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## City of Arlington and Arlington Public Schools Joint Media Release

## For Immediate Release

January 7, 2020

## Arlington Public Schools and City of Arlington Announce Arlington Career Internships Program

(Arlington, WA) – Arlington Public Schools and the City of Arlington are proud to announce they are launching a summer internship program for local junior and senior high school students. All Arlington businesses are invited to collaborate with the City and the School District in the development of our workforce through the Arlington Career Internships (ACI) program.

With the job market experiencing a scarcity of qualified employees, it only makes sense for businesses to invest in quality high school career programs. Stated Mayor Barb Tolbert, "One of the top items I hear from our local employers is the need for a qualified, ready-to-work workforce. The Arlington Career Internships program will help bridge this gap and provide our local students with career-connected learning."

Businesses participating in the internship program will benefit from exposing high school students to real world work experiences, familiarizing them with their workplace, which can lower training time, recruiting costs, and turnover rates.

Local juniors and seniors that complete the ACI program will work 90 hours over the summer and receive 0.5 credits.

"Students will have the opportunity to connect with local employers to build career-specific skills, gain work experience, and clarify their future career direction," said Superintendent Dr. Chrys Sweeting.

In this first year, ACI seeks to partner 20 local businesses with 30 students. To participate in ACI, businesses should contact Lyndall Mullin at <a href="mailto:aci@asd.wednet.edu">aci@asd.wednet.edu</a>.