



Poudre School District Partnership Office  
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# PSD TEACHER EXTERNSHIP PROGRAM

*The PSD Teacher Externship Program gives high school teachers opportunities to work with local businesses to gain additional expertise in their content area. Participants are encouraged to learn about academic pathways into sectors and industries, employment opportunities and expectations, and future needs in the industry, then share this information with their students and colleagues.*

*Insights into degree and training requirements, certifications, employer expectations, and employment trends in your industry are shared with students to better prepare them for lifelong success beyond graduation.*

## PROGRAM HIGHLIGHTS

- High School teachers are selected for participation through an application process. Successful candidates are chosen by a committee comprised of the Assistant Superintendent of Secondary Schools; Executive Director of Human Resources; and Community Partnerships Coordinator. All applicants are permitted to re-apply for future opportunities, but preference is given to new applicants when possible.
- Business partners provide 40 hours of experience over the course of the externship. Experiences may include job shadowing, interviews with staff, project support, facility tours, etc. Business partners and teacher externs are asked to meet at the start of the externship to create an experience that supports both parties.
- Externships may take place any time between June 3 and July 31. How the externship hours are scheduled is individual to each externship based on business partner and teacher availability, projects, workload, etc.
- Teacher stipends, worker's compensation, and liability insurance is covered by PSD. There is no cost to the business partner. Teachers must complete a Final Report for program completion, and business partners are asked to complete a short program evaluation.
- All business partners and teachers are welcome to share their experiences at the Externship Appreciation Luncheon with Superintendent Dr. Sandra Smyer in the fall. Active business partners are also publicly recognized for their contributions to the District at a Board of Education meeting in late summer.

## PROGRAM PARTNERS: 2015-2019

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Columbine Health Services  
Tolmar Pharmaceuticals  
UCHealth  
Visit Fort Collins  
Forte Design Studio  
Poudre Fire Authority  
Foundations Counseling  
Colorado Youth Outdoors  
Fort Collins Museum of  
Discovery

United Way of Larimer County  
O'Dell Brewing Company  
Otter Products  
Center for Family Outreach  
Woodward, Inc.  
1<sup>st</sup> City Mortgage  
Colorado State University  
RB+B Architects  
City of Fort Collins  
Gardens on Spring Creek

Sutherlands Design  
Old Town Media  
Earth Engineering, LLC  
Northern Colorado  
Manufacturing Partnership  
Public Lands History Center  
University of Northern Colorado

## BUSINESS BENEFITS

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- Create meaningful connections with educators in PSD
- Provide information and feedback to teachers to support your future workforce
- Develop an understanding of curricula that supports your industry
- Network with other business leaders participating in the program
- Demonstrate your support of PSD students, teachers and programs

## BACKGROUND

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The PSD Teacher Externship Program grew from an initiative set forth by Superintendent Dr. Sandra Smyser in spring of 2015. The pilot program proved a success with only four business partners and seven applicants the first year, and the Partnership Office took the lead in managing the program in fall of 2015. Now entering its fifth year, the PSD Teacher Externship Program has grown to more than 20 business partners (many offering more than one externship opportunity) and 43 program alums.

*For more information about the PSD Teacher Externship Program,  
or other ways you can support Poudre School District, please contact:*

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Teacher Externship Program*

