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Montclair HS Students Tour PVSC Lab, Conduct Wastewater Analysis

By TAPINTO MONTCLAIR STAFF
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Newark, NJ – The Passaic Valley Sewerage Commission (PVSC) hosted students from the Montclair High School Environmental Club for Lab Day on Tuesday, April 25. The primary objective of the event was to showcase various careers within the sciences, raise awareness of the important role labs play in society, and specifically educate on lab procedures and responsibilities.

PVSC provided each student with safety glasses and a lab coat. Students then broke into groups and visited various work stations that were led by either a chemist or a lab technician. Students were exposed to what transpires in the lab on a daily basis by observing several wastewater analysis and having the hands-on opportunity to perform the analysis themselves. They also learned about safety procedures in the laboratory and about the state and federal regulations PVSC observes.

In addition to visiting the lab, students took on an extensive, plant-wide tour. They also heard presentations from several members of the PVSC management team.

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“Most people don’t really think about what happens to water after it’s been used. It was interesting to see the steps the water goes through as it is filtered and treated,” said Jackie Brandt, a Montclair junior who is interested in pursuing a career in Environmental Science.

“We learned a lot,” added Sebastian Garda, a Montclair sophomore who is interested in pursuing a career in Biochemical Engineering. “I was interested to learn about the many ways wastewater is tested here.”