

YLDP Visit to Houston TranStar

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On Saturday, January 12, 2013, the students of YLDP Houston attended their first session of the 2013 year. We visited Houston TranStar, an Emergency Management Center and were honored to be visited by Judge Ed Emmet of Harris County. Judge Emmet was an extremely kind person, who taught us in the short amount of time, tips that will aid us in our future.

Upon arriving at TranStar, we were given a tour of the facility. We learned that the building constantly monitors traffic on the highways and communicates with emergency response teams in case of an accident. Additionally, the place serves as an emergency center itself in the case of a hurricane, for example. Even if the city of Houston loses power, the building is able to run for fourteen days, and its external air supply can even be cut off, essentially transforming the structure into a self-sustaining building.

After the tour, we were able to meet with Harris County Judge Ed Emmet, who has been a YLDP speaker for many years now. He taught us many things about leadership and how we could improve on our own skills. One needs preparation and knowledge, a proper demeanor, they must have message clarity, must not "permanentize" an enemy, and many other things. Judge Emmet told us of his inspiring story of how he became to where he is today and the lessons he learned in aspiring to become a leader. Overall, I believe the students were able to gain a vast amount of knowledge, and the things he taught us will remain with us for life.

All-in-all, the students of YLDP were truly blessed to meet with one of our county's most distinguished leaders. His leadership serves as an inspiration to us all. Of course, we cannot simply digest his valuable lessons. We must be able to implement them in our own lives at school or with our friends in order to truly appreciate the knowledge gained from our visit to TranStar.