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# WSU Research and Intelligence Office Tours Grant County



Dr. Brian Kraft from the Office of Research at Washington State University (WSU) is not only tasked with overseeing the Small Business Development Center for Washington State, he also works to engage Washington businesses with the faculty to find out how the university is able to collaborate with businesses on

research and innovation. As a formidable location for industrial expansion that has attracted major companies like Genie Industries, Microsoft, Verizon, AstaReal, National Frozen Foods, Simplot and SGL Automotive Carbon Fibers, the County also has over 60 different crops produced in the region, which has fostered a strong agricultural sector that is home to over 25 food processing & packaging companies.

It's no wonder that every time we talk to people about our major industries and companies, they say 'Wow! I had no idea the amount of things going on in Grant County.'

While Dr. Kraft was in Grant County on July 24th, he was able to sit down with four companies to talk about the possibilities of collaborating together. Topics ranged from agriculture machine manufacturing, to chemical manufacturing to department of defense.

"It was a very productive day," said Brant Mayo, executive director at the GCEDC. "We were able to tour three companies and visit with another. Everyone has follow up items for after the meetings, but there could be some great collaborations that come from these meetings."

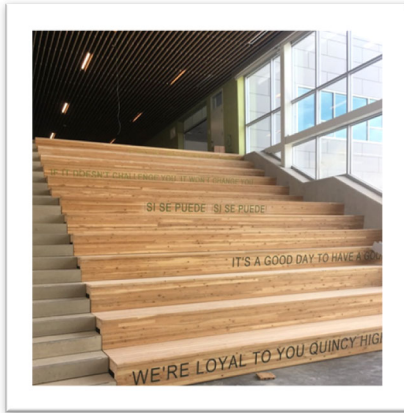
research and innovation.

WSU has worked on projects from new agriculture machines, to a new type of metal, to what the future of clean tech looks like.

On a previous visit to the office of Grant County Economic Development Council (GCEDC), Dr. Kraft learned about the diversity that Grant County has to offer, not only for our companies, but within the industries that are located. It's always a good idea to remind even ourselves how diverse Grant County is.



# Quincy High School

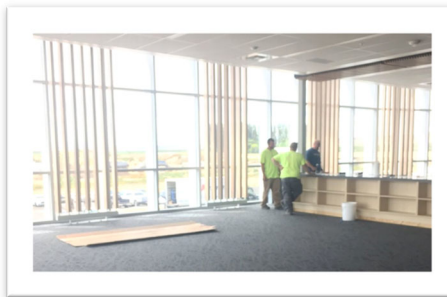


The Grant County Economic Development Council was able to tour the new Quincy High School that is currently being built on Road 11 NW. The state-of-the-art building will be open for the 2019-2020 school year.

The new high school will boast of a new FFA barn, new sports complex, culinary arts facilities, a theater with an orchestra pit, welding, carpentry, a green room for video production

and it will be wired with the latest technology in each and every classroom. The teachers will have a microphone that has speakers wired into the ceiling so that even with a soft spoken teacher, every student will be able to hear from any direction of the room.

Walking through the almost completed building was hot on a summer day with no AC, but being able to see first hand the decisions that have been made for the school was exciting. Every detail was



thought through with precision. From the colors being chosen to complement the school colors, to the custom art throughout the school that reflects on the history that agriculture has to the community. It really is a building where agriculture meets technology.

# Grant County Labor Area Summary



**Employment  
Security  
Department**  
WASHINGTON STATE

The Washington Employment Security Department released the latest labor area summary. This summary analyzes the economies of Washington State and focuses on the comparison from May 2019 to May 2018 as well as the annual yearly change from 2017 to 2018.

since electronic records were implemented at the Washington State Employment Security Department in 1990.

Grant County's strong economy was able to add 1,370 new jobs to the area between 2017 and 2018, which is an average of 4.7 percent

In Grant County the average annual unemployment rate dipped from 6.3 percent in 2017 to 6.2 percent in 2018. This is the lowest average annual unemployment rate in the County

increase. This amount is almost double to that of Washington State's 2.5 percent increase during the same time period.

We also saw another increase in population of 2.9 percent from 2017 to 2018. Over the last seven years, 2010 to 2017, Grant County saw an increase in population of 6.8 percent.

The top five industries in Grant County are: Agriculture, Local government, Manufacturing, Retail and Health Services. With the diversification of Grant County, it is easy to see why the economy continues to grow.



# Partners & Investors

## Founders Circle \$75,000+

ASPI Group  
City of Moses Lake  
City of Quincy  
Grant County  
Grant County PUD  
Port of Moses Lake  
Port of Quincy

## Platinum Division \$50,000-\$74,999

Central Terminals LLC  
Columbia Basin Herald  
Microsoft Corporation  
Samaritan Healthcare  
Washington Trust Bank  
Verizon

## Gold Division \$25,000-\$49,999

Chemi-Con Materials  
Confluence Health  
Genie Industries  
Hayden Homes

## Silver Division \$15,000-\$24,999

City of Ephrata  
CliftonLarsonAllen LLP  
Nouryon  
Port of Ephrata  
Port of Mattawa  
REC Silicon

## Bronze Division \$2,500-\$14,999

Accredited Appraisals  
Agri/Com Appraisals  
Banner Bank  
Basic American Foods  
Barrett Business Services, Inc.  
Big Bend Community College  
Big Bend Community College Foundation  
Central Bonded Collectors  
City of Electric City  
City of George  
City of Royal City  
City of Soap Lake  
City of Warden  
Clear Risk Solutions  
Coldwell Banker Tomlinson Ranch & Home  
Columbia Basin Development League  
Columbia Basin Job Corp  
Columbia Basin Railroad  
Columbia Electrical Supply  
Columbia Glass Inc.  
Columbia Northwest Engineering

## Bronze Division Cont.

Consolidated Disposal Service, Inc.  
Gary Mann Real Estate  
General Dynamics—OTS  
Grand Coulee Dam Area Chamber of Commerce  
Guild Mortgage Company  
Horizon Credit Union  
Housing Authority of Grant County  
Hub International  
J & M Electric  
JR Newhouse Co., PLLP  
LambWeston  
Landau Associates, Inc.  
Lenroc Company  
Live Nation-Gorge Amphitheatre  
Mardon Resort  
Martin Morris Agency  
Moses Lake Chamber of Commerce  
Moses Lake Community Health Center  
Moses Lake School District  
Northland Communications  
Northwest Farm Credit Services  
Polhamus Heating & Air Conditioning  
Port of Coulee City  
Port of Hartline  
Port of Royal Slope  
Port of Warden  
Quincy Foods  
Rock Steel Structures  
SGL Group  
Skaug Brothers, Inc.  
Skone & Connors  
Total Employment & Management  
Town of Coulee City  
Trask Insurance Inc.  
Umpqua Bank  
Western Pacific Engineering  
Western Polymer Corporation  
Windermere K-2 Realty  
WorkSource Central Basin  
Zip Truck Lines, Inc.

## Friends of GCEDC

Justin Ashley  
David Bailey  
Terry Brewer  
Kevin Burgess  
Jeff Foster

## Friends of GCEDC Cont.

Rory Knapp  
Denise Lefler  
Fred Lischka  
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Dale Pomeroy  
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