

News release
October 16, 2017

Students bend, drill and rivet their way to manufacturing careers

Cascade High celebrates National Manufacturing Week with industry tours



Cascade High School students built sheet metal boxes at AMTEC and toured The Boeing Company as part of National Manufacturing Week the first week of October

With over 3,000 events planned nationwide, the manufacturing industry uses the first week in October, and primarily the week's Friday (Manufacturing Day), to celebrate and bring awareness to American manufacturing as part of National Manufacturing Week. Cascade High School took advantage of Manufacturing Week tours Oct. 5 and 6, sponsored by Everett Community College Advanced Manufacturing Training & Education Center (AMTEC) and by The Boeing Company.

---more---

On Thursday, Oct. 5, Cascade teacher Jack McLeod's Engineer Your World students toured AMTEC and learned about the many technical skills taught there, including welding, carbon fiber construction/assembly and computerized machining, just to name a few. At the end of the tour, students built their own sheet metal box. The box was pre-cut, and students had to bend, drill and rivet to finish the project. Students also met representatives from local manufacturing companies who routinely hire AMTEC graduates.

Students came away from the tour impressed and interested in learning more. Cascade senior Makenna Minea shared, "I never really considered a career in the engineering and manufacturing field, but now I might." Ilya Karakotov, an 11th-grader, said, "Before the visit, I did not have any idea of some of the things we were told about in class, but now, it's all sort of coming together." Sophomore Henry Beason shared, "It was a great experience, I learned a lot about careers and even options within careers. My only complaint is that it was over too fast."

On Oct. 6, Principal Cathy Woods and Counselor Raj Kleckley accompanied Cascade's manufacturing students on a tour of Boeing's Everett facility. Students began the visit by learning about employment opportunities at Boeing. They toured the production floor and then riveted a mock fuselage and spliced practice strands of electrical cable.

Again, as with the AMTEC tour, the students came away impressed and with insight about their futures. Ninth-grader Caleb Dawson's impression of Boeing was, "That it is a big company with many workers and amazing projects." Joe Iskandar, also in 9th grade, shared, "I got very excited learning about the importance that software and computer engineering play in making airplanes. I can definitely see myself working for Boeing someday."

For Cascade Counselor Rajkumarie Kleckley, the big takeaway was how the experience impacted student thinking, "It was great to see our student's eyes light up when the Boeing employees shared their career journeys. This opportunity allowed the students to expand their thought processes about career options."

Enhanced student career readiness is a district-wide priority and a primary focus of Brian Day, Everett Public School's STEM-CTE Director. "As we explore concentrated programs in high demand areas such as advanced manufacturing, health science, and communication and information technology," said Day, "It is essential we include opportunities like the AMTEC and Boeing manufacturing tours."

The district's work in this area aligns to Gov. Inslee's [Career Connect Washington initiative](#).

"We enjoyed hosting the students at Boeing for Manufacturing Day. It allowed them to see the scale of airplane manufacturing, as well as engage in hands-on activities," said Michelle Burreson, senior manager, Workforce Development. "It's important for students to see first-hand how career and technical education prepares them for successful manufacturing careers."

---end---

For more information:

[Leanna Albrecht](#), Director of Communications, 425-385-4040
[Andy Sevald](#), STEM Facilitator, 425-385-4081