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**For Immediate Release**

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**Great Minds in STEM™ and The Boeing Company partner to Bring the Viva Technology Program for the 1<sup>st</sup> time to the students of Holman Elementary School in Berkeley, Missouri**

As a proud step in continuing the ongoing effort to expose middle school students to science, technology, engineering, and math careers (STEM), Great Minds in STEM™ and The Boeing Company are partnering to bring the nationally acclaimed Viva Technology Program to the students, parents, and educators of Holman ES School for the 1<sup>st</sup> time!

Viva Technology is Great Minds in STEM's National K-12 Educational Program. It is designed to engage students, parents and teachers in activities that stimulate their interest in the applications of technology and provide a STEM career focused path to higher education. It also helps students understand the correlation between their math and science studies and the many exciting careers in technology.

The Viva Technology Program consists of three separate elements. The parent portion will take place on **Wednesday, November 9, 2011** from 5:30 p.m. until 7:00 p.m. This session will be conducted at the School Gym. The Teacher portion will take place on **Thursday, November 10, 2011** from 8:45 a.m. until 10:00 a.m. in the School Library. The student portion will take place on **Friday, November 11, 2011** from 9:30 a.m. until 3:15 p.m. This full day program will be facilitated in the School Gym.

Both the parent and teacher components will feature an orientation where participants will receive information about what their child/student will learn from participating in the program, why encouraging student interest in math and science will positively impact their future and what STEM career opportunities lie ahead for these youth. Sessions for the parent component can be presented in both English and Spanish.

The Viva Technology Student Program will aim to empower, educate, and excite the students of Holman ES about their many STEM career opportunities. Students will experience a day filled with hands-on competitive and educational exercises designed to explore math and science concepts. Attendees will work in teams led by engineering and science college students from surrounding universities and colleges including, but not limited to University of Washington in St. Louis and St. Louis Community College. Students will also interact with The Boeing Company representatives and hear a key note speech by Jeff Deckelbaum; Vice President & Chief Engineer for Boeing Military Aircraft. Present at the event to give a key note speech will be a Boeing Company representative. Active participation gives students opportunities to accrue points and win educational technology related prizes at the end of the day.

For more information about Viva Technology and future programming please visit [www.vivatechnology.org](http://www.vivatechnology.org)

**About Great Minds in STEM™**

Be a national leader in keeping America technologically strong by promoting Science, Technology, Engineering and Math careers

especially in underserved communities. For more information about Great Minds in STEM please visit

[www.greatmindsinstem.org](http://www.greatmindsinstem.org)