



- ♦ Clark County Skills Center
- ♦ New Market Skills Center
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- ♦ Wenatchee Valley Technical Skills Center
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- ♦ Yakima Valley Technical Skills Center

Your Regional Technical Public Schools News Brief

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SEATTLE SCHOOL DISTRICT SKILLS CENTER

Aerospace Science & Technology Program Takes Off

“Your Future Starts...Now”—That is the vision of the Seattle Public Schools Skills Center. At the Rainier Beach campus of the Seattle Skills Center, students gain valuable work skills through the *Aerospace Science and Technology* program. *Aerospace* is taught by a dynamic staff member, Mr. Names, who has solid community support and strong mentorship opportunities for students. *Aerospace Science and Technology* program students not only can obtain Core+ certification, they receive the soft skills needed to become outstanding workforce employees. Students consistently articulate that they feel connected to the content and connected to the world of aerospace.

When you walk into this facility, it may at first glance appear a bit chaotic, but take a closer look. The management replicates the workplace: students are working with other students; the instructor is managing the classroom and facilitating; and each student is learning. Replication of the workplace is a key ingredient in helping students gain valuable skills.

One student, Eduardo, is an active member of the *Aerospace and Technology* program. He believes that being a part of this program is helping him begin his future now while still in high school.

Eduardo is interested in becoming an engineer. Through the *Aerospace* program, his dreams are becoming a reality. This program connects with students where they are and teaches them technical and hands-on skills while incorporating college credit opportunities and workplace soft skills.

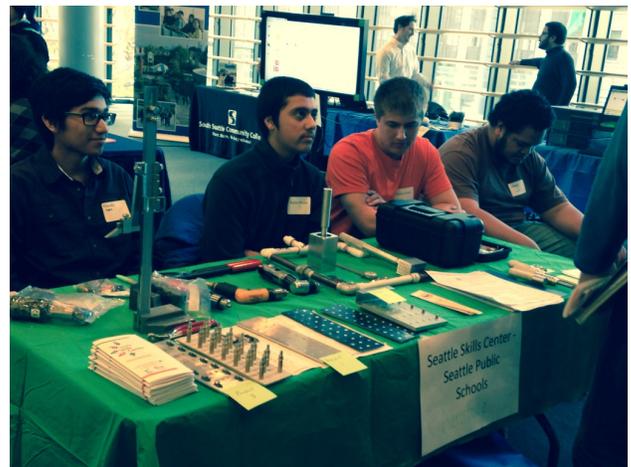
Students work with a mentor from the Boeing Company who comes into the classroom on a regular basis to assist with hands-on learning and to help students discover their futures. “Before this class I knew I was going to go to college but I didn’t know why; now I have a plan,” Eduardo stated.

Eduardo’s plan includes connecting with the local community college after graduating to utilize his earned college credits

from high school and then moving on to a four-year university to earn a degree in engineering.

There are other students in the course who have plans to go directly to a four-year university in engineering; they are feeling like they are much more prepared for the hands-on world. Yet other students are planning to enter the workforce and they are looking for employers willing to help them gain additional valuable training to continue their learning.

One thing is for certain: Because of the positive experiences they’ve had throughout the *Aerospace*



Science and Technology program, students repeatedly say they want to be able to give back to students in their own communities. They also see the value in continuing programs like this one where students can explore a world of opportunity and have mentors by their side to help them start their futures....now.

**Washington State Skills Centers
Salute the Legislature
Thank You for Your Continuing Support**

Helping Skills Centers to ensure all students acquire leadership, academic, and industry-defined skills.