

A Huge Return on Local Businesses' Investment: Tualatin's Mobile Maker Space

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If we wish to, as Gandhi put it, “Be the change you wish to see in the world” – then we have to start helping to guide that change along. At the heart of our effort, this is really what the intent of Tualatin's Mobile Makerspace (MMS) is all about.

Experiential learning is raising eyebrows as research proves how effective it is in engaging young minds, building critical problem solving skills, providing experiences that spark curiosity, building community and, perhaps most important – MAKING LEARNING FUN. That's what the Maker Movement is all about.



Our schools and our community needs our help. This MMS effort is designed to remove the barriers of “access” to both schools AND the community by allowing the “maker” experience to travel TO the youth. The mobile lab will house projects and materials that will tie into skills and technologies used in local businesses. The goal is to connect the project to the practical work experience AND, to further engage and foster a youth's curiosity.

Recent studies across the US show schools and/or communities that provide this form of experiential learning benefit from kids engaging the maker projects as well as other school activities, they see a reduction in absenteeism, academic performance improves and social connections and skills are enhanced through team projects. IT WORKS... and IT BUILDS our collective future.

AND... IT'S TIME!!! We've heard from many businesses that they feel kids aren't connected to today's work experience and culture. This is a way to help grow that understanding... starting with kids in elementary school and progressing up through high school and beyond. This is a community investment, but the community needs BUSINESS LEADERS to step up and help drive this opportunity throughout our city and region.

The Tualatin Team working on developing and implementing this concept is fortunate to have been selected as one of 8 communities across the US to participate in a competition for significant funding to implement a plan that will benefit our youth, businesses and community members from all socioeconomic backgrounds. The reward could be a \$1-3 million dollar grant ... but our success will completely rely on our community's desire and effort to engage. We need leaders to step forward; we need YOU, your company, your employees, your resources to help us keep this vision alive and growing.

Please visit our website (www.tualatinabc.org) to see and learn more about our efforts. In addition, please visit our “contributor's link” to look at tangible ways YOU and YOUR COMPANY can make a difference. This continues to be an “all hands, all minds” effort.



*PLEASE BE THE CHANGE
YOU WISH TO SEE (AND
EXPERIENCE)... IN THE WORLD.*

Let's start right here in Tualatin!

