



PRESS RELEASE

Tracey H. Lewis, Ed.D., Director of Communications
P.O. Box 364
Dobson, North Carolina 27017
336/386-8211 Cell: 336/401-1873 Fax: 336/386-4756
E-Mail: lewist@surry.k12.nc.us

For Immediate Release

October 11, 2018

Students Participate in Advanced Manufacturing Day 2018

Surry Community College and Surry County Economic Development Partnership (SCEDP) planned a Business Expo as part of Advanced Manufacturing Day 2018. Advanced Manufacturing Day 2018 is part of the annual Manufacturing Week celebration in North Carolina. Manufacturing DaySM (MFG DAY) was Friday, October 5, 2018, and Surry County School system middle and high school students attended the expo to learn from local manufacturing businesses about what manufacturing is, what it is not, and to alleviate other common misconceptions.

Students met with local company representatives who informed students of the qualifications they will be looking for in upcoming graduates, shared future employment opportunities while also accepting resumes. Students toured Advanced Manufacturing Labs in Computer Integrated Machining, Electronics Engineering, Mechatronics Engineering, and Welding. Congresswoman Virginia Foxx was a special guest and also addressed students as one part of the business expo.

Assistant Principal of Meadowview Magnet Middle School, Mr. Matt Scott commented, I just want to say how meaningful it was to include our 8th graders in the Manufacturing Day. As you know, students are having to make decisions earlier and earlier and the more knowledge they have about opportunities to obtain certifications, skills that are required for jobs, and internships, allows them to make better and more informed decisions. . . .The Manufacturing Day immediately made an impact on several students. We are a STEM [Science, Technology, Engineering, and Math] school and put a great emphasis on those four components. The showcase allowed our students to see those components put into action in real-world applications.”

Manufacturing is the second largest industry in North Carolina. The North Carolina Manufacturing Economic Partnership states, “Manufacturing DaySM (MFG DAY) is a celebration of modern manufacturing meant to inspire the next generation of manufacturers.” The celebration also gives manufacturers an opportunity to influence the workforce shortage that currently exists. “By working together during and after MFG DAY, manufacturers will begin to address the skilled labor shortage they face, connect with future generations, take charge of the public image of manufacturing, and ensure the ongoing prosperity of the whole industry,” reported The North Carolina Manufacturing Economic Partnership.

The principal of Gentry Middle School, Mr. Brandon Whitaker remarked, “We are proud to work and live in an area that has a community college that is willing to invest in our students as early as middle school. Lots of time, effort and energy was apparent upon our visit, and on behalf of all our students and their parents, we are appreciative of this opportunity for students to learn more about manufacturing careers in Surry County.”

