

# Chevron grants STEM learning, in a good way



Bud Carson Middle School assistant principal Josh Godin, students Alexis Baley, Yenitzie Amacho, trustee Alexandre Monteiro, Joshua Baca, and principal Mark Silva. Photo by Kevin Cody

Bud Carson Middle School principal Mark Silva and his students brought robots they had built in class to Chevron Park in El Segundo last Wednesday. They were at the park to express their appreciation for the \$90,000 check the refinery presented that afternoon to Hawthorne Superintendent Dr. Helen Morgan for her district's middle school STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering, Math) programs.

“Building robots designed on computers, performing medical detective work, working with 3D printers and space simulators — none of this would be possible without Chevron’s support,” Silva said.

Also last Wednesday, Chevron facilities manager Frank Semancik presented \$65,000 checks to Wiseburn School District Superintendent Tom Johnstone and DaVinci Schools CEO Matthew Wunder. DaVinci is a science-oriented charter school in Hawthorne, open to students from throughout the South Bay.



South Bay students and school officials express their appreciation to Chevron El Segundo presented checks totaling 1.3 million for STEM programs to Chevron El Segundo for its \$1.3 million to the local schools STEM programs. Photo by Kevin Cody

During his thank you to Chevron, Wunder noted that the country will need four million more engineers simply to take the place of retirees among “the graying engineering workforce.”

He said that DaVinci Schools are addressing this need, in part, by encouraging girls to study science.

“Girls lose interest in the sciences in the third grade unless they are encouraged. DaVinci’s first two valedictorians were girls. One went to Brown and the other to Stanford,” he noted.

Chevron El Segundo has contributed \$1.3 million during the current school year for STEM programs at 16 South Bay school districts. It has contributed over \$8 million to local schools in the past six years. **ER**