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Rail TOS Esther Pippins queries visitors to Division 20's Tower on what they learned from their tour of the Red Line maintenance area. She later explained the workings of the status board.



Photos by Ned Racine

400 Children Attend 'Take Our Daughters and Sons to Work Day'


- Tours included bus and rail divisions, Metro Headquarters; CEO Roger Snoble answers kids' questions

By NED RACINE

(May 1, 2007) Joshua Ni, six years old, walked through the Metro Red Line Division 20 maintenance shops, dwarfed by heavy-rail cars, while Robert Rodriguez, a Red Line train operator, explained the purpose of "collector shoes" and "stingers" – electrical devices that move the trains.

This year's "Take Our Daughters and Sons to Work" event at Metro drew Joshua and approximately 400 other kids, according to Elizabeth Porras, an assistant administration analyst and the event's corporate coordinator.

Children visiting Metro Headquarters took tours of



Jeannette Bell, senior EEO program investigator, offered a demonstration of "Is This an Interview?" Corey Adams, Quincy Murray, Stephanie Andrews and Amanda Wang heard Bell's interview tips. Helen Lejeune rises above.

Operations Central Instruction (OCI), the Copy Center, the Bus Operations Center and the Design Studio. New this year was a tour of Metro's Dorothy Peyton Gray Library.

Dora Macias, 8, a frequent Metro Rail rider, rode with her father Charles Macias, a transportation operations supervisor, taking the subway east to Division 20. Later, children congregated in the tower five stories above the rail yard.

From the vantage of the tower, Esther Pippins, a rail transportation operations supervisor, explained to Hakeema Muhammad and Gavin Hurst the process for moving 72 rail cars through the rail yard each 24 hours.

Back at Headquarters

Attending Jeannette Bell's 2:30 p.m. class on interview skills, Amanda Wang, almost 11, and Stephanie Andrews, completely 11, learned from the senior EEO program investigator that interviewers have no appetite for applicants eating carrots during a job interview. Katie Talbert, administrative intern, drew laughter with her portrayal of an applicant who dresses and acts inappropriately.

For many children, activities began with breakfast in the Metro Café and continued with their photographs being taken on the Plaza level with Metro Security dogs Nakita and Nitro. The children also received small gifts contributed by the California Highway Patrol.

At Division 10 Maintenance, kids rode buses through the bus washers – a perennial favorite. At Division 18 Transportation, children began the day with a continental breakfast and then traveled to OCI where they drove the bus simulator.

During the Metro Blue Line tour at Division 11, Eric Czintos gave



Anne Karna, senior marketing and communications officer, demonstrates how Metro advertises its services. Nicholas James imagines. Later, the children created their own marketing poster.



Michael Winston, Division 7 Maintenance storekeeper, brought his daughter, Mariah, to the cafeteria for lunch. West Hollywood Division 7 brought a large contingent to the Gateway Building for "Bring Our Daughters and Sons to Work" activities.



Annelise Gerhardt shows her enthusiasm for the day's activities while sitting on her mother's lap in the Metro Café. Juliania Lupian stands beside Wendy Gerhardt, senior Human Resources analyst.

Dora Macias, 8, pauses during her trip from Union Station to Division 20 with her father Charles Macias, a

children a maintenance and repair test. Kayla Crewnshaw, daughter of Rosie Haynes, Blue Line train operator, earned the top score. Kayla answered all 10 technical questions correctly on the written test.



transportation
operations
supervisor.

The day’s events ended in the Board Room with CEO Roger Snoble taking questions from Metro’s future patrons and – possibly – employees.