



ALTOONA AREA SCHOOL DISTRICT

Aspire. Achieve. Succeed. Dream

December 7, 2018

AASD Celebrates Girls' STEM Day

Altoona Area School District celebrated Girls' in STEM with a day of planned activities and events for girls in Grades 3 – 9. STEM related careers are growing at a face pace, and although statistics indicate there is some increase in the numbers of women participating in these fields, women continue to be underrepresented.



Girls' STEM Day was held at seven elementary schools. The day began with a presentation from a woman professional in a STEM related field. Careers represented included Engineering, Watershed Specialist, Physician Assistant, Wildlife Specialist, Air Traffic Controller, Audiologist, and Biology Professor.

Following the presentation, students participated in six, 15 minute sessions that included a STEM Careers Game; Beach Ball Tower STEM Challenge designed by Penn State Altoona pre-service teachers; AAHS student Robotics presentation; and coding using Dash, Sphero, and Bee Bots robots, with the assistance of the McAuliffe Heights Program students.

Children in grades K-2 and boys in all grades participated during the event in coding using lessons from code.org.

Girls' STEM Day for junior high school girls in grades 7-9 focused on exposing students to educational and career opportunities in STEM related fields. Presentations and activities were presented by teachers, students and local professional working in STEM related fields.

The objective of Girls' STEM Day was to expose young students to the opportunities available for women in STEM related fields and to provide an opportunity where students could explore and experience STEM first-hand.