DAILY BREEZE

Local News

South Bay students soar high for National Summer Transportation Institute program



South Bay students fly airplanes as part of their program in the National Summer Transportation Institute after learning about the transportation industry. Program concluded with graduation dinner Monday, July 15, 2019. (Courtesy of National Summer Transportation Institute)

By Staff report |

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A select group of South Bay middle and high school students took to the skies at the Flabob Airport in Riverside earlier this month during a two-week program with the National Summer Transportation Institute.

The program — put on by Cal State Los Angeles' College of Engineering, Computer Science, and Technology from June 27 to July 15 — offered instructional classes on STEM and the transportation industry to students from the Inglewood Unified and Centinela Valley Union High school districts, in partnership with the South Bay Workforce Investment Board.

The program included a three-day visit to Flabob Airport.

STEM stands for science, technology, engineering and math.

Students learned about the necessary forces for flight, such as wind adjustments, plane components and understanding flight instruments. Demonstrating what they've learned, students joined with an instructor to fly an airplane around the airport's adjacent mountain.

SBWIB's Executive Director, Jan Vogel said, "Their experience doesn't end here, eight of these students will be going to Pensacola, Florida for the National Flight Academy. They were selected among 200 other students in the Country, that's really big!"

The program ended with a graduation dinner July 15 to congratulate students for their efforts and to present them with certificates for competing the program.

Editor's note: The name of the airport is Flabob Airport. An earlier version of this story incorrectly spelled the airport's name. The story has been updated.

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