

AK Steel Guided Tour

One of the things I plan of doing after high school is applying for a job at AK Steel. Fortunately for me, Monroe High School as well as some other high schools participated in what is know as manufacturing day. For those of you who don't know, manufacturing day is a national day on the calendar in which large and small manufacturing facilities open up their doors to high school students to give them an idea of what that job would be like if we chose to pursue it after high school.

I was very fortunate to get an opportunity to participate in the guided tour to AK Steel. Not only was it a lot of fun, but it was also really interesting to see how things run and operate and the conditions in which I will be working in daily. One of the first things we were introduced to is the B.O.F, otherwise known as the Basic Oxygen Furnace. This is where the steel is placed in a giant cauldron where water is added. This is a fast way to melt metal and it is the largest furnace on the facility. We also saw the hot strip. In simplest terms, this is where the molten metal block that is about 20 inches by 20 feet is compressed to the width of a credit card and to the length of over a mile.

The entire steel making process is really complex and really interesting, the guided tour way really informative and just made me want to go to AK Steel even more.