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STEM-Focused Students Network With Industry for Career Awareness In Virtual Format

Students from local colleges and high schools with a Mathematics, Engineering, Science, Achievement (MESA) program shadowed engineering and science professionals virtually through Zoom or Microsoft Teams on November 19, 2020.

A total of 123 students were matched to STEM professionals at 11 different companies for the annual MESA Science, Technology, Engineering, Mathematics (STEM) Shadow Day.

Participating colleges included San Diego City College, San Diego State University, and Southwestern College. Participating high schools included Brawley Union, Calexico, and Imperial High, from the Imperial Valley region and Grant TK-8 and San Diego High from the San Diego region.

Participating companies included:

- 1. City of San Diego Engineering & Capital Projects
- 2. Collins Aerospace
- 3. NAVAIR Fleet Readiness Center Southwest
- 4. Naval Information Warfare Center Pacific
- 5. Northrop Grumman Mission Systems
- 6. Raytheon Technologies
- 7. Rick Engineering Company
- 8. San Diego Regional Water Quality Control Board
- 9. Smart Biomedical Systems Laboratory
- 10. Solar Turbines Inc.
- 11. Tioga Research Inc.



Students interact virtually with Rick Engineering Company, one of eleven participating companies in the annual STEM Shadow Day event.

"MESA STEM Shadow Day gives students insight into the world of engineering and the broad base of disciplines it offers," said Eric Pamintuan, STEM Shadow Day Coordinator. The next annual MESA STEM Shadow Day will take place on the Thursday before the Thanksgiving holiday, November 18, 2021.

MESA is one of the largest programs in the state to support educationally disadvantaged students so they can graduate from college with science, technology, engineering, and math (STEM) degrees. MESA provides academic support and enrichment to over 18,000 K-12 students and 7,800 community college and 4-year college students each year. For more information, visit <u>http://mep.sdsu.edu</u>