

Labor as a Strategic Partner in Public Advocacy



Presented By:

Chelsea Mason, Moderator

- Susan A. Palmer, Trustee, Renton Technical College
- ❖ Jackie Boschok, Trustee, Green River College
- *Tom Lux, Trustee, Shoreline Community College
- Mark P. Martinez, Trustee, Clover Park Technical College
- Beth Thew, Trustee, Community Colleges of Spokane

























































































































Examples of Union Represented Industries:

- Administration
- Aerospace
- Agriculture
- Construction
- Education
- Energy
- Film
- Forestry

- Grocery/Retail
- Healthcare
- Hotel & Hospitality
- Information Technology
- Musicians
- Parks & Recreation
- Public Service
- Transportation & Logistics



Washington State Community & Technical Colleges

Washington State has 30 College Districts and 34 Community & Technical Colleges

370,000 students attend our Community & Technical Colleges

Trustees are appointed by the Governor to serve 5 year terms and are subject to Senate Confirmation

State law requires a Labor Trustee to serve on Technical College Boards

Bates Technical College, Bellingham Technical College, Clover Park Technical College, Lake WA Institute of Technology and Renton Technical College

State law requires a Labor Representative to serve on the State Board for Community & Technical Colleges





Examples: Where Labor Advocates for CTCs



GOVERNMENT

programs policies funding

COMMUNITY

awareness

partnerships

support







Why We're Invested

- Our members are Community & Technical College (CTC) students
- Our members are CTC staff & faculty
- Union industries rely on a strong CTC system
- Registered apprenticeships are integrated with CTCs
- We believe in access & opportunity for all students and workers



Jesica Bush, 30, who served 7½ years in prison for armed robbery, is now an Ironworkers Local #86 apprentice in Tacoma, Wash., making nearly \$25 hour and earning credits toward a community-college degree. The 5-

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Advocacy Assets

Relationships with elected officials and other leaders

Community group partners

Engaged and accessible members

State-wide and regional networks (federations) of unions

Labor lobbyist coalitions





Bridging Advocacy Between Agencies & Boards



Washington

Workforce Training And Education

Coordinating Board

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Labor sits on many boards and committees focused on education, workforce development and supporting the community

Help Moving the Needle: Capital Projects



CTC construction projects create family wage jobs in local communities. Labor is an ally in helping secure capital funding.

Speakers included the Mayor of Tacoma, leadership of Bates Technical College, **Pierce County Building & Construction Trades Council Executive Secretary Mark Martinez**, and others.



Help Moving the Needle: Student & System Support

Labor was a key CTC partner in a landmark advocacy campaign to increase funding for:

Student Scholarships

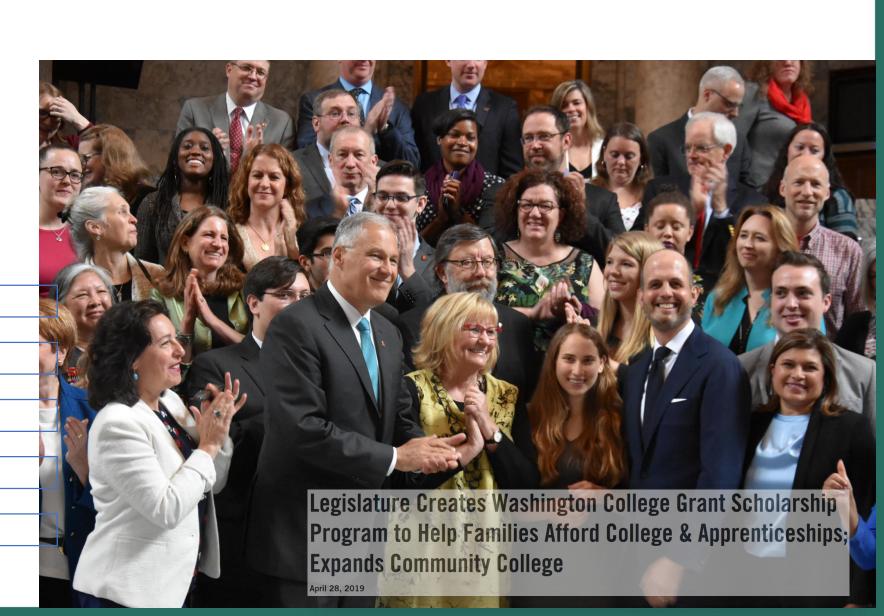
High Demand Programs

Faculty Salary Increases

Incumbent Worker Training

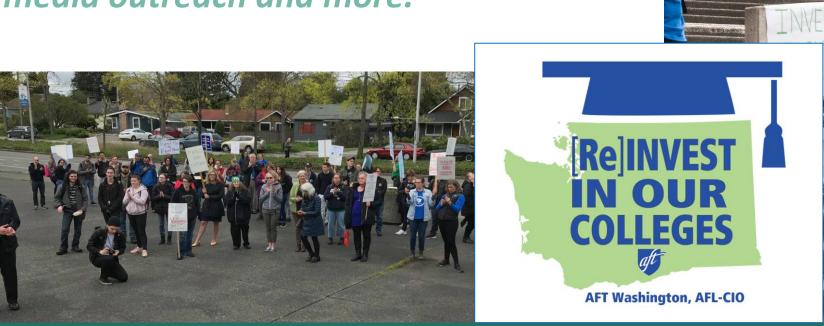
Career Connected Learning





Help Moving the Needle: Community Awareness

One of Washington's faculty unions led a public campaign in 2019 to raise awareness about the need to (re-)invest in community & technical colleges. It included education, rallies, lobbying, media outreach and more.





Building a Bridge with Labor in Your State

RESOURCES & RELATIONSHIPS

- State AFL-CIO
- County or Regional Central Labor Councils
- State Building Trades Councils
- County or Regional Building Trades Councils
- Staff & Faculty Unions

OPPORTUNTIES TO INCLUDE LABOR

- State CTC Governing Board
- College Boards of Trustees
- Advisory Committees
- Foundation Boards





Want to be a part of an ACCT Labor Caucus?

Sign up today or contact:

Kairie Pierce, Workforce Development Director Washington State Labor Council, AFL-CIO

kpierce@wslc.org

Kairie can also help connect you with labor partners in your community.

