

D211 POST: SCHAUMBURG BUSINESS LEADER PROMOTES SCHOOL PARTNERSHIP DURING TOUR



Innovative Components Inc. President Mike O'Connor discusses recruiting high school students into the labor market during a tour of his company in Schaumburg Oct. 25.

Illinois Deputy Governor Leslie Munger, President and CEO of Intersect Illinois Mark Peterson, Commerce and Economic Opportunity Assistant Deputy Director Erik Brejla and others toured Innovative Components Inc. Schaumburg facility as part of a local business tour arranged by the Schaumburg Business Association October 25.

During opening remarks, Innovative Components President Mike O'Connor discussed the importance of reaching high school aged students. One item O'Connor focused on was the program his company runs which recruits students from local high schools. He also discussed the working relationship his company has had with Township High School District 211 and Township High School District 214 through programs for students with special needs.

"We are grateful for Innovative Component's partnership with the District in creating opportunities for all students," said District 211 Director of Special

Education Renée Erickson. "It is through this partnership our students can experience the world of work, with the real potential for post-secondary opportunities in continued education, training and employment."



Following the opening remarks, the delegation, as well as representatives from Districts 211 and 214 walked through the workshop. Inside they were greeted by a recent Schaumburg High School graduate who discussed the nature of his job with Innovative Components. The group also observed special needs students from District 211's Higgins Education Center packaging one of the many styles of nobbs created by Innovative Components.

Following the tour, Deputy Governor Munger spoke on how she was impressed by the partnerships between the company and school districts. She also expressed her appreciation for seeing special needs students being given the opportunity to learn a skill and continue working.



Innovative Components Inc. President Mike O'Connor discusses his company's operations with Illinois Deputy Governor Leslie Munger and Intersect Illinois President and CEO Mark Peterson during a tour Oct. 25.