

October 15 event spotlights science, technology, engineering, and math careers for Armstrong, Bowman and Williams students and families

Students who attend Bowman and Armstrong Middle Schools and Williams High School and their families participated in a special evening spotlighting STEM (science, technology, engineering, and math) careers during the evening of Monday, October 15, at the Williams campus, 1717 17th Street.

This Plano ISD family event was hosted by the Sci-Tech Discovery Center, Inc., and the High Technology Education Coalition of Collin County (HiTECCC). HiTECCC members are Plano ISD, Collin College, the University of Texas at Dallas, Texas Instruments, Lockheed Martin, Nortel, Raytheon, Alcatel-Lucent, and Cisco. Sci-Tech Discovery Center, Inc., is a science, technology and math non-profit initiative of the Junior League of Plano.

Kelly Palmer, a board member of the Sci-Tech Discovery Center, Inc., said, “We are delighted to join with Hi-TECCC to offer our support of the advancement of science, technology, and math for students in Plano ISD. Our presentation, ‘Where in the World is GPS,’ will be among a number of educational and fun activities in which students may participate.”

Torrence Robinson, director of public affairs at Texas Instruments, explained, “Science, technology, engineering, and math education is vitally important for students who expect to effectively compete in an increasing competitive global marketplace. The bar continues to rise. The ‘Engineering Your Future Through Math and Science Family Night’ is a key part of HiTECCC’s strategy to motivate students, families, and the broader community to equip themselves with information that will lead to success.”

Highlights of the evening included hands-on technology, science and math experiences, technology exhibits, and college scholarship and financial information. Activities were geared for students in middle school through the tenth grade and their parents. Elementary students had opportunities for involvement. Baby sitting services were provided at no charge for young children in the cafeteria.

Dinner was held in the cafeteria followed by a digital music program in the auditorium. Participants then chose from a variety of activities such as “The Color of Fireworks,” “Fun with Air,” “Crime Scene Investigations,” career exploration, and technology exhibits. A drawing for door prizes was also held in the auditorium.

Dr. Doug Otto, superintendent of Plano ISD Schools, said, “The October 15 program at Williams High School provided resources for students to investigate career opportunities in science, technology, engineering and mathematics. Preparing for the future must begin early. This occasion along with other information listed on the University Ready (UR) website at ur.pisd.edu will ensure that students and parents are well-informed.”

Dr. Otto added, “The district appreciates all of the industry participation in organizing this effort and HiTECCC’s ongoing commitment to promoting STEM careers to Plano ISD students.”

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