



Commissioner Brad Avakian
Bureau of Labor & Industries

Press Advisory

For News Planning

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Avakian to Visit Local CTE Program Funded by State Grant

Visit will highlight the new engineering and design program at Churchill High School

EUGENE- Oregon Bureau of Labor and Industries (BOLI) Commissioner Brad Avakian will visit Churchill High School on Wednesday, October 3rd, to tour the new engineering and design program made possible through a Career and Technical Education (CTE) Revitalization Grant. Avakian will be joined by local legislators and educators on the tour.

Churchill High School and the Eugene 4J School District received \$424,766 from the CTE Revitalization Grant Fund last April to create the new “Relevance and Rigor in New STEM Career Paths” program, which started this year. The award enables the Eugene 4J School District to develop an innovative science, technology, engineering and mathematics curriculum where students engage in authentic, problem-based engineering projects and are connected with working professionals in the community. Churchill’s program is the first full-scale, coherent pre-engineering program in Eugene. Collaboration with local engineers and consulting firms will ensure relevance and align curriculum to industry standards and workplace needs.

Details for the event are as follows:

- WHO:** Labor & Industries Commissioner Brad Avakian, local officials, educators and partners.
- WHAT:** Classroom tour and discussion between elected officials, educators and participating students about Churchill’s “Relevance and Rigor in New STEM Career Paths” program.
- WHEN:** 1:30pm to 2:30pm on Wednesday October 3, 2012.
- WHERE:** Churchill High School (1850 Bailey Hill Road Eugene, OR 97405)

Avakian is recognized as a champion for “21st century shop classes” in Oregon schools, having led the fight to pass House Bill 3362 in 2011 and establish a dedicated grant fund to help schools and school districts create or expand CTE education options that work in concert with local employers to train young people for high-wage, high-demand jobs at a younger age. The first [eight grants awarded from the Career and Technical Education Grant Fund](#) will benefit 21 schools across Oregon this school year.

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