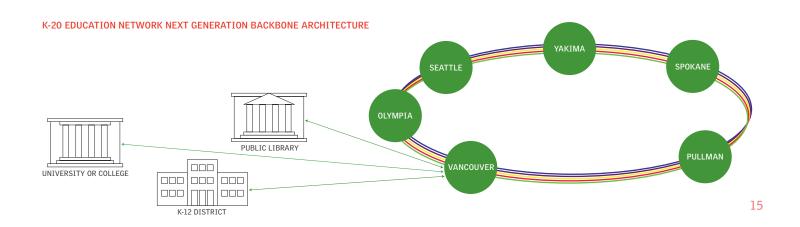
In response, the K-20 Education Network is providing higher-capacity fiber connections to an increasing number of K-20 locations. These fiber connections provide from 10 Mbps to 1 Gigabit (1,000 Mbps) of connectivity to these institutions, which enable greater usage of evolving applications at a much lower per-megabit cost than T1 connections.

We continue to work with telecommunications carriers, public utility districts, and local governments to provide these powerful connections to our sites. By the end of the current school year, more than 200 K-20 locations will have these higher-bandwidth fiber connections.

# Upgrading: Smarter with each generation

The K-20 Next Generation Network (NGN) will incorporate the latest in cost-effective networking technologies, including dense wavelength division multiplexing (DWDM). This advanced technology puts data from different sources together on an optical fiber, with each signal carried at the same time on its own separate light wavelength.

Using DWDM, 80 or more separate wavelengths or channels of data can be multiplexed into a light stream transmitted on a single optical fiber. In a system with each channel carrying 2.5 Gbps (billion bits per second), the optical fiber can deliver up to 200 billion bits per second. The higher speed of DWDM allows for higher-bandwidth applications, including high-definition video, disaster recovery and business continuity. The K-20 architecture, combined with favorable pricing for these services, allows us to provide increasing amounts of bandwidth without increasing cost.



# Leveraging the Educational Value of Every Dollar

Making public funds go farther—for all schools and students across the state

The K-20 Education Network leverages our state's investment in education, providing cost-effective telecommunications for the educational community statewide.

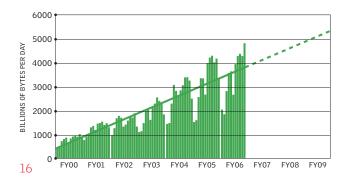
In our first decade, we proved the premise that the resources of a single statewide network would result in a progressively lower unit cost for telecommunications. Network usage has increased about 25 percent per year, while network expenses have not increased and have remained essentially constant.

The K-20 Education Network has become a model of technology equity, providing equal access to all school districts at the same cost—including underserved rural areas of the state, where traditional learning resources fall short and the cost of connectivity would otherwise be much higher.

The following financial highlights illustrate the lean cost-efficiency of our business model:

■ The requested state appropriation for the 07-09 biennium is 11 percent less than that for the initial biennium of K-20 operation (99-01).

### K-20 EDUCATION NETWORK INTRANET TRAFFIC



#### K-20 EDUCATION NETWORK EXPENSE



- Network expansion and technical upgrades have all been financed from accumulated depreciation; no K-20 special appropriations have been required.
- All costs for Internet usage are paid for by the individual user organizations; K-20 does not request a state appropriation.

The K-20 Education Network is financed by a combination of appropriations from the state general fund and fees paid by K-20 subscribers (co-pays). In addition, some funding has been received from Qwest as a part of a rate settlement. This Qwest funding will support a number of designated special projects and help pay for the connection of public libraries through FY09.

The K-20 Education Network Board has approved the following budget for 07-09 and has recommended this budget to the Governor and the legislature.

