

PHS STUDENTS EARN \$25,000 FOR BUSINESS IDEA IN DISTRICT 211 PITCH NIGHT COMPETITION



Palatine High School's DeoTech, which consisted of students (in no particular order) Kosta Plevritis, Anthony Portera, Drake Roberts, and Anthony Tamras, were the winners and earned \$25,000 in seed money for their company from the District 211 Foundation.

Student teams from Palatine, Fremd, Conant, Schaumburg, and Hoffman Estates High Schools' Business Incubator classes competed hard in District 211's very first "shark tank" event.

The best teams from each school were selected to compete at the District Pitch Night for real funding. The groups presented business ideas to community "sharks" for seed money to start real businesses. Palatine High School's DeoTech, which consists of students Kosta Plevritis, Anthony Portera, Drake Roberts, and Anthony Tamras, were the winners and earned \$25,000 in seed money for their company from the District 211 Foundation.



PHS students created the business DeoTech and pitch their product to a panel of investors.

DeoTech pitched their product DeoBlock, which aims to raise standards of portable deodorizers by creating an eco-friendly and cost-effective product. As of pitch night, the group already had a commitment from a local gym to sell their product.

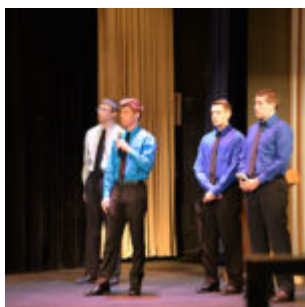
Six total groups were chosen to present their business ideas to a panel of investors. In addition to DeoTech, those groups included the following schools and students:



Kickswap – Conant High School – TJ Brashears, Abbas Josh, Rikin Patel, and Priya Shah



Qubed – Fremd High School – Andres Carrero, Yulia Odinkova, Shun Yamamoto, Kristine Yim, and Sarah Yoon



Re-Lax Services – Schaumburg High School – Stephen Jurica, Ryan Urbanik, Alex Walls, and Matt Warren



Simple Chip – Hoffman Estates High School – Christian Peralta, Sara Michalik, Nico Soriano, and Alex Khokhari



Shoe Monkey – Palatine High School – Alex Korinko, Trevor Lyons, Zach Proctor, and Hannah Tipper

Students enrolled in B397 Business Incubator class have worked not only with their classroom teacher, but also had unprecedented support from community content-experts and mentors. For the teams that did not receive funding, investors encouraged them all to continue pursuing their ideas.

Groups, such as PHS' Shoe Monkey, have already received encouragement to move forward with their idea. Shoe Monkey, which is a social impact company that strives to provide children with healthy shoes that can be recycled to shoeless children worldwide, recently won \$500 at the NIU Social Entrepreneurship Summit and Competition. Other groups stated they would continue to pursue their idea and use the investor panel's feedback as ways to improve.