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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

**NASA Glenn and HENAAC continue a tradition of commitment to our next generation of Engineers**

Keeping with the commitment to bolstering the education and careers of students in engineering and science, NASA Glenn Research Center (NASA GRC) and HENAAC are partnering to return the Viva Technology Program to several Middle Schools in and around Cleveland, Ohio.

On April 29<sup>th</sup>, 2006, NASA GRC will host a Student and Parent Kick Off Event for all of the parents and students participating in this year's Viva Technology Programs. The students and their parents will go to the Research Center where they will go through hands-on Science and Engineering activities. Viva Technology will provide participating parents with information on college admissions, scholarships, work-study programs and other resources to help their students pursue studies and careers in engineering and science.

The three schools chosen to receive the Viva Technology Program are *Warrensville Middle School* (May 5<sup>th</sup>), *General Johnnie Wilson Middle School* (May 25<sup>th</sup>) and *Luis Munoz Marin Middle School* (May 19<sup>th</sup>). These three schools are NASA Explorer schools and have a relationship with NASA GRC which provides opportunities for the students on a year round basis.

The Viva Technology Student Day is for 100 7<sup>th</sup> and/or 8<sup>th</sup> grade students from each of the schools mentioned above. All three programs will raise awareness about the various engineering and technical fields available to students pursuing a college degree. The Student Day also features hands-on activities meant to introduce students to the physical designing and building that is characteristic of engineering work.

Engineering students from Kent State University and Cleveland State University will be in attendance for both programs to aid the Viva Technology team in leading the students through their series of fun competitive challenges. At the end of the program, students will receive a Viva Technology Student Gizmo, which contains tools designed to improve student's academic achievement in virtually every aspect of the learning

experience. They also have a chance to win prizes, including CD players, digital cameras and a grand-prize laptop computer.

In addition to the student and parent components of the Viva Technology Day, a separate Teacher Orientation will be conducted at each of the schools to acquaint teachers with the goals and mission of the entire Viva Technology program as well as introduce teachers to all of the resources available to them through NASA. Teachers also receive multimedia material from FASE and The Futures Channel for classroom use.

### **About the Viva Technology Program**

Since its debut in 2001, the Viva Technology Program has been conducted at over 45 sites across the nation, including locations in Northern and Southern California, Nevada, Texas, Chicago, Louisiana, Georgia, Ohio, New Jersey, Pennsylvania and Florida, with more to be scheduled this year.

For more information please visit [www.henaac.org/vivatechnology](http://www.henaac.org/vivatechnology)

### **About NASA Glenn**

NASA Glenn was established in 1941 as the National Advisory Committee for Aeronautics (NACA) Aircraft Engine Research Laboratory. When NACA dissolved and NASA was born in 1958, it became the NASA Lewis Research Center. It was officially renamed the John H. Glenn Research Center at Lewis Field in 1999.

For more information please visit <http://www.nasa.gov/centers/glenn/>

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