Exploring Career Opportunities in the WV Oil and Natural Gas Industry

The EdVenture Group in partnership with the West Virginia Department of Education, West Virginia University Petroleum Engineering Department and the WV Oil and Gas industry is proposing a one day seminar for WV Middle and High School STEM and Career Technical Education Teachers to provide an awareness of career opportunities for WV students related to the oil and natural gas industry. The seminar will focus on career guidance as it applies to a wide array of jobs across the state. Participating teachers will be provided with resources that can be applied in their classrooms to share current job opportunities and the necessary education requirements for each. Career guidance is a priority across the WV education system and this program provides an opportunity to bring updated information to teachers so that they can better prepare students with an awareness of STEM- related career paths for consideration.

The seminar will be delivered in a format that is engaging, interactive, informative, and unique and will provide networking outreach opportunities with WVU students, experts from the industry, engineering faculty, and educators. The partners in this project understand the importance of meaningful and engaging information sharing and will provide a focused day with many opportunities for learning.

The seminar will begin at 9:30 a.m. at the WVU Erickson Alumni Center in Morgantown, WV on September 26, 2012 with a light breakfast and registration at 8:30. The morning session will include an overview of the industry and the current and future job projections followed by a thorough description of the specific skills needed for each of the job categories. Participants will then have the opportunity to interact with speakers and WVU faculty to discuss specifics of the skills and how the job skills apply to the content standards covered in WV classrooms. The purpose of this activity is to allow teachers the opportunity to design a plan for how they can best share the information learned with their students. A lunch session will be held with a discussion on transforming learning and change in our schools.

The afternoon session will begin with a panel of WVU students sharing middle and high school experiences in STEM courses and their personal education experiences at WVU in this specific field of study. Participants will have the opportunity to interact with the students and ask specific questions that can assist in encouraging and engaging current middle and high school students to consider opportunities in STEM. The final activity for the day will include working with students, experts, and fellow teachers to design a strategy for applying and sharing the day’s content in the classroom. The seminar will close with a sharing of ideas among participants at 4:00 p.m.

The day is free to West Virginia teachers. To reserve your spot, please email Lydotta Taylor lmtaylor@edvgroup.or and let her know you would like to attend. We look forward to seeing you.