

A day in Oakland...

Over 180 students from grades 6-12 gathered on Saturday, October 30, 2021 at the Life Academy High School in Oakland to participate in a healthcare professionals career day.

Emily Frank, MD, FAAP, has organized this event for the past 4 years and this year was another great success!

The students had 3 rotations into different classrooms that hosted a variety of professionals. Each rotation was 50-60 minutes in length, giving the students one on one opportunities to ask questions of those specialists and participate in some hands-on activities.

Room topics included: NICU/Dental/Ophthalmology/Medical Lab/Surgery/ICU/Medical interpreting/Pharmacy/Cardiology/Pediatrics/Neurology/Primary Care/Women's Health and Nephrology.

There were surgeons, doctors, nurses, medical assistants, lab technicians, ophthalmologists, pharmacists, and a dental assistant! It was a great event, and I was honored to represent dentistry.

Our specific classroom hosted dentistry, medical laboratory, and ophthalmology.

We had our students visit each of our areas for 20 minutes and then we rotated them to the next specialist. Some of the classrooms had only one specialty, depending on the topic and the number of volunteers to teach.

Each student learned about the mouth, teeth, periodontal disease and then had the hands-on experience of disclosing to see the plaque on their teeth and understand the importance of intervention with disease.... periodontal disease! It was a fun day with a lot of pink colored teeth to start and fresh, clean teeth after they brushed to see the results with proper brushing.

Not only was it a great time to interact with these bright students and share about the profession of dentistry, but it was also wonderful to hear how appreciative these kids were of all the volunteers that came to invest their time to share our knowledge and excitement about the healthcare field.

We all have an opportunity to give back. Helping others is what we do....and sharing about the opportunities available in the profession of dentistry is just one of those ways!