



Unlock Your Future

October 5, 2022

The inaugural Unlock Your Future event will provide an opportunity for middle school students to learn about career options that do not require a traditional 4-year college degree. Local employers from the Manufacturing, Construction, Trades and Medical industries will be in-person to share information about their industry and potential careers with students. (More details are available at: www.hubsportscenter.org/unlock-your-future)

A committee comprised of representatives from local nonprofits (Innovia Foundation, HUB Sports Center), education administrators, counselors and Career and Technical Education (CTE) staff (ESD 101, CVSD, SPS) and business chambers (Greater Spokane Inc, Greater Spokane Valley Chamber of Commerce) was formed and began meeting in early 2020 to plan this event. Our original target event date was fall 2020, but for obvious reasons that didn't happen. So we have had over a year to discuss a target audience and industries. 2021 saw us complete the Student Handbook, but not the in-person event due to the delta surge and transportation issues. So we are excited about the full event for this fall.

Conversations with the school districts' administrators, counselors and CTE staff have led us to target middle school students. Different schools may target different grade levels as it matches best with their career connected learning plans. All committee members felt middle school is the most beneficial time to introduce these careers to students.

Conversations with business chambers provided us with avenues to potential industries that have these types of career opportunities. While there is always more to choose from, we decided to start year one of this event with highlighting jobs and pathways in the Manufacturing, Construction, Trades and Medical fields.

We will reach out to potential vendors and event sponsors by early summer 2022. Schools will receive a "Save the Date" note before the end of the current school year.

A variety of companies representing manufacturing, construction, trades and medical industries will have booths spread over four basketball courts at the HUB Sports Center. Students will "speed date" on all four courts during their time at the event. Three sessions will be offered with a maximum of 400 students per session for a total of 1,200 students. We will target multiple school districts in the Greater Spokane area and surrounding communities.

Students will receive a handbook at the event that will help guide their experience. This handbook will contain information such as: map of facility, list of companies and booth locations, general info by industry, sample questions to ask company representatives, event sponsor info, FASFA info, training/scholarship info, apprenticeship info and company info (job/position types, wage info, number of employees, training options, etc.).

We are excited to have such a strong committee and a passion for this event to be a benefit to local students and potential future employers.