K-20 EDUCATION NETWORK 07-09 EXPENSES		K-20 EDUCATION NETWORK 07-09 REVENUE SOURCES
KOCO (K-20 OPERATIONS COOPERATIVE)	\$9.0 M	STATE GENERAL FUND
TRANSPORT	8.7 M	PARTICIPANT CO-PAY
MAINTENANCE AND DEPRECIATION	7.3 M	QWEST (LIBRARIES)
PROGRAM OFFICE	2.0 M	TOTAL REVENUE
TOTAL EXPENSE	\$27.0 M	TOTAL REVENUE

\$20.2 M 6.0 M 0.8 M

\$27.0 M

With this many participants, imagine how many more stories we're making possible.

Adams County Benge School District • Lind School District • Othello School District • Ritzville Public Library • Ritzville School District • Washtucna School District Asotin County Asotin County Library • Asotin-Anatone School District • Clarkston School District • Walla Walla Community College - Clarkston Benton County Columbia Basin College - Richland Center • Finley School Cities Chelan County Cascade School District • Cashmere School District • Central Washington University - Wenatchee • Entiat Wenatchee Valley College Clallam County Cape Flattery School District • Crescent School District • Northwest Indian College -Angeles Clark County Battle Ground School District • Camas Public Library • Camas School District • Clark College • Clark Washington State School for the Deaf • Washington State University - Vancouver • Washougal School District Columbia County Dayton School District • Starbuck School District Cowlitz County Castle Rock Public Library • Castle Rock School District • Washington State University - Longview • Woodland School District Douglas County Bridgeport School District • Eastmont School District • Mansfield School District • Orondo School District • Palisades School District • Waterville School District Ferry County Spokane Community College - Inchelium • Spokane Community College - Republic Franklin County Columbia Basin College •

District • Pasco School District • Star School District • Coyote Ridge Correctional Facility Garfield County Denny Ashby Public Library • F County Aberdeen School District • Cosmopolis School District • Elma School District • Grays Harbor College • Grays Harbor College • Elma School District • Cosmopolis School District • Cosmopolis School District • Elma School District • Grays Harbor College • Grays Harbor College • Elma School District • Grays Harbor College • Grays Harbor Col Reed Hospital • Washington State University - Aberdeen • Wishkah Valley School District Island County Coupeville School District • Oak H Jefferson County Brinnon School District • Chimacum School District • Jefferson County Rural Library • Peninsula College - Port Hadlock Telemedicine - Jefferson Medical Center King County Antioch University • Auburn School District • Bellevue Community College • Bellevue Washington State University - Boeing Kitsap County Bainbridge Island School District • Bremerton School District • Central Kitsap School Elum-Roslyn School District • Easton School District • Ellensburg School District • Kittitas School District • Thorp School District Klickita • Vader School District • White Pass School District • Winlock School District Lincoln County Creston School District • Davenport School District Mason County Grapeview School District • Hood Canal School District • North Mason School District • Pioneer School District • Sch Intertribal Planning Agency - Squaxin • Southside School District • UW Telemedicine - Mason General Hospital Okanogan County Brewster School District Pend Oreille County Cusick School District • Newport School District • Selkirk School District • Spokane Community College

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Pomeroy School District Grant County Big Bend Community College • Central Washington University - Moses Lake • Coulee-Hartline School
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Omak Pacific County Grays Harbor College - Ilwaco • Grays Harbor College - Raymond • Naselle-Grays River Valley School District •
e - Newport-Pierce County-Bates Technical College • Bethel School District • Carbonado School District • Central Washington University -
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Skamania County Mill A School District • Mount Pleasant School District • Skamania School District • Stevenson-Carson School District S Summit Valley School District • Valley School District • Washington State University - Colville • Wellpinit School District Thurston County University Energy Office • Yelm Community Schools Wahkiakum County Wahkiakum School District Walla Walla County College Place School Community College Whitman County Colfax School District • Colton School District • Endicott School District • Garfield School District •

