The School-based Outreach Program

Educating Young Citizens and their Families
About Public Projects and Related Careers
What is the School-based Outreach Program (SBOP)?

In the beginning.....

The School-based Outreach Program is a:
- free-standing
- highly interactive
- fun program

What type of project is it designed for?

What’s the best age group for this program?
What are the key elements of this program?

There are 4 essential elements which involve working with one or more classes:

- Introducing your project
- Introducing the students to a range of project related careers and the associated educational paths
- Engaging in fun, relevant, hands-on activities
- Complementing the teachers’ curricula
What’s in it for you? Why bother?

- Increases public awareness of projects
- Educates your future workforce
- Provides opportunities to increase public understanding of need for/purpose behind projects
- Provides students with the opportunity to act as project ambassadors within their community
- Students make connections with project leaders from both private and public sectors
Benefits of the School-based Outreach Program

- Positions the funding agency as a great civic asset, willing to go the extra mile and leverage its resources.
- Builds community awareness of project and goodwill toward the Agency.
- Educates students - our future leaders, teachers, business owners and voters - about the importance of civic awareness and participation.
- Publicizes and encourages attendance at open house meetings through earned media stories.

“Thank you to ODOT for the recent presentation made to our 4th graders regarding the rebuilding of the I-5 overpass – the one we can see from our school. As a result, one student "helper" said to me, ‘When I grow up, I want to be an engineer.’ That student happened to be my son.”
- Trisha Evens, Principal, Riverside Elementary School
Beneficiaries of the School-based Outreach Program

- **Students** – their eyes are opened to both career opportunities they never dreamed of and skills they never thought they had

- **Teachers and Parents** – so grateful for the support and enrichment

- **Team members** – they are so proud when they go into classrooms to share their skills, knowledge and accomplishments
LDC’s innovative public outreach process resulted in over twenty positive press articles for ODOT’s Elk Creek-Hardscrabble Creek project, and generated enormous good will in the affected communities. Additionally, the Federal Highway Administration recognized LDC’s public involvement efforts and cited this as “one of the most innovative projects in country.”
Matthew Garrett, ODOT Director:

“This is the first bridge in the state, and possibly the nation, for which designs of the pylons have been developed entirely by the local high school students.”

Regarding the time capsule embedded into one of the pylons, Elkton art teacher Debbie Williams said, “We have a past, present and future wrapped into things that are important to our community.”
“At an evening presentation and open house, the grade school gymnasium was filled with parents and enthusiastic students who were displaying bird houses they had made during a mid-day interaction with the project team. By engaging the families of the community through their children...we were able to engage a very high percentage of the adults in the community, providing information about the project and gathering input.”

"The idea to bring the hidden engineer out of these fifth graders was to get them excited enough to invite their parents out to the open house after class.”

- KPIC TV, May 25, 2007
The Sellwood Bridge Project
Llewellyn Elementary School: Career Exploration and Building Bat Boxes
The Sellwood Bridge Project
Capitol Hill Elementary School:
Exploring the Connection Between Water, Soil, Bridges, and Roads
Memorable Learning Opportunities: 
Career Exploration and Introduction to AutoCAD, 
Bridge Design and Engineering; Building Gumdrops Bridges

“What do you get when you combine 2,000 gumdrops, 400 Saltine crackers and an endless supply of toothpicks? At a unique public involvement event at Ashland Middle School in Jackson County, the result was increased community awareness and involvement, and a memorable learning opportunity for more than 100 students.”

“A third-grader today will be a commuter in 10 to 15 years,” Richardson said. “I would like them to be aware of the transportation system in Albany, and I actually want them to be able to dream and think about what the problems are that they are confronted with today, and how they think the adults could fix them.”

- City of Albany Project Manager, Jenny Richardson, quoted from the Albany Democrat-Herald
The Edith Green Wendell Wyatt Federal Building Modernization Project
High School: ACE Academy Students
& The Howard S. Wright Project Team
Activity 1: **Construction Site Visit**
Students visit the construction site of the Edith Green Wendell Wyatt Federal Building Modernization Project to meet with key members of the Howard S. Wright project team.

Activity 2: **What Does it Mean to “Be Green?”**
Students explore and research what it means to be green by learning about LEED certifications.
Activity 3: Identify Green Practices
Students research and learn how green practices apply to structural design, construction and internal organization of spaces.

Activity 4: Design Exploration
Students use the real world constraints of the Edith Green Wendell Wyatt Federal Building project to study specific design/construction approaches and methodologies.

Activity 5: Welcome Back Packets
Students will design an information packet for returning tenants incorporating what they have learned.
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-Thank You-

www.loisdcohen.com
503.332.4869