From the Director

Congratulations! You successfully completed another year of school. Many of us look forward to this time of year when we attend high school and college graduation ceremonies. Spring signals a period of new growth and challenges. If you are a high school senior you are about to begin the next exciting phase of your journey whether it be continuing your education at a 2 or 4 year college, starting a new job or simply taking time off to regroup and consider your options. If you are unsure about your plans, your Educational Talent Search (ETS) counselor will be able to guide you through the decision making process.

This is an important time for juniors as well. Now is the time for you to register for either the SAT or ACT. Don’t wait until your senior year. The SAT or ACT are best taken between April and June and even if you are unsure about your post high school plans you should register for the test. If you have questions about these tests, sign up to meet with your Educational Talent Search counselor.

Take advantage of the fact that you are enrolled in the Educational Talent Search program and let us help you get started.

Best regards,
Stephanie Y. Miller
Director, Educational Talent Search Program

“The Daily of the University of Washington” featured our Director! Click on the link for more information: www.dailyuw.com/stephaniemiller
Student Features:

Our TRiO student feature for the Spring Edition of our newsletter comes from Wapato High School. Raul Arroyo is a senior with an excellent academic track record. He comes from a family of hard working and dedicated migrant parents, who came to this country for a better future. Mr. Arroyo said his dream job would consist of traveling to other countries and learning about agricultural production. With this in mind, Mr. Arroyo decided to apply to Washington State University.

After a much anticipation he received the letter every senior student hopes to receive. He was admitted to Washington State University (Pullman)! He plans to attend this fall and study business and agriculture. He’s also excited to meet new people and learn more about himself. As a student, he wants to begin a new chapter in his life that will change him forever.

Pathway to a STEM Degree

It is important to start planning early! Even if you are not sure you want to go into a STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering and Math) field, it is a good idea to prepare ahead of time. Math and science are the core elements to any STEM field, and these two subject areas can do nothing but help no matter what you decide to pursue. The critical thinking skills math and science teach are essential to contributing to our society.

Rigorous Courses:

A rigorous course pattern is recommended to all students and is extremely beneficial for those pursing a STEM degree. A rigorous course pattern includes:

- 4 years of Math: Geometry, Algebra I & Algebra II, trigonometry, pre-calculus, statistics, &/or calculus
- 3 years of Laboratory Science: Biology, chemistry, physics, and/or earth science
- 3 years of Social Studies: U.S. history, U.S. Government, world history or geography, & economics
- 4 years of English
- 2 years of Foreign Language

Make sure to discuss your educational goals with your school advisors, ETS counselor and teachers. They will be able to help guide you in your pursuit of higher education and will play a crucial role in your success. You need to be surrounded by a network of peers and adults that care about your academic success.

Why STEM?

STEM fields have an ever-growing presence in our changing world. With the technological boom and advancement in fields like medicine and engineering, the demand for graduates who studied in STEM fields are increasing in demand. STEM majors are vital to the U.S. and world economies, development and preservation in areas such as financial industry, security, environmental stability, and manufacturing. STEM students are the innovators of our future.