

# BLUEPRINT FOR EDUCATION

## MT. SI HIGH SCHOOL FORGES AHEAD WITH ITS CONSTRUCTION TECHNOLOGY PROGRAM



The AGC of Washington Education Foundation is proud of its involvement with Mt. Si High School's Construction Technology Program. Beginning in the 2001–2002 school year, the AGC of Washington's Education Foundation has provided technical advice and grant funding for NCCER accreditation training and procurement of specialized lab equipment to help Mt. Si create a top-notch construction education program.

### BUILDING CURRICULUM AND CAREERS

The school's efforts to beef up its construction education offerings are part of a larger school transformation process centered on the creation of career "pathways." The Construction Technology Program is situated in the Industry and Technology Pathway and boasts the active engagement of industry professionals (including AGC of Washington members). According to Thomas Mosby, Mt. Si's Career and Technical Education director, career exploration and reflection are embedded in the curriculum. Career preparation is at the heart of Mt. Si's educational practice, which provides students with the skills and critical thinking necessary to succeed in the work world.

### EARNING COLLEGE CREDIT

Of the school's 1,300 students, 57 have identified the construction industry as their desired career path. Career and Technical Education instructor Gregg Meyers is at the epicenter of the program's success. He handles the Construc-



tion Technology Program's comprehensive course offerings in which students can receive college credit through an agreement with a local community college. Students leave this program with the tools necessary to enter the workplace, postsecondary education, or both.

### FROM ASSIGNMENTS TO APPRENTICESHIPS

By their remarks on the program, it is clear that the Construction Technology students reap huge returns. Justin Young, a junior, takes pride in showing the bid proposal his team put together to build a wall-mounted computer station for the school's Information and Technology Department. He says, "What I am learning here will help me keep my family's carpentry and cabinetry business going down the line."

### WHAT THEY WANT

Meyers works closely with Thomas Mosby to provide the students with every opportunity to succeed and give them what they want: respect, structure, and a vision of opportunities available after graduation. Since the program started, there have been many success stories. Honor students have been accepted to prestigious architectural programs, and struggling students have transformed themselves into highly regarded construction professionals.

### SUCCESS

Mosby and Meyers are particularly proud of one student who went from having a negative outlook on school to becoming a leader in his construction



1. Three students break from their building project in Construction Technology class.

2. Bree Cran looks up from the layout she has been working on in Architectural Design class.

technology courses. Mosby says, "What really blew me away was the presentation he gave to the AGC Education Foundation board of directors. Here was a guy who was in the office all the time for getting in trouble. Now he is giving a presentation to a group of construction industry leaders. I was very impressed." And so was the board of directors.

### FOR MORE INFORMATION

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