

# School and Youth



OSAGE CITY HIGH SCHOOL STUDENTS IN THE SCIENCE, ENGINEERING AND TECHNOLOGY CLASS were able to interact with the technology and software developers at I Support Learning in Olathe, Kan., last week. The curriculum materials used in the OCHS class were developed by I Support Learning. The students made presentations to the professionals about next generation student learning needs. *Submitted photo*

## Students gain work world ideas

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OLATHE – They’ve tackled programming video games. They’ve conquered robotics. Now they’re on to the working world.

The students of Ms. Carol Keighley’s Science, Engineering and Technology (SET) class at Osage City High School left the classroom and headed for the boardroom Feb. 17 to flex their creative muscles.

Arriving at the offices of I Support Learning, Inc., in Olathe, Kan., the students were given the task of creating the next great school curriculum title.

In the SET class, the students work with cutting-edge technologies like video game development, robots and invention, and artificial intelligence and mobile robotics, using curriculum created by I Support Learning.

Through their coursework, the students live the life of a “virtual intern” focused on solving a

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real world problem. The students are challenged to use the skills of math, science, language and technology to find real world solutions.

Due to their success, Ms. Keighley contacted I Support Learning with an unusual field trip request.

“I want to reward the kids for their hard work, but also give them a chance to see how their schoolwork can be used in the real world,” said Ms. Keighley.

Teamed with a developer, the students began by identifying the problem and then working toward the solution. Through brainstorming and finally prototyping, the students succeeded in generating ideas aimed at the next generation of student.

“The global economy is

moving fast, and for kids today to compete, they need to see and understand how math, language and science will be involved in the job of the future,” said Steve Waddell, owner and lead developer of I Support Learning. “We were excited about the opportunity to show Ms. Keighley’s class that what they’re working on in school is relevant. That it does matter.”

To wrap up the day, each team of students got the chance to present their ideas to the team at I Support Learning.

“There were some really good ideas. We were impressed with the way the students attacked the problem and pitched their ideas,” said Waddell. “Who knows, maybe one of them will be a developer on our team in the future.”