High school students have an opportunity to "try on" careers in construction

Local News

Posted by: David Haviland

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Hundreds of high school students in Spokane, Seattle and Benton County will have an opportunity to try their hand at laying mortar and bricks, operating heavy equipment, and reading a survey map. Students can talk to skilled professionals from various construction trade venues and learn about a variety of careers in the construction industry at the 2009 Construction Career Day.

The Washington State Department of Transportation, along with construction industry businesses, organizations and programs, are participating in the annual event for area high school students. Construction Career Day events are held in states across the nation and were introduced by the Federal Highway Administration in 1999 as a way to address future construction worker needs. The shortage of workers erodes competition in the number of bidders for transportation projects and adversely affects quality in the highway construction program.

Construction Career Day introduces high school students to education and skills training that are not in keeping with the traditional four-year college degree, and that can lead to very successful and rewarding careers. Students are provided with information about construction careers where they can earn quality wages over their lifetime. They also learn the importance of doing well in school, and that courses such as math can be just as important in non-traditional career choices as they are in the traditional advanced education paths. Students who are interested in attending should contact their school administration office for registration details.

The dates and locations for the 2009 Construction Career Day events are:

September 29 and 30
Spokane County Fair & Expo Center
404 N. Havana Street
Spokane

September 30 and October 1
Seattle Magnuson Park
7400 Sand Point Way
Seattle

October 6
Benton County Fairground
1500 South Oak
Kennewick