

## EDUCATION

# Rend Lake College hosts Career

BY SENTINEL STAFF REPORT

Area eighth-grade students got their first glimpse into what their future journey could look like during the Career Connections fair held during the spring semester at Rend Lake College.

The event, held in the REC, allowed students to visit booths with representatives from various employers, where they could learn more about potential careers. From climbing into the cockpit to visually welding a piece of metalwork, there were several career fields represented during the unique fair.

Schools that participated in the Career Connections event included Bethel, Field,

McClellan, Opdyke-Belle Rive, Rome, Spring Garden, Thompsonville, Farrington, Waltonville and Woodlawn.

Those representing employers included the Jefferson County Sheriff's Office, Withers Broadcasting, Mt. Vernon Tourism, Continental Tire, Samron Construction, Illinois State Police, Jefferson County Development Corp., Mt. Vernon Outland Airport, Phoenix Modular Elevators, Schulte Industries, Community First Bank and Mt. Vernon Fire Department. Representatives from RLC were also on hand to discuss healthcare, early education and other career opportunities.

## Career Connections





Area eighth-grade students in the PHOTO ABOVE, attended the Career Connections at Rend Lake College. In the PHOTO AT LEFT, Opdyke-Belle Rive students Waikley Adams and Neo Toyongan take a turn with the Oculus welding virtual reality demonstration, along with Ty Pierce and Caden Cambron. In the PHOTO BELOW, LEFT, Stacy Barnes, far right, account executive at Withers Broadcasting, talks about job opportunities in radio. In the PHOTO BELOW, RIGHT, Mt. Vernon Outland Airport Manager Chris Collins discusses flight careers with students.

