



MTA Marketing hosted five TCAP students. From left, seated, are Brandon Foster, Wilson High; Warren Morse, deputy executive officer, Marketing; Gilberto Contreras and Esmeralda Cruz of John Glenn High. Standing, from left, are Greg Berumen, senior communications officer; German Ballardo and Jose Callela of Wilson High; and Ron Jue, chief administrative analyst.



Gail Overby, assistant administrative analyst, Procurement, (center) took Carlos Chilin and Marily Dominguez, both of Locke High, under her wing for the day.



John Roberts, deputy executive officer, Bus Operations, (right) hosted Cristian Vasilescu of North Hollywood High.



MTA Construction Chief Charles Stark explains a transit system map to Jeanette Huerta and Lourdes Morales

TCAP Students Explore World of Work During MTA Career Day

(April 5) Gerardo Ramirez, a junior at Franklin High is finishing up a month's internship at the MTA. Cristian Vasilescu, a North Hollywood High senior, worked on an urban planning project. Jeanette Huerta, a North Hollywood junior, was surprised at the variety of careers at the MTA.

This cross-section of students is representative of the 175 who participated, Thursday, in the MTA's seventh annual Career Day. The students are enrolled in the Transportation Careers Academy Program (TCAP) at North Hollywood High, Franklin High, Wilson High, Locke High and at John Glenn High in the Norwalk/La Mirada School District.

"Next week's my last week and I wish I could stay longer," Ramirez said of his internship work in the Quality and Reliability Department at the RRC. He was assigned by his supervisor Harold Torres to edit photos for a maintenance brochure using PhotoShop computer software.

Professionals from many occupations within the MTA volunteered to host the youngsters during a day of job shadowing and career counseling. Students were assigned to volunteers who work at Headquarters, at the RRC and at the bus and rail operating divisions.

Completed urban planning project

Vasilescu, who plans to study computer programming at UC Irvine, has been in the TCAP program for two years. Earlier this year, he and his classmates completed a video presentation describing their urban planning project to modernize downtown Los Angeles.

"I like urban planning very much and may be interested in continuing in it," he says, but since he hasn't even started his college career yet, adds, "I'm not sure right now."

Marily Dominguez, a Locke High senior, talked to MTA employees about their jobs. She plans to enroll at Cal State LA to study biology or bio-chemistry.

This is the third year of TCAP participation, but the first Career Day for Carlos Chilin, a Locke junior. Topics have included everything from English to physics, but he's most interested in chemistry.

"The MTA uses different chemicals and materials to build and operate the rail lines and to maintain and

of North Hollywood High.



Gerardo Ramirez of Franklin High talks with Dan Miller of MTA Quality Assurance. Gerardo was just finishing a month's internship in the Quality and Reliability Department at the RRC.

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operate the buses," he says. Chilin plans to attend US Santa Barbara.

Career Day is a key component of the TCAP instructional program. Among the transportation occupations the students experience are urban planning and architectural design, engineering, government relations, human resources, public affairs and a range of technical applications.

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