



GOOSE CREEK

CONSOLIDATED INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT

TAME Trailblazer

For the second year, Goose Creek CISD 6th grade students had the opportunity to take field trips in their school parking lots to learn about space, energy, weather and aerodynamics. The mobile education unit, called the Trailblazer trailer by the Texas Alliance for Minorities in Engineering (TAME), provided interactive exhibits to enhance the students' science classes. A total of 1,645 students participated in this workforce development initiative sponsored by Chevron Phillips Chemical Company.

"Part of Chevron Phillips' commitment to train and educate the local workforce is reaching down into the high schools and middle schools. Since Texas House Bill 5 has changed school curriculums into workforce-ready pathways, it is important to us to promote science, math, and engineering careers before the students reach eighth grade," said Heather Betancourth, community relations manager at Chevron Phillips' Cedar Bayou plant.

The Trailblazer was scheduled for two days at each of Goose Creek CISD's five junior schools from October 16-30. High school students from Goose Creek Memorial, Robert E. Lee and Ross S. Sterling high schools in the Ready, Set, Teach! program for future teachers served as facilitators.

Chrissy Hinton, science department chair at Gentry Junior School, said extracurricular science activities like the Trailblazer are making a difference in students' futures.

"The TAME Science Trailer visited our campus and I was very impressed with the quality of presentation and the science activities involved. We have had many students make the decision to become engineers because of the influence of the visit from Chevron Phillips. In fact, last year, the Gentry PTSO scholarship winner specifically mentioned the Engineer Day visit when writing his scholarship letter and went into detail how this visit influenced both his high school classes and choice of careers," Hinton said.



Esther Rosales (left), a junior at Ross S. Sterling High School in the Ready, Set, Teach! program, explains global warming to Cedar Bayou Junior School sixth graders (l to r) Emily Valencia and Alondra Santibanez as they explore the science-related exhibits in the TAME Trailblazer trailer, sponsored by Chevron Phillips.

Through partnerships with companies such as Chevron Phillips, Goose Creek CISD is enhancing curriculum and preparing students at all grade levels for college and careers.

"Through the generosity of Chevron Phillips, our Goose Creek CISD 6th grade students experienced exciting hands-on science exhibits. The Trailblazer introduced our students to STEM career opportunities in the fields of energy, space, weather, biotechnology and aerodynamics," said Kevin Wroblecki, science and high school health coordinator. "We would like to express our gratitude to Chevron Phillips and to our Ready, Set, Teach! program for assisting with the lessons."

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