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or • University of Washington - Friday Harbor Laboratories • UW Telemedicine - Inter-Island Medical Center Skagit County Anacortes
onner Public Library • La Conner School District • Mount Vernon School District • Northwest Educational Service District 189 • Northwest
ital • UW Telemedicine - Skagit Valley Hospital • UW Telemedicine - United General Hospital • Washington State University - Mt. Vernon
nohomish County Arlington School District • Central Washington University - Lynnwood • Darrington School District • Edmonds
ter • Everett Community College - Paine Field • Everett Public Library • Everett School District • Granite Falls School District • Index
School District • Northwest Indian College - Tulalip • Snohomish School District • Stanwood School District • Sultan School District •
10 Geoperative Spokane County Central Valley School District • Cheney School District • Deer Park School District • East Valley School
10 tional Service District 101 • Evergreen School District • Freeman School District • Great Northern School District • Intercollegiate College
10 ict • Nine Mile Falls School District • Orchard Prairie School District • Riverside School District • Spokane Community College • Spokane
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12 Council of Presidents • Educational Service District • Spokane Community College • Colville • Stevens County Rural Library District •
13 Council of Presidents • Educational Service District • Spokane Community College • Colville • Stevens County Bullingham School District •
14 Colville
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nce an indispensable resource like the K-20 Education Network is in place, it's easy to take it for granted, and hard to remember what life was like without it. But the practical magic of the K-20 Education Network is only possible because of the vision, courage and ongoing hard work of hundreds of people who share a passion for ensuring that all of our students have equal access to a world-class education.

Over the last ten years, we have focused intently on providing a telecommunications infrastructure to our education community at low cost with unlimited access to educational opportunities across the state, the country and the world. Today, we have almost 500 connected education partners touching the lives of every student, teacher, administrator, and faculty within Washington State's education community.

Fulfilling the K-20 dream would not be possible without the extraordinary collaboration of our education partners, private sector participants, and elected officials. As we move public education forward with the next-generation K-20 Education Network, we and our partners will continue our commitment to empower all Washington State students to achieve their dreams, be productive citizens, and compete successfully in the global marketplace. Ultimately, by giving all students access to a world-class education, we're creating a bright future for our state.

Sincerely,

**Connie Michener** 

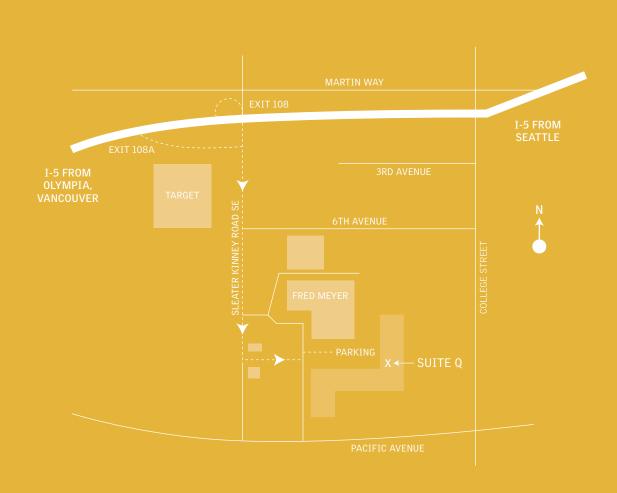
Executive Director, K-20 Education Network

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# Learn More

Get connected. Get involved. Get up to speed on how the K-20 Education Network is making the power of a world-class education come true across Washington State.

To find out more, visit us online at www.wa-k20.net.



K-20 Education Network 710 Sleater Kinney Road SE, Suite Q P.O. Box 42445 Lacey, Washington 98504-2445 *phone* 360 725 5101 www.wa-k20.net

### DRIVING DIRECTIONS FROM I-5

Take Exit 108(A) to Sleater Kinney Road SOUTH. Turn right onto Sleater Kinney Road SE. Get into the left lane. Pass through traffic light at 6th Avenue. Pass through traffic light at the main entrance of the Fred Meyer shopping center. From the left lane, enter Fred Meyer's south parking lot. Continue through the Stop sign, and drive straight until you reach Suite Q. Look for the K-20 Education Network sign above the entrance.



K-20 Education Network P.O. Box 42445 Olympia, Washington 98504-2445 phone 360 725 5101 fax 360 438 7996 www.wa-k20.net

