

Coming into my sophomore year at Scarsdale High School, I was really excited to jumpstart my student engineering career with the S.T.E.A.M. program. I decided to take the *Intro To Engineering* course, exhilarated to learn the foundations of the engineering process. Despite the limitations of the hybrid schedule and only two classes a week, I could not have gotten more out of the class. Dr. Kumaresan's rigorous style of teaching, combined with the sense of community that is created with each of his classes, allows me to fully utilize his instruction while simultaneously enjoying the learning process. During the course, I assembled a slingshot and a mousetrap-powered car while concurrently learning how to optimize them with physics and math. By the end of this single semester course, I felt more confident than ever before to pursue my own personal projects and become more hands-on in the robotics club.

Throughout the class, I came to learn that Dr. K is unequivocally and, without a doubt, the most knowledgeable and ambitious teacher I have ever met throughout my student career. Inspired by such aspiration, I immediately enrolled to take his *Electrical Engineering* course during my Junior year. It was by far the most I had ever gained from a single course. I learned Newtonian physics, electricity, new math concepts, circuitry, programming, and problem-solving. I thrived in the project-based structure of the class, which allowed me to directly apply the concepts I gathered from the lessons to actual electrical engineering applications.

Currently, as a senior, I am a TA for that class, where I can pass down my knowledge to other students while expanding my own proficiencies. I get to work closely with students to pass down a lot of the knowledge I gained when I took the class, and I get to work on solving real-world problems (Dr. K recently tasked the other TAs and me with working on a project to increase success rates for first-pass endotracheal intubation).

As I move forward to college to pursue an engineering degree, I am confident that my high school experience has prepared me for this endeavor because of teachers like Dr. K. He has allowed me, in addition to all the knowledge I have gained, develop the tools necessary to problem solve, collaborate with others, and persevere in the face of complex challenges.

-Zach Feldman