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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Hamilton Township School District Host Google Latin America Ministries of Education

Hamilton, NJ. The Hamilton Township School District (HTSD) welcomed Google Latin America Ministries of Education to Grice Middle School on Tuesday, September 10, 2024. HTSD was selected by Google as their only school visit during their international trip to New York City. HTSD was proud to welcome representatives from Google and Latin American dignitaries from their home countries of Brazil, Jamaica, Chile, Mexico, Argentina, El Salvador, Bermuda, and more.

Once notified of selection, HTSD Technology leaders and district leaders immediately met with representatives from Google to plan this extraordinary educational event. The day's agenda included a technology discussion and classroom visits. The event concluded with a student spotlight Q&A session, featuring current students and HTSD alumni student Fadi Farrag, currently studying at MIT.

HTSD showcased how we infuse educational technology and Google in the classroom with a focus on expansion to providing chromebooks for every student and what our challenges are regarding technology usage. Led by our HTSD Technology, School Administration, and Curriculum and Instruction teams, the Ministers of Education were invited into the classroom gaining an insight into core curriculum work using technology.

Throughout our classroom visits and presentations, Google provided translators in Spanish and Portuguese. One of the highlights of the day was the Student Spotlight when HTSD students from Guatemala, Dominican Republic, and Brazil spoke to the Ministers of Education. The students explained how the use of technology assisted them with their reading skills and would be a key skill to prepare them for college and future careers. The Ministers were impressed as the students spoke both in their native language as well as English.

"HTSD is an example of planning, execution, and adoption of educational technology and Google in the classroom. We wanted a public school that could represent what most countries in Latin America want to do, which is to develop a digital transformation strategy to leverage technology to empower teachers and administrators to, in the end, benefit all students - and HTSD showcased a great example of such digital transformation journey," stated Felipe Neves, Head of Google Workspace for Education in Latin America.

“We are proud to be recognized by Google as a showcase of effective educational technology use by students and teachers. This recognition is the result of our dedicated teachers, Technology Department, administrators, and students who infuse educational technology into the classroom every day. It was an exciting opportunity for teachers and students to share their experiences with educational leaders from Latin America and for them to see the great work happening in HTSD,” said Dr. Scott Rocco, Superintendent of Schools.

“This event was an incredible platform to showcase not only the technology we utilize in our district, but more importantly, the remarkable talents and achievements of our students and teachers. We were truly honored to share the Hamilton experience with these distinguished guests, offering them a glimpse into the daily life of our students and staff,” expressed Director of Technology, Jim O’Boyle.

For more information, contact Laura Geltch, HTSD Grants, Communication, & Sponsorship Coordinator.

Attachments:

- Photo 1 - HTSD and Google Latin America Group Photo
- Photo 2 - Student Spotlight Q&A
- Photo 3 - Steinert High School Student Musicians (left to right: Students, Aaron Mazur and Jameson Moulds, led by Steinert HS Band Director, John Ketterer)
- Photo 4 - Classroom Visits at Grice Middle School
- 5. Video - Drone video of Group

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