

NEWS RELEASE

April. 8, 2010

Contact: Dani Chandonnet, 320-629-5114, chandonnetd@pinetech.edu

All PTC news releases are available at www.pinetech.edu/about-ptc/news-releases

Senator Al Franken visits and tours PTC

PINE CITY, Minn. – Senator Al Franken visited and toured Pine Technical College today, a stop the senator made during his full day of touring East Central Minnesota educational institutions to talk to students and educators about innovative programs and schools' experiences with the Elementary Secondary Education Act (ESEA), also known as *No Child Left Behind*.

At PTC, the senator was greeted by President Robert Musgrove and Pine City Mayor Jane Robbins who led the tour, which included a meet-and-greet with college administrators and faculty members, a demonstration of equipment and serious games developed by the Johnson Center for Simulation, a tour of the manufacturing lab and demonstration of rapid prototyping, and a tour of the gunsmithing lab. Students in Melissa Felland's early childhood development course, CDEV 1340 – *Planning and Implementing Curriculum*, got a chance to talk with the senator when he stopped in for an impromptu chat.

"Minnesota ideas and innovations in education continue to be a model for the rest of the country," said Sen. Franken. "With the upcoming reauthorization of *No Child Left Behind*, we will expand on the work being done and continue to improve education for all Minnesotans," Franken added.

While in Pine City, Sen. Franken also visited Pine City Elementary where he saw the Response to Intervention (RTI) education model in action – a model that measures progress at frequent intervals so teachers are able to use data to make regular instructional adjustments, and at Finlayson East Central Senior Secondary School, a high-needs school, Sen. Franken met and talked with the superintendent and acting principal.

For photos, visit: <http://pinetechnicalcollege.blogspot.com/2010/04/senator-al-franken-visits-and-tours-ptc.html>

###