On April 13, 2012, Harmony High School visited Lamar University and were greeted by the STAIRSTEP program through a series of presentations. Nick Lanning began with a brief orientation presentation detailing the majors offered at Lamar University and how to apply to college in general. The students were then brought to the Computer Science program where they learn about their current research and the Math program where they were taught a little segment of group theory. Afterwards, the students visited the Physics program and learned about what one can do with a physics degree. The physics STAIRSTEP students and Dr. C. Bahrim presented the Physics program and next, gave several optics demos prepared specially for this occasion. We tried to make our guests to have a better appreciation of the importance of physics in the general area of science and engineering. Our guests continued the day with visits to the Chemistry program (where the students asked many questions about Chemistry at Lamar, and why one should join this program) and the Earth and Space science program where they listened to an informative and humorous speech. The students learned about advancements in the field and what one can expect in the future with a degree in Earth and Space science. Before leaving the campus, the students were toured around the Shiela Umphrey Recreational center.
“This high school visit was beneficial because it allowed the physics department to discuss the physics discipline, the research we have conducted as a STAIRSTEP team, and to demonstrate what type of experiments we conduct. “ – Nick Lanning