



**March 13, 2014**

# Press Release

---

## ***Riverview Students Visit Google Pittsburgh***

Students in the Riverview High School Calculus II, Computer Science I, and AP Computer Science II classes traveled to Google Pittsburgh to tour the facility and hear from a panel of employees about working at Google. The students were amazed by the work environment - multiple kitchens stocked with food, pool tables, a library, video games, comfortable furniture, even a giant cargo net where the employees could have team meetings. The laid-back atmosphere was displayed throughout the office. Nerf guns were loaded and ready to go on just about every desk passed during the tour, just in case a Nerf gunfight should erupt. Themed meeting rooms (the "Cheese Nips" room on the Nabisco floor) and decor (a mock Thunderbolt car on the Kennywood floor) were examples of the creatively designed workspace. But when asked why they love to work at Google, the responses from the employees typically discussed working with the smartest people, the team atmosphere, and the ability to try new things, fail, and learn from those mistakes.

"Dare to fail," one Googler said when asked how to prepare for a job like his. His message was that by pushing ourselves beyond our comfort zone and failing, we can get better at what we do. Another Googler discussed when doing group projects in school, there always seemed to be one or two superstars that did the work and others didn't. But at Google, the teams are made of all superstars who work very hard, which allows great thinking and collaboration.

When asked what students should do to get a job at Google, the panel of engineers responded that while students should have a good technological background, they should also be willing to work hard and willing to learn.

In conversations following the field trip, students discussed what they saw and what they learned.

Angela Ashbaugh, a computer science and calculus student, said, "I learned that if you work hard then you will get rewarded for your effort." AP Computer Science student, Shulai Yang, added, "What makes a person successful is his strong academic background and his ability to solve problems." Computer Science student, Jake Turocy, advised, "Try hard, take math and computer science seriously, and never give up."

Calculus student, Claire Dunning, said, "The people at Google clearly enjoy their jobs and that is a great kind of work place I would love."

"It was really cool to see an everyday job like computer programming in a very non-traditional work environment, especially one that's right in our backyard," added Brett Rogalsky, a calculus student.

Teacher, Mark Capsambelis, said that the students were amazed by the awesome work environment at Google, but hoped the students realized that to work at a place like this you have to challenge yourself and work hard. AP Computer Science student, Jocey Ostrowski, said, "The Google office had a very positive environment, and I am so grateful that employees took the time to give advice to aspiring programmers like us. It was a wonderful opportunity to learn a lot and to get inspired for the future."

Dena Huselton, the Computer Science teacher, said, "The combination of the tour and the question/answer session with the programmers gave the students insight into a world most people rarely get to experience. The overall impression was that hard work and self-motivation pay off."