



CENTER FOR **EDUCATIONAL** INNOVATION

NY Assembly Speaker Carl Heastie and State Senator Jamaal Bailey visit **CEI** at the Leaders of Tomorrow (11x370) School



March 7, 2023

- CEI's partner school, Leaders of Tomorrow (11x370) led by **Principal Joe Biernat**, was visited by **NY Assembly Speaker Carl Heastie** and **NY State Senator Jamaal Bailey** along with **Superintendent Cris Vaughan** of District 11, **Deputy Superintendent Tiawana Perez**, and **Dr Meisha Ross Porter**, President and CEO of the Bronx Community Foundation.
- The elected officials and school administrators visited CEI's **Coding** class taught by Aleenah Alam and CEI's **College App** class taught by Joel Weingarten.
- The guests toured Leaders of Tomorrow and saw the home of CEI's future **Innovation Center**.
- The best part of the tour was, of course, seeing our **eager students engage** with their teachers, administrators and elected officials.

The students are the best advocates for their own education.



- **Watch Grace Awopegba, an 8th grade student**, as she describes why The Leaders of Tomorrow school, and all students, can benefit from learning to code and in understanding emerging technologies at a young age.
- **Student enrichment programming** is not just about the subjects being taught; the programming allows students to see for themselves **the value of education**.
- Grace reminded all of us why we do the work that we do.



CEI's Innovation Center

- **The Challenge:** The expanding digital divide threatens to leave under resourced students and communities behind in a rapidly advancing world.
- **CEI's Response:** Create a hub where technology and education converge, offering students the tools and guidance they need to navigate and excel in the digital landscape.
- The Innovation Center builds on CEI's 20-year history with **Project BOOST**, aimed at skill and talent development for student success.
- **AI education** is integrated to prepare students for active roles in an AI-centric future. The addition of AI instruction continues CEI's innovative efforts, addresses market needs, and draws funding from a variety of sources, including grants and tech collaborations.
- Exposure to new technologies and **potential career paths** is a cornerstone of the Innovation Center's design.
- To learn more and support our efforts, reach out to **Craig Caruana**, CEI's Major Gifts and Communications Officer / ccaruana@thecei.org

Thank you!

Thank you to all of our donors, elected officials, school administrators, principals, teachers and community partners who enable CEI to do the work we do every day in New York City public schools. Only by working together, can we ensure every child, regardless of background, receives the education they deserve.



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