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U.S. Rep. Joe Kennedy Brushes Up on Biology and Gets the Amgen Biotech Experience

It wasn't politics as usual for U.S. Rep. Joe Kennedy III but, rather, an unusual scientific learning experience for him along with 11th grade biology students who participated in the [Amgen Biotech Experience](#) (ABE) at Newton South High School in Massachusetts on April 17.

Kennedy, who is serving as the U.S. Representative for Massachusetts's 4th congressional district, appreciated the opportunity to learn more about Amgen's science, technology, engineering and math (STEM) education efforts in Massachusetts. Sam Guhan, Amgen Massachusetts site head, also accompanied Kennedy to the event. This is the eighth legislator to visit an ABE classroom in recent years through a targeted partnership between the Amgen Foundation and Government Affairs to raise the visibility of Amgen's leadership in STEM and the importance of science literacy for all.

Impressed by the ABE curriculum offered to students, Kennedy tweeted about the event calling it "a very cool STEM experience for these students." By attending the event he saw how students' exposure to the hands-on molecular biology lab experiments introduced them to scientific discovery and prompted many to learn more about science or to pursue science careers.



The tweet from Kennedy included a photo of him with students participating in the Amgen Biotech Experience.



From left, ABE Program Director Rebecca Lewis, Representative Kennedy, Newton South Biology Teacher Sally Rosen, and Amgen Massachusetts Site Head Sam Guhan.



Kennedy and Sam take a moment from the "experience" to chat about biotechnology and the importance of STEM education.



Sam Guhan and Joe Kennedy take a closer look at an experiment conducted by students participating in the Amgen Biotech Experience.



Kennedy gets hands-on with the Amgen Biotech Experience.

ABE is one of the [Amgen Foundation's](#) innovative science education programs that provide professional grade lab equipment, supplies, advanced curriculum, and professional development to middle and high schools across the U.S., Ireland, and the U.K. Each year, more than 60,000 students and hundreds of science teachers participate and have the opportunity to explore the methods scientists use to create biotechnology medicines. ABE curriculum and tools are offered free of charge, and to date the Amgen Foundation has committed nearly \$13 million toward the program to impact more than 400,000 students.

Since 1991, Amgen has contributed more than \$100 million to support STEM programs, including providing hands-on science opportunities to more than 2 million students globally.