

## 6 KEY INSIGHTS!

### From a Pilot Education to Workforce Tour

**Tiffany Baca, Public Affairs Manager, MWD  
Executive Director, WEEA**

Imagine a world where every student has a clear path to a fulfilling career in water and energy—where young people are inspired, trained, and prepared to tackle the challenges of sustainability and infrastructure. That future starts today.

The water and energy industries rely on a skilled, knowledgeable workforce to succeed in their collective missions. That's why industry leaders, educators, and workforce advocates recently came together for the [Water Energy Education Alliance's \(WEEA\)](#) first Education to Workforce Tour. This initiative linked learning to careers, helping employers shape programs that support a resilient, skilled workforce.

Hosted in partnership with [The Metropolitan Water District of Southern California](#), the [San Diego County Water Authority](#), the [Linda Vista Innovation Center](#), and the [Center for Water Studies](#), the event underscored the importance of early career exploration and hands-on learning in building a strong, sustainable talent pool.

During this full-day tour, participants saw firsthand how hands-on K-12 education and top-tier post-secondary training programs are preparing students for in-demand jobs in water and energy.

Ready to learn more? Let's dive in!



**TOUR RECAP VIDEO: [HTTPS://TINYURL.COM/WEATOUR](https://tinyurl.com/weeatour)**

1

#### SETTING THE STAGE.

Research shows early career exploration significantly improves focus, skill, and job readiness. Organizers collaborated with industry leaders, educators, and workforce advocates to create an immersive event showcasing career pathways at every stage—K-12, college, and beyond.

2

#### HANDS ON LEARNING IN ACTION.

At the Linda Vista Innovation Center, attendees observed K-12 classroom programs, where students explore real-world careers through the [RIASEC](#) framework. Hands-on learning, aligned with students' interests and strengths, fosters confidence, problem-solving skills, and a sense of belonging—key factors in workforce readiness.

3

#### THE WATER-ENERGY CONNECTION.

A visit to the [Hydro Station](#) unveiled the vital link between water, energy, and essential needs, highlighting the critical need for industry-driven education to empower the next generations of skilled professionals.

4

#### TRAINING TOMORROWS WORKFORCE.

Cuyamaca College's Center for Water Studies trains passionate, driven students for high-demand water careers. With cutting-edge tools and industry-driven curricula, it provides a direct path for future leaders ready to innovate, solve challenges, and shape the future of water.

5

#### PURE WATER, PURE OPPORTUNITY.

The final stop at [Pure Water San Diego](#) featured the city's advanced water purification facility. This groundbreaking project boosts water independence while creating hundreds of jobs, demonstrating how infrastructure investments drive career opportunities.

6

#### TAKE THE PLUNGE.

Collaboration is key to building a skilled, resilient workforce. Through WEEA, we work to empower the next generations to drive water and energy sustainability. Follow WEEA on [LinkedIn](#) and visit our [website](#) for resources, upcoming events, and sponsorship opportunities.