



Today, twenty-one members of the Engineering Club accompanied by Principal Sue Zulantz and Mrs. Schiffer toured the Mayfield TESLA Dealership. Tesla, Inc. is an American automotive and energy company based in Palo Alto, California. The company specializes in electric car manufacturing and, through its SolarCity subsidiary, solar panel manufacturing. It was founded in 2003 by a group of engineers who wanted to prove that people didn't need to compromise to drive electric – that electric vehicles can be better, quicker and more fun to drive than gasoline cars. The engineers included: Elon Musk, Martin Eberhard, JB Straubel, Marc Tarpenning, and Ian Wright. Today, Tesla builds not only all-electric vehicles but also infinitely scalable clean energy generation and storage products. Tesla believes the faster the world stops relying on fossil fuels and moves towards a zero-emission future, the better.

Tesla's mission is to accelerate the world's transition to sustainable energy.

Our students were given an overview of TESLA, a tour of the sales, overview of service and a demonstration of the autonomous operation of the Model X. Multiple Tesla staff answered questions and gave an overview of each of the models in the showroom.

The first was the Model S which sets an industry standard for performance and safety. Tesla's all-electric powertrain delivers unparalleled performance in all weather conditions – with Dual Motor All-Wheel Drive and ludicrous acceleration. It makes 0-60mph in 2.4 seconds.

Seniors Andrew Schiffer behind the wheel and Derek Berdyz enjoyed their seats and the operation of the internal controls and touch screen. The race red exterior and comfortable heated seats were pretty nice too.



The second vehicle demonstrated was the Model X. The Model X is the safest SUV ever. Built from the ground up as an electric vehicle, the body, chassis, restraints and battery technology provide a very low probability of occupant injury. The Model X has the most storage room of any SUV in its class, comfortable seating for up to seven adults and the capability to tow up to 5,000 pounds. Falcon Wing doors are equipped with sensors to monitor the proximity of surroundings and can open in even the tightest parking spaces. Our group pictured with the Model X.



The third vehicle demonstrated was the Model 3. Safety is the most important part of the overall Model 3 design. The metal structure is a combination of aluminum and steel, for maximum strength in every area. In a roof-crush test, Model 3 resisted four times its own mass, even with an all-glass roof: that's the same weight as two full-grown African elephants.

Model 3 comes with the option of dual motor all-wheel drive, 20" Performance Wheels and Brakes and lowered suspension for total control, in all weather conditions. And a carbon fiber spoiler improves stability at high speeds, all allowing Model 3 to accelerate from 0-60 mph in as little as 3.2 seconds.

