



South Bay Workforce Investment Board

PRESS RELEASE

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South Bay Workforce Investment Board
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SBWIB Career Pathways and Linked Learning Program partners with Los Angeles Air Force Base Provides El Segundo High School Students with Tour

El Segundo – A group of El Segundo High School students were treated to a special tour of the Space and Missile Systems Center's (SMC) The Heritage Center and The Aerospace Corporation at the Los Angeles Air Force Base in El Segundo, CA, Friday, February 26, 2016.

The Heritage Center tour was led by docent Joe Boyle, the students were able to view – and in some cases touch – space program artifacts and learn about SMC's history, missions and operations of Air Force Space Command.

The students were greeted by SMC Vice Commander, Major General Robert McMurry, who stressed the importance of Science, Technology, Engineering and Math (STEM), particularly math. Next the group was escorted across El Segundo Blvd. to the neighboring Spacelift Telemetry Acquisition Reporting System (STARS) facility at The Aerospace Corporation. Looking much like NASA's mission control center, the STARS facility is the center of action for launch operations supported by Aerospace. While there students participated in a mock rocket launch simulation. Once students were back on base they listened to aerospace engineer, Dr. Nahum Melamed speak about space hazards, orbital debris and near Earth objects.

Jan Vogel, SBWIB Executive Director, said "It's great to see these young students getting ready to embark on the next stage of their education. It's essential to plant the seeds in these student's minds now to help them grow in their studies and fields of choice. It's an exciting time in their lives and tours like these are invaluable."

The tour was part of the South Bay Workforce Investment Board's (SBWIB) Career Pathways program - funded by the Advanced Manufacturing & Engineering Technology Linked Learning (AMETLL) Work-Based Learning – which aims to improve college and career ready pathways, increase industry engagement, establish regional infrastructure and allow students to gain exposure to companies and professionals that work in advanced manufacturing, engineering, and technology fields. Linked Learning incorporates academics, technical education, and real-world experience for students. The goal is to bridge the gap between industries and schools.

The SBWIB and the Inglewood One-Stop Youth Services Department work with five school districts schools in the South Bay area to provide company tours, job shadows, internships, and guest speakers for students interested in Advanced Manufacturing, Engineering, and Technology through the AMETLL Grant. The SBWIB, in partnership with leading Engineering and Advance Manufacturing Academies, are tasked with creating the next generation workforce.

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The Heritage Center tour led by Joe Boyle



Major General Robert McMurry speaks to students from El Segundo High School



Major General Robert McMurry poses with students from El Segundo High School