



SANTA MONICA-MALIBU UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT

SANTA MONICA-MALIBU UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT NEWS RELEASE

CONTACT: Gail Pinsker
310.450.8338, ext. 70230
gpinsker@smmusd.org

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Santa Monica High School Students to Speak with NASA Astronauts on Space Station

NASA Astronaut and Santa Monica High School graduate [Randy Bresnik](#), along with astronaut [Joe Acaba](#), who are currently at the International Space Station, will interact with Samohi students during a 20-minute, Earth-to-space call on October 30 from 8:50-9:10 am PST. The call will be shown live to students in Barnum Hall on the big screen and aired live on NASA Television and the agency's [website](#).

Each homeroom at Samohi submitted questions that will be asked by Samohi students during the call. Topics will include what it's like to live aboard the space station, NASA's deep space exploration plans and science in space. Two current Santa Monica College students and Samohi alumni, will also participate.

This is Bresnik's second mission to the station. He launched July 28, is currently serving as Expedition 53 commander and is expected to return to Earth in December. Acaba arrived at the space station Sept. 12, beginning his third space mission, and will return to Earth in February 2018.

Bresnik graduated from Santa Monica High School in 1985. [Jonny Kim](#), a recently announced member of the astronaut candidate class of 2017, also graduated from Santa Monica High School in 2002.

Five students who attended Lincoln Middle School last year and are currently freshman at Santa Monica High School recently flew an experiment onboard the space station as part of the Student Space Flight Experiments Program (SSEP) Mission 11. The experiment, "The Effect of Microgravity on the Rate of Fermentation in *Saccharomyces Cerevisiae*," studies whether microgravity on the space station affects the quantity of ethanol produced from yeast fermentation.

Linking students directly to astronauts aboard the space station provides unique, authentic experiences designed to enhance student learning, performance and interest in science, technology, engineering and math (STEM). This in-flight education downlink is an integral



*Randy Bresnik, Samohi grad '85
Photo courtesy NASA*

component of NASA's Year of Education on Station which provides extensive space station-related resources and opportunities to students and educators.

Follow the astronauts on social media: https://www.twitter.com/NASA_astronauts/

For more information, videos and lesson plans highlighting research on the International Space Station, visit: <https://www.nasa.gov/stemonstation/>

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SANTA MONICA-MALIBU UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT
1651 16TH Street, Santa Monica, CA 90404
ph: 310.450.8338; fax: 310.581.1138
www.smmusd.org Follow us on Twitter: @SMMUSD