

Vineland Public Charter School STEM Students Visit Stockton to do Research for Future City Competition

Stockton Education Alumna Jenna Meyh Helps Her Students Research Waste Management as They Design a Future City

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Galloway Township, NJ – Jenna Meyh, a 2014 Stockton Education graduate who is now a teacher at Vineland Public Charter School, brought about 45 seventh and eighth-grade students to Stockton University today to research waste management.

Meyh's students have entered a national contest, <u>Future City</u>, in which they must design an innovative, city-wide solid waste management plan for a future city that focuses on energy efficiency, safety and the environment.

Meyh, of Port Republic, NJ, brought her Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics (STEM) class to her alma mater to utilize library resources and to introduce them to a university in their backyard.

Five current Stockton Education students, Pamela Vaughn, assistant dean of the School of Education, and Sara Faurot, director of Alumni Relations, greeted the students as they arrived at the Campus Center.

Before going to the Bjork Library, they made a stop at the Food Court for lunch. A line quickly formed at Chick-fil-A.

Meyh said that many of her students had never been to a university before and were "super excited" to visit Stockton, especially to "buy food like college students."

Seventh-grader Carington Tirado's first impression of Stockton was "amazing." Her classmate Adreana Stevenson smiled to Tirado and said, "I want to go here now, and I'm taking you with me."

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Carington said that as they create the city, they need to solve problems and figure out how to make the city better.

In the library, the students researched current solid waste management systems, particularly in cities and mostly focusing on residential and small business waste, city zoning and city infrastructures.

Stockton Education majors volunteered to help the students locate resources and to cite the sources.

Adreana Stevenson said that they have 20 buildings to work with. Seventh-grader Tyler Meussig added that they had to determine the placement of the buildings while improving waste management.

Muessig thought that Stockton's campus was "very grand," and that he was most excited about learning.

Prior to visiting Stockton, the students learned about wastewater treatment from Michael Gille, lab director at the Atlantic County Utilities Authority (ACUA) facility in Atlantic City.

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