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Potential Future Transportation Leaders Get a Behind the Scenes Look at Silicon Valley Public Transit

SAN JOSE, CA. – A group of 33 high school students from throughout Santa Clara County will get a special behind-the-scenes tour of VTA’s largest bus yard and cutting-edge electric bus charging system, **Friday, August 5 at 10 am.**

The students are taking part in the Mineta Summer Transportation Institute designed to educate and encourage their interest in careers in the transportation industry. A graduation ceremony will be held at VTA Headquarters after their tour.

VTA’s General Manager Carolyn Gonot will welcome the students at VTA’s headquarters in the morning. Then, the students will board a sleek, new electric bus and head to VTA’s Cerone Bus Division, located at 3990 Zanker Road in San Jose. They’ll have a tour of bus operations, Overhaul and Repair, and learn about VTA’s cutting edge Electric Bus Charging Microgrid project, hailed as one of the nation’s models of best practices for [“deploying charging infrastructure for electric transit buses.”](#)

After the tour, they will head back to VTA’s headquarters for lunch and a graduation ceremony. and meet with their parents.

During the three-week San Jose State University program, the students learned about sustainability in public transportation, participated in hands-on STEM activities, learned about environmental science and how transit impacts climate change, and even learned how to fly drones to practice aerial mapping.

The program is free, and students can earn three college credits.

The Santa Clara Valley Transportation Authority and the Mineta Transportation Institute have hosted this event for over ten years.

The media is invited to attend the tour and graduation. Please confirm your attendance with Sandra Bermudez at 408-464-7898 or email at Media.relations@vta.org.