

THANK YOU FOR YOUR KIND INTRODUCTION.

TO OUR PARTNERS AT BOEING, AT CAREER SOURCE SOUTH FLORIDA, AND TO ALL OF YOU...

THANK YOU FOR BEING HERE THIS MORNING.

AS THE WORLD ECONOMY CONTINUES TO EVOLVE AND BECOMES MORE COMPETITIVE...

OUR CHALLENGE IS TO ENSURE THAT MIAMI-DADE COUNTY IS WELL POSITIONED TO COMPETE IN THIS NEW ECONOMY.

THE FACT IS THAT OUR MIDDLE AND HIGH SCHOOL STUDENTS NEED TO BE EQUIPPED WITH SKILLS AND INFORMATION FOR A FUTURE THAT IS RAPIDLY CHANGING.

WE DO KNOW THAT STUDY AFTER STUDY HAS SHOWN THAT ONE OF THE MAIN CONCERNS IN THE MINDS OF BUSINESS LEADERS IS ACCESS TO A TALENTED WORKFORCE.

JOB CREATORS AND ENTREPRENEURS ARE ATTRACTED TO PLACES WHERE THEY CAN ACCESS THE BEST AND BRIGHTEST BRAINS, WITH THE BEST SKILLS.

THIS IS WHY, IF OUR YOUNG PEOPLE ARE TO HAVE THE SKILLS AND KNOWLEDGE NECESSARY TO CREATE AND COMPETE FOR THE JOBS OF THE FUTURE...

THAT PREPARATION NEEDS TO START NOW.

AND THAT'S WHY WE ARE ALL HERE.

WORKING WITH CAREER SOURCE SOUTH FLORIDA, MIAMI-DADE COUNTY IS NOW AT THE FOREFRONT FOR INNOVATIVE LEARNING AND TRAINING OPPORTUNITIES FOR OUR YOUNG PEOPLE...

ESPECIALLY IN SCIENCE, TECHNOLOGY, ENGINEERING, AND MATHEMATICS --- THE STEM FIELDS.

WHY STEM?

ACCORDING TO THE DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE, STEM CAREERS ARE SOME OF THE BEST-PAYING AND HAVE THE GREATEST POTENTIAL FOR JOB GROWTH IN THE EARLY 21ST CENTURY.

THE REPORT GOES ON TO STATE THAT TRAINING IN STEM FIELDS GENERALLY RESULTS IN HIGHER WAGES, WHETHER OR NOT YOU END UP WORKING IN A STEM CAREER.

THIS IS THE TYPE OF TRAINING OUR YOUNG PEOPLE NEED, AND THE TYPES OF JOBS WE WANT OUR YOUNG PEOPLE TO BE READY FOR.

LET ME ALSO GIVE YOU SOME PERSPECTIVE ON OUR AVIATION INDUSTRY.

OUR AIRPORT IS THE TOP ECONOMIC ENGINE FOR THE COUNTY, WITH AN ANNUAL ECONOMIC IMPACT OF NEARLY \$33 BILLION.

M.I.A. AND RELATED AVIATION INDUSTRIES CONTRIBUTE OVER 270,000 JOBS DIRECTLY AND INDIRECTLY TO THE LOCAL ECONOMY.

THIS EQUATES TO 1 OUT OF 4 JOBS.

JUST LAST YEAR, M.I.A. BROKE A RECORD WITH OVER 40 MILLION PASSENGERS, MAKING IT ONE OF THE BUSIEST AIRPORTS IN THE NATION.

THIS IS WHY IT MAKES SENSE TO LEVERAGE THE GROWTH OF M.I.A. BY SUPPORTING OUR AVIATION INDUSTRY.

I CHAIR THE ONE COMMUNITY, ONE GOAL INITIATIVE...

AND WE ARE WORKING WITH THE BEACON COUNCIL, OUR ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT AGENCY, TO TARGET INDUSTRIES CONNECTED TO STEM RELATED OCCUPATIONS, ESPECIALLY AVIATION.

AND THE FIRST BOEING STEM AVIATION EXPO IS A GREAT STEP FORWARD TOWARD THIS GOAL.

BOEING IS AHEAD OF THE CURVE.

THEY SAW THAT THERE WOULD BE A PILOT AND AVIATION TECHNICIAN SHORTAGE.

THE NUMBERS FOR NORTH AMERICA ALONE SHOW THE NEED.

OVER 85,700 PILOTS AND NEARLY 98,000 TECHNICIANS WILL BE NEEDED, AND THESE ARE HIGH PAYING JOBS.

SO BOEING GOT TO WORK.

WHAT WE SEE TODAY MAY BE THE FIRST EXPOSURE TO A LIFELONG CAREER.

AND THESE HIGH SCHOOL STUDENTS WILL HAVE ALL THE TOOLS NECESSARY, SO THAT FROM TAKE-OFF TO LANDING, THEY CAN TRAIN FOR CAREERS IN AVIATION.

WE'RE PROUD THAT MIAMI-DADE COUNTY IS HOME TO BOEING FLIGHT SERVICES.

WE'RE ALSO PROUD THAT MIAMI HAS BECOME A HUB FOR TRAINING IN COMMERCIAL AVIATION.

BOEING'S FLIGHT TRAINING CAMPUS IS THEIR LARGEST TRAINING CAMPUS, AND WILL TRAIN AN ESTIMATED 4,500 STUDENTS.

LET ME GIVE BOEING A BIG "THANK YOU" FOR LOCATING THIS FACILITY HERE IN OUR HOMETOWN.

WE ARE ALL HERE BECAUSE WE CARE ABOUT FUTURE GENERATIONS...

AND WE WANT TO MAKE SURE THAT THEY HAVE THE BEST OPPORTUNITIES TO ACHIEVE A BETTER LIFE.

EXPOSURE TO STEM CAREERS AND THE AVIATION INDUSTRY ARE PART OF THAT.

WITH EVENTS LIKE THIS, WE WANT OUR STUDENTS TO BE READY TO COMPETE GLOBALLY FOR THESE JOBS.

WE WANT THE PILOTS AND AVIATION TECHNICIANS OF TOMORROW TO TRAIN HERE, IN MIAMI, TODAY.

AND BY EXPANDING THE OPPORTUNITIES THAT ALIGN OUR STUDENTS TO INITIATIVES LIKE THIS ONE....

WE'RE ENSURING THAT OUR YOUNG MEN AND WOMEN WILL HAVE THE BEST SHOT AT THE JOBS OF TOMORROW.

AND IT ALL STARTS WITH THE WORK WE ARE DOING TODAY.

THANK YOU!