



Positive news arrived as Virgin Galactic (NYSE: SPCE) announced that ticket sales will open today to the general public. This means starting from February 16, the company is providing the opportunity to purchase one of the initial spaceflight reservations and secure membership in the unique community of Future Astronauts. The company plans to have the first 1,000 customers on board at the start of commercial service later this year; this will provide a strong foundation as they begin their regular operations.

Looking forward, a strong response to ticket sales will create investor interest, and likely push the stock higher. That said, it will take time until these figures filter through and are released.

Spaceflight carries a price tag of \$450,000. But the initial deposit is far less, \$150,000; budding astronauts must deposit their final payment before their flight. Interested? Visit www.virgingalactic.com to start the application process.

As for the market, Wall Street will be looking for some positive news from Virgin Galactic as it approaches its next earnings report date. This is expected to be February 22, 2022. On that day, Virgin Galactic is projected to report earnings of $-\$0.39$ per share, which would represent a year-over-year decline of 25.81%. Fund managers will also study recent changes in analytical estimates, provided by several analysts reviewing Virgin Galactic. I would point out that recent revisions tend to reflect the latest near-term business trends, not the big picture. As such, these estimates and revisions reflect an analytical opinion about the company's business and profitability near term.

William Gray
The RIO Club