



Rep. Tom Emmer on Emmer Congratulates STARBASE Graduates

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****REP. TOM EMMER:**

** Hello everyone, Congressman Tom Emmer here with a message of congratulations for today's Starbase Academy graduates. I'd like to begin by saying that you should all be so proud of this major achievement. Your graduation from the Starbase Academy is a milestone you will always cherish and all of the lessons you learned here are ones you will use for the rest of your lives. While today marks the end of a journey, it also represents the beginning of a new and exciting one. Today symbolizes the first day of the rest of your professional lives. As new engineers and scientists, you are now ready to go out and conquer the science, technology, engineering and mathematics fields, which are so important to the success and survival of this great nation. In order for the United States to remain competitive with other industrialized countries around the globe, we must continue to place an emphasis on STEM skills. If we're to continue to be a nation of innovators, creators and pioneers, then these fields must be prioritized. That's why schools like Starbase and students like you are so important. Since 1993, Starbase has provided more than 50,000 Minnesotans with a STEM-focused education. Through this valuable education, these students have cultivated new skills in their chosen fields as well as gained hands-on experience. I know this to be true because I actually had a chance to visit Starbase a little over a year ago. I was deeply impressed with the quality education that's provided there. While Starbase has opened the door for major opportunities, I ask that you continue your passion for learning as all of you continue down your chosen paths. I hope that you will expand upon the knowledge that you received here so that the doors of opportunity continue to open for you. In addition to congratulating the graduates here today, I also would like to thank the teachers at Starbase, the parents and family members that support this school as well as Minnesota's businesses and legislators for the critical role they played in ensuring these students' success. Thank you for handing these young Minnesotans the key to a lasting education. Your role has not gone unnoticed. Once again, congratulations to all the graduates here today. I look forward to hearing all about your future success. Thanks for listening and enjoy the day.

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