

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Parker Mayor Joins Burns & McDonnell and Parker Elementary Students to Celebrate Earth Day and Promote STEM Education
Inspires Next Generation of STEM Professionals

PARKER, Colorado — [Burns & McDonnell](#), a 100 percent employee-owned engineering, architecture and construction firm, joined Parker Mayor Mike Waid and Parker Core Knowledge (PCK) Charter School to celebrate Earth Day April 22. With a mission to [inspire the next generation of STEM](#) (science, technology, engineering and math) professionals, Burns & McDonnell promoted the critical need for [STEM education](#) and careers connected to our environment.

“From designing manufacturing facilities to building critical infrastructure systems like water treatment plants and airport facilities, our employee-owners utilize STEM every day,” said [Mark Lichtwardt](#), senior vice president and general manager for Burns & McDonnell in Denver. “When we get students excited about STEM jobs — which are growing at seven times the rate of non-STEM jobs — we’re investing in our communities and creating the future generation of leaders who will change the world.”

Leading up to the celebration, PCK hosted a weeklong spotlight focused on environmental learning. To conclude PCK’s Earth Day activities, Parker Mayor Mike Waid presented awards to students who demonstrated how they care for the Earth by participating in the school’s Earth Day photo contest.

Following the awards ceremony, Burns & McDonnell lead a STEM demonstration for more than 200 fourth, fifth and sixth grade students, sharing the importance of protecting our drinking water by building an edible landfill with students.

“I appreciate the willingness of Burns & McDonnell employees to partner with our students and staff for Earth Day 2019,” says Teri Aplin, school director for PCK. “Inspiring the next generation of scientist, engineers, technical and mathematic professionals is critical to the future of our environment. Careers of the future will require critical STEM skills, and building these skills starts early for our students. Earth Day provides an excellent opportunity for students to talk with real people who are currently applying STEM skills.”

With a multidisciplinary team comprised of 7,000 engineers, architects, construction professionals, scientists, consultants and entrepreneurs, Burns & McDonnell has offices across the country and throughout the world, including in [Denver, Colorado](#).

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About Burns & McDonnell

Burns & McDonnell is a family of companies made up of 7,000 engineers, architects, construction professionals, scientists, consultants and entrepreneurs with offices across the country and throughout the world. We strive to create amazing success for our clients and amazing careers for our employee-owners. Burns & McDonnell is 100 percent employee-owned and is proud to be on *Fortune's* 2019 list of 100 Best Companies to Work For. For more information, visit burnsmcd.com.

About Parker Core Knowledge Charter School

Parker Core Knowledge is committed to providing its students an academic advantage by building a solid foundation of knowledge, skills and character, while challenging each individual to become a critical thinker, responsible citizen and future leader.