

D211 POST: DISTRICT STUDENTS LEARN OF BUSINESS APPRENTICESHIPS



Students from across High School District 211 had the opportunity to learn about business apprenticeships during a visit to Zurich Insurance in Schaumburg on November 14. During the visit, representatives from Zurich, as well as current apprentices, some of which were recent District 211 graduates, spoke about the benefits and requirements of apprenticeships with the insurance company.

As part of the day's activities, a panel of apprentices, including a graduate of Hoffman Estates High School and a graduate of James B. Conant High School, discussed why they chose to pursue internships. They talked about their day-to-day schedule at Zurich, and also included insight into days they spent in class at Harper College. Representatives from the Zurich human resources department provided information on the company's benefits package, as well as providing more insight about a typical workday. Following the panel discussion, members from the panel answered students' questions which ranged from inquiries about the application process to how the apprentices felt taking on their intern positions.



At the conclusion of the panel discussion, students were divided into focus groups to learn about the finer details of the apprenticeship program. Students then had an opportunity to tour the new Zurich facility where they had an up-close view of the working environment.

Prior to her visit to Zurich, Hoffman Estates High School senior Alex Dyer wasn't sure what she was going to do after high school. She said after the apprenticeship presentation that she has a much better idea.

"I was not aware of the apprentice program here before. It sparked an interest hearing about how they balance your education and job," she said. "I was undecided about what to do after high school, but today has definitely nudged me into this direction."

