



August 31, 2019

Dear Educator,

My name is Vishal Vithlani and I have the honor of serving as the Director of Aerospace Professionals In Schools program which is part of the Organization of Black Aerospace Professionals (OBAP).

Founded in 1976, OBAP is committed to making a difference in the aerospace industry by continuing to develop a pipeline of talent using science, technology, engineering, and math (STEM) skills-based programs that prepare youth for the workforce and enhance the professional careers of individuals employed in the industry.

Our Aerospace Professionals In Schools program is very unique as it provides the opportunity for OBAP members to visit classrooms worldwide, in an effort to introduce students of all ages to various exciting career paths in the aviation and aerospace industry.

One of the challenges facing our industry in the near future is finding enough personnel to staff for growth and replace the retiring workforce. Boeing forecasts up to 804,000 new civil aviation pilots, 769,000 new maintenance technicians, and 914,000 new cabin crew will be needed over the next 20 years. The FAA forecasts Air Traffic Controller vacancies will be 1,000 per year.

Overall, we hope to spread the message to inspire our youth that "The Sky is the Limit" in terms of what you can achieve in life!

If you are interested in finding out more about OBAP please visit our website at www.obap.org. We hope that you will consider us for participation in an upcoming career fair or school event and please feel free to contact us at APIS@obap.org.

Sincerely,

Vishal Vithlani
Director
Aerospace Professionals In Schools
Organization of Black Aerospace Professionals