



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Contact: Emily Wicks, Marysville School District
Communications and Community Relations Coordinator
360-965-0007 | Emily.Wicks@msd25.org

Trade UP AND Touch-A-Truck events seeks to inspire future careers in the trades

Marysville, WA – Marysville Career & Technical Education (CTE) Juniors and Seniors and Marysville Middle School eighth grade CTE students will receive hands-on education in the engineering, construction, and manufacturing trades on June 2 at the Trade UP AND Touch-A-Truck event at Marysville-Pilchuck High School.

The event, made possible through a partnership between Workforce Snohomish, the Snohomish County Labor Council, United Way Snohomish County, and the Marysville School District Career & Technical Education Department allows participating students to spend the day with professionals from more than 10 different industries. Students will have an opportunity to run various types of machinery, operate simulators, and even put on a harness and climb a power pole. Participants will also learn about salaries, benefits, and work expectations in these high demand career fields, and will be required to wear safety gear, complete a time card, and listen to job preparedness criteria. The Snohomish County Labor Council will also be on hand providing information on apprenticeships and training programs available through organized labor.

“Event exhibitors will teach transferable skills to Marysville’s youth in a real-life work environment,” said Workforce Snohomish Chief Executive Officer, Erin Monroe. “The experience of driving a truck or using an engineering simulator can help steer a student toward a career in the growing field of construction and manufacturing.”

The original idea for the program is the vision of Stanwood Mayor Leonard Kelley, who met with Erin Monroe, Executive Director of Workforce Snohomish, earlier this year. Mayor Kelley is the Secretary-Treasurer of the Snohomish County Labor Council and is connected with many Union skills training programs with people who are willing to share extensive knowledge with teens who will be entering into the workforce. "The idea came from bits and pieces I'd heard all over, from the state legislature to Economic Alliance of Snohomish County," Kelley said. "As our county grows, so too does the demand for these types of jobs. Especially since college is not for everybody, we need to show kids how they can live a decent life working in the trades."

A recent analysis of manufacturing activity in the United States using data from the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics shows Snohomish County has the largest increase in manufacturing jobs when compared to other major urban manufacturing communities in the U.S. From 1967 to 2014, Snohomish County manufacturing jobs increased by 276 percent, and the county maintains the highest concentration of manufacturing jobs of any county in the state of Washington.

“The Trade UP AND Touch-a-Truck event is all about getting our students interested, excited, and motivated to pursue a career they love and want to master,” said Marysville School District Career and Technical Education Director, Donneta Oremus. “We are pleased to partner in this effort to provide our students early access to all of the growing career options available to them.”

Participation is limited to 70 high school CTE students from Engineering, Construction, Manufacturing, and Jobs for America’s Graduates (JAG), and 50 eighth grade Marysville Middle School students. The event will take place at the Marysville-Pilchuck High School Campus on the Fast Pitch Softball 4-plex paved area, gymnasium parking lot, and inside the Jim Linden Fieldhouse. For more information, visit workforcesnohomish.org/advance/tradeup/.

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About the Marysville School District

The Marysville School District seeks to engage our community, inspire our students, and prepare our graduates. We provide not just an adequate education for our children, but an excellent one. It is our belief that every child in our community deserves the very best educational experience possible, and every child has the potential to achieve success in life if given the right tools to do so. Learn more at www.ms25.org.

About Workforce Snohomish

Workforce Snohomish invests government and private funding to continuously increase the global competitiveness and prosperity of our businesses and workforce, to fill current and emerging jobs, and to provide full employment. Our investments are made through effective business, labor, educational, community-based, and service provider organizations for the opportunity, economic wellbeing, and benefit of our entire community. Learn more at www.workforcesnohomish.org.

About United Way Snohomish County

United Way advances the common good through transforming our community and improving the lives of people in Snohomish County. We believe everyone deserves the opportunity for a good life, so we focus on breaking the cycle of poverty, and creating long-lasting change by addressing the underlying causes of problems. Learn more at www.uwsc.org.



Marysville
School District



Workforce
Snohomish



United Way
of Snohomish County



About Snohomish County Labor Council

The Snohomish County Labor Council is a federation of 63 unions in Snohomish County. Those unions represent 42,000 working families for the purpose of bargaining wages/salaries and working conditions with their employers. The Labor Council and its member unions are dedicated to helping workers organize their workplaces so that they are ensured economic justice and dignity. Learn more at www.snolabor.org.