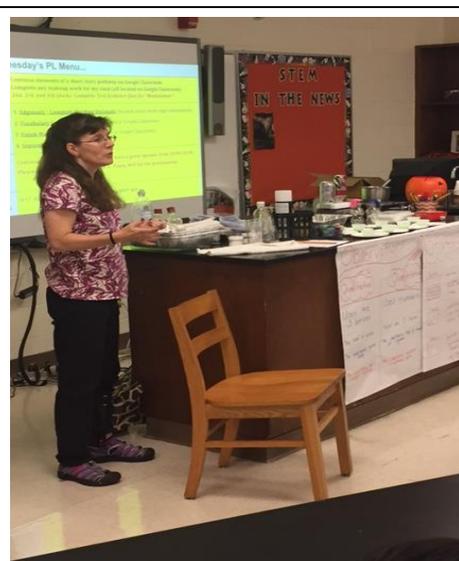STRIVING FOR EXCELLENCE

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The Kennedy STEM Spotlight

October 5, 2015

STEM Events at Kennedy Middle School

Chemistry Professor Visits Kennedy

Our sixth grade students have been studying atoms, matter, and the changes that matter experience. To connect this unit with real life, our students met a Chemistry professor in September. Professor Kull is a chemistry professor from Winthrop University. During her visit, she shared information about her career and how she attained a job in the chemistry field. She also demonstrated some chemistry labs and even had the students complete a mini-lab of their own. They saw how dish soap breaks down fat from milk and spreads colors in different directions.

Meteorologist Visits Kennedy's 7th Graders

Meteorologist, John Wendel, from WCNC visited Kennedy's 7th graders in September.

The students are learning all about weather, so it was only fitting to bring in a real meteorologist to share his knowledge and answer the students' (and staffs') questions.

Mr. Wendel focused on wind patterns, storms, fronts, and shared information about his career in the field of meteorology.

Tell Me Something Good!

STEM in the news!

Making it in Middle School!

Our maker's space lab will soon be open to our students! What is a maker's space, you ask? It is a room where students can create, innovate, explore, code, program, design, tinker with technology, build, and much more!

Our lab is home to some pretty cool robots that can use code to work. Here you will find two Sphero balls, Dash and Dot, and an Ozobot. We also have five Arduino kits that can be programmed to complete various tasks using circuits.

Our lab is also a place where students can take every day materials and recycled items to create amazing things when given a task or based on their own curiosity. Here you will find pieces of cardboard, pipe cleaners, craft sticks, hot glue guns, wire, etc.

How can you help? We are in need of items such as:

toilet paper and paper towel cardboard tubes, coffee filters, popsicle sticks, plastic silverware, duct tape, lunch bags, string, dental floss, cotton balls, foam board, balloons, emptied and cleaned plastic containers, paper, old Legos, and any item you think could be used in creating something new!

Wilson's World Live at Kennedy-September 23!

Despite it being a teacher workday, students still came in bright and early to be filmed and share the great things happening at our school. Wilson's World from WCCB filmed live at Kennedy and spotlighted all of the different STEM activities happening