

Historical Lesson

Scholars at the Long Island Pathways in Technology Early College High School (P-TECH) regularly augment their studies with fieldtrips and lessons that help them apply what they are learning in real, hands-on ways. One such experience was their recent trip to the Cradle of Aviation Museum in Garden City.

P-TECH scholars were given an exclusive museum tour by the Cradle's Competitions Coordinator Kerri MacKay. The teens were encouraged to interact with the exhibits in a compelling lesson on the history of aerodynamics and rocketry. They also enjoyed a private viewing of the museum's planetarium show in the immersive JetBlue Sky Theater.

Afterward, the scholars applied their problem solving skills in a practical workshop, conducted by museum Academic Coordinator Rick Angler. In a special activity designed to increase scholars' science and engineering knowledge, the teens were required to work collaboratively to apply mechanical engineering concepts. The scholars experienced the direct effects of the mechanics of energy - how it's generated, stored and moved - by applying the principles of potential and kinetic energy.

"One of P-TECH's goals is to consistently offer our scholars opportunities to challenge themselves

and improve their knowledge," said Gene Silverman, Executive Director of the Nassau BOCES Department of Regional Schools and Instructional Programs. "Dynamic lessons such as those offered by the Cradle of Aviation reinforce the skills scholars are developing in the classroom, through engaging and meaningful experiences that fundamentally support what they are learning."

