

Tango Flight Program Inspires Next Generation of Pilots, Engineers, Aerospace Leaders.

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To inspire the next generation of pilots, engineers, aviation mechanics and technicians, Neodesha High School is considering the implementation of the Tango Flight Program, which offers prospective students an opportunity to explore an already in-demand career, for workers in the aviation, aerospace and outer-space industry. Whether they wish to pursue a college degree or not, the Tango Flight Curriculum introduces students to the standards that allow them to obtain the necessary skills to work in the industry.

With hands-on STEM experience, students may pursue careers different than only those related to aviation; still, the available opportunity to be a team member for the building of an airplane is great for a resume. For completion in a job interview or application, the Tango Flight Program gives its participants a plethora of post-secondary advantages.

Captain Craig Anthony, a veteran of the United States Navy, is the current Director of Marketing and Development for Tango Flight Incorporated. Captain Anthony explained this program's goals. "Actually, the real question is what can Tango Flight do to better support school districts," Anthony responded.

Now more than ever in the world of education, school districts certainly juggle several priorities, ranging from student success to organizational prosperity. That's why the Tango Flight Program takes a different approach to coordinating their partnership with school districts.

"We are a 'turn-key' solution for education administrators. We come out, in person, to provide training to the teacher and mentors. We provide all the curriculum and order all the tools, parts, kits and components necessary to build the aircraft," Anthony stated.

In fact, the Tango Flight Program does much more than that. In addition to their hands-on approach, they also take initiative in organizing the shop and storage area for “safety and efficiency.” The program’s key coordinating components illustrate their hope to be in a good partnership with every school district.

No doubt, the program takes pride in its partnerships and allows each participant to have success and fun. But the first hurdle, an initial \$89,000 investment, is a significant one. This obstacle, while able to be overcome, causes some school districts to become either skeptical, or unsure about how to cover the costs. However, the Tango Flight Program promises to return the investment whenever the partnership ends, whether it be the completion of one airplane or twenty. In addition to the initial cost, an annual financial fee is required to cover curriculum, logistics, and FAA air-worthiness certification costs, but this is manageable through the school district’s budget management.

The Tango Flight Program is truly something for every student, regardless of his or her career aspirations. While financial requirements are seemingly hard to manage, the program’s effectiveness to prepare students for aviation, aerospace, and outer-space has endless advantages after high school.