

Incoming ITJH students take IDEA Challenge

A total of 44 soon-to-be 7th and 8th grade students came to Indian Trail Junior High this week to begin The IDEA (Innovators, Designers, & Entrepreneurs of Addison) Challenge.

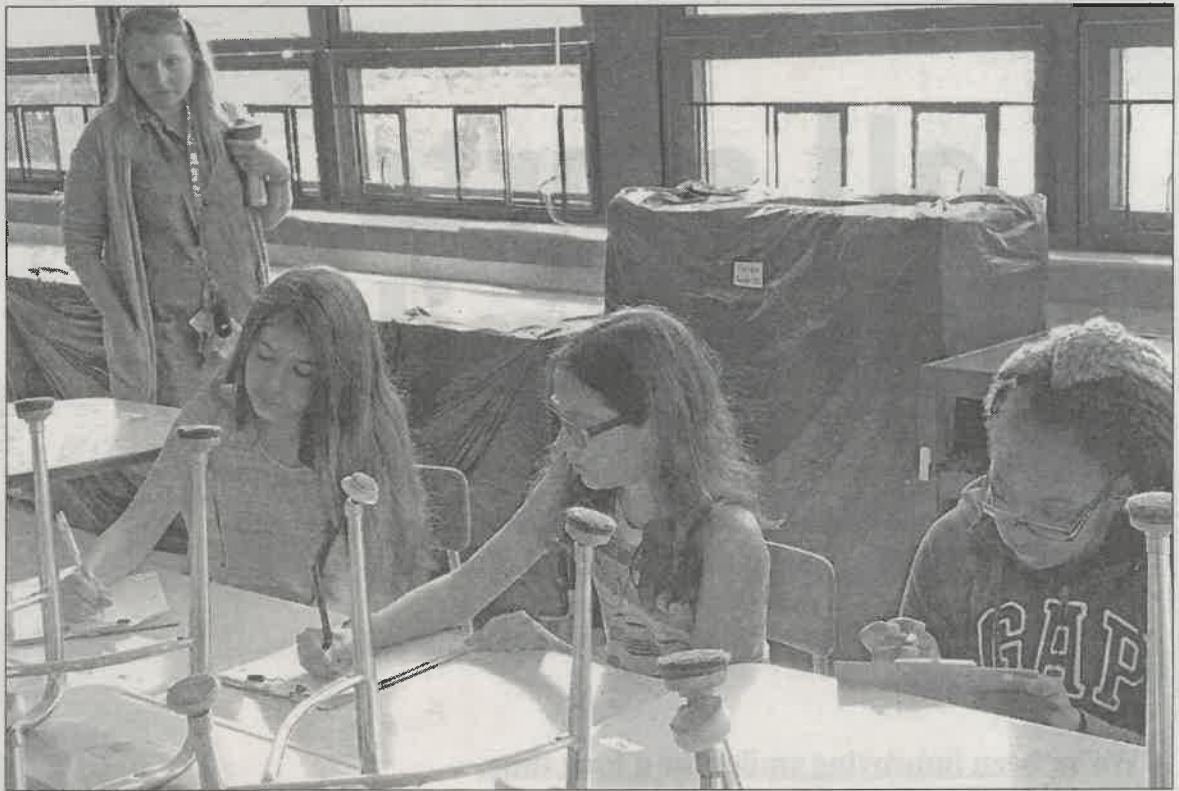
This three-week summer camp exposes student to real world innovation and design; collaborative teamwork; positive role-modeling; hands-on engineering; and practice in entrepreneurial practices and presentation skills.

Based on the success of last summer's Innovation Alive Challenge, this year's program has students working to conceive of, design, and

market a desk feature. Students researched by visiting classrooms and offices to see a variety of desks and ways in which they are used.

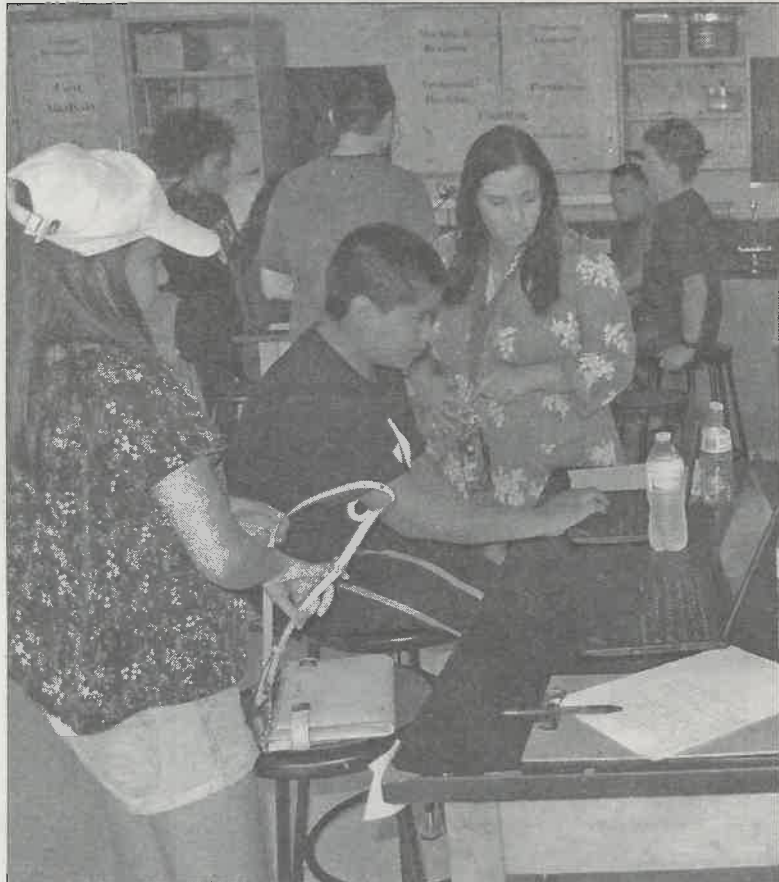
Teachers Janelle Bledsoe and Tracy Vitale are leading the camp again this year, with additional assistance from paraprofessional David Nguyen and local business partners, Pioneer Services and Legat Architects, who are sharing professional expertise and business experience with the students.

Students will be creating prototypes of their designs and will present their finished products in a 'Shark Tank'-like setting on July 26.

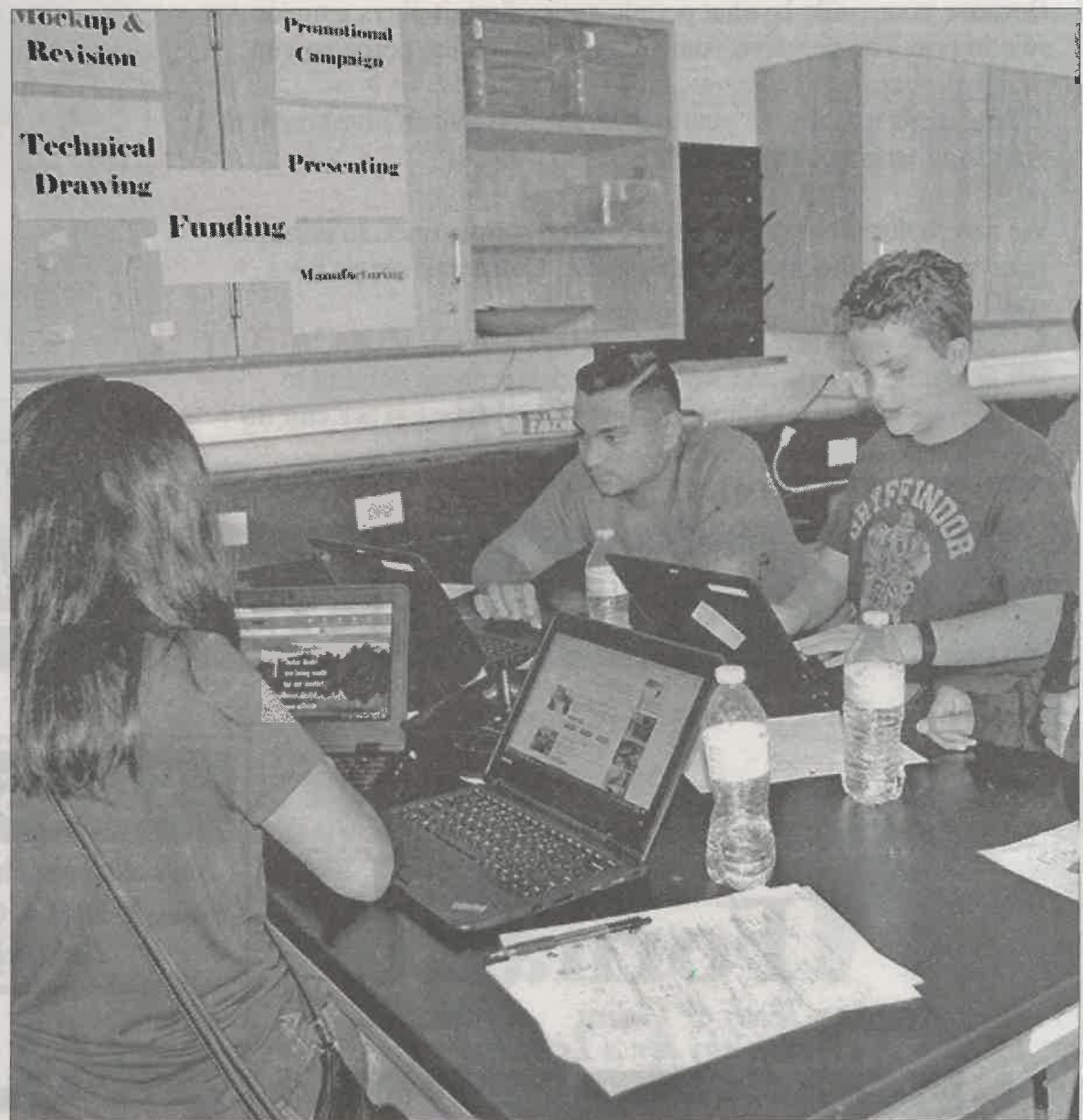


SUBMITTED PHOTOS Addison Independent

Teacher Tracy Vitale looking on as students record their observations of classroom desks at Army Trail Elementary School. The young people, who will attend Indian Trail Junior High in the fall, were taking part in a special summer camp called the IDEA Challenge -- Innovators, Designers & Entrepreneurs of Addison.



Indian Trail teacher Janelle Bledsoe assists a student as he works on a presentation. It was part of the school's IDEA Challenge, which urges young people to think like innovators, designers and entrepreneurs.



Above: This team of students, who will be attending Indian Trail Junior High in the fall, work on a presentation for the IDEA Challenge. IDEA stands for Innovators, Designers & Entrepreneurs of Addison. Left: This team of girls works on a presentation for their entire classroom as part of the IDEA Challenge -- Innovators, Designers & Entrepreneurs of Addison. The young ladies will attend ITJH in the fall.

