



**News Release
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Wasatch Center for Advanced Professional Studies opens new 8,100 square-foot facility

Heber City, Utah – On Thursday, December 8, community leaders gathered at the Utah Valley University Wasatch campus for the grand opening of a new, 8,100 square-foot facility that will be utilized to house the Wasatch Center for Advanced Professional Studies (CAPS) program. The build-out of the new Wasatch CAPS facility is the result of a partnership between Utah Valley University and the Wasatch School District. The new facility has five dedicated collaborative meeting spaces, several conference rooms, two shared working spaces, and one innovation lab—all with the latest technologies and environment that professionals encounter in the work place.

The Wasatch CAPS program is a unique partnership where Wasatch High School juniors and seniors participate in one of five course areas: (1) Business, Marketing, and Entrepreneurship, (2) Engineering and Industrial Design, (3) Digital Design and Software Development, (4) Medicine and Health, and (5) Environment and Agriculture. In each course area, students work in small groups on real-world projects sponsored by exceptional industry partners. Throughout the semester, students receive hands-on training from high school teachers, subject experts, and industry mentors. The purpose of the program is to provide Wasatch CAPS students 21st century skills needed to compete in the global market place.

The Wasatch CAPS program officially launched in August of 2016, and the interest in the program from students and industry partners exceeded all expectations. Just over 100 students were accepted in the first year of the program which features 32 business projects from clients including the Utah Jazz, Weber State University, Intermountain Healthcare, and the U.S. Forest Service. Wasatch CAPS students will now meet in the new facility and will continue learning by completing real-world projects.

According to Tom Stone, the Chairman of the Wasatch CAPS program, “The delivery of traditional education is evolving, and the Wasatch CAPS model will provide the confidence and can-do attitude that students need to be successful in the work place.”