

What did you do this summer?"



A typical question asked when school starts each fall is "what did you do this summer?"

Some people share family vacations or days at the beach or bike rides. For 50 Everett Public Schools students, representing all four high schools, their summer consisted of 90 hours gaining valuable insights and experience into various careers through Everett Career Link.

Everett Career Link is a new and innovative high school internship program formed through an Everett Public Schools partnership with the City of Everett. This unique partnership offers our students the opportunity to "learn before they earn" by showing what it is like to work in a specific job environment, and provides high school credit to students. This program not only benefits students, but also benefits local employers and gives them an opportunity to invest in the youth of Everett.

Juli Mothersbaugh, a senior at Jackson High School, had an internship with the City of Everett Police Department where she did everything from learning the process to become a police officer, to going on ride-alongs, to networking with various professionals in the field. She also created community learning materials, wrote her own police report and coached at police-run summer camps such as Badges for Baseball.

"The experience was eye-opening. I gained my first true workplace experience, which going forward will strengthen my confidence and professionalism in job settings," stated Juli.

"Moreover, my perspective on the role of law enforcement in my community was hugely expanded, and I have a greater understanding of the different jobs under the umbrella of 'criminal justice.' I am now interested in pursuing a career as a crime analyst, a job which I didn't even know existed before my internship!"

Lieutenant Bruce Bosman was Juli's summer supervisor and said they benefited from having an intern this summer. In addition to Juli learning and experiencing new things, "her help with our youth camps increased the quality of the experience for the kids in the program, and the riot special project provided a training product that increased team member communication and performance."

Juli thinks any student interested in becoming an intern should go for it because "there are few experiences that prepare you for professional settings better than an internship," and it really becomes what you make of it. She adds her appreciation for local employers who committed to help make these experiences possible for Everett School District students. Lt. Bosman adds, "I learned the future is in good hands with young adults such as Juli."



As part of Juli's internship, she also had the opportunity to meet Representative John Lovick.