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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Students Explore “IT for a Day” at Savannah River Site

High School Students Tour SRS to Identify IT Career Opportunities

AIKEN, S.C., January 13, 2020 – During the inaugural “IT for a Day” career tour held recently, local high school students met with information technology (IT) and human resources employees to learn about working at Savannah River Nuclear Solutions (SRNS) at the Savannah River Site (SRS).

“Coming to the Savannah River Site was an amazing opportunity for us,” said Steven Hahn, an IT instructor at Evans High School (EHS) in Evans, Ga. “Our students need to see the end game, that employers like Target, the healthcare industry and SRS all need cybersecurity personnel.”

Destiny Barrett, an EHS junior, said it was helpful to see concepts she’s learned in high school be applied in the real world.

“Being able to talk with IT employees who work in this field day to day and listen to their opinions was useful,” Barrett said.

The tour began at the newly created SRS Employee Onboarding Facility, the site’s “one-stop shop” for new hires.



Mason Richardson, Savannah River Nuclear Solutions Information Technology, leads a tour of the Savannah River Site Data Center for the benefit of local high school students studying cyber security.

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“We wanted students to experience a day in the life of an IT employee at SRS, to walk in their shoes,” said Kim Mitchell, who works in the education outreach organization at SRNS.

Since 2014, 80 percent of all new SRNS hires have been local residents.

The students visited a large data center and gathered for presentations and discussions on computer-related topics, such as cybersecurity, mobile apps, internships and SRNS employment opportunities for IT professionals.

There are hundreds of buildings across the 310-square-mile site, including industrial facilities, research laboratories and supporting infrastructure, nearly all of which are dependent on IT support.

“This was a wonderful opportunity for us to connect with students from nearby Columbia County,” Mitchell said. “We want to make sure they understand their options at SRS. We are very interested in hiring locally for many mutually beneficial reasons.”

Savannah River Nuclear Solutions, a Fluor-led company with Newport News Nuclear and Honeywell, is responsible for the management and operations of the Department of Energy’s Savannah River Site, including the Savannah River National Laboratory, located near Aiken, South Carolina.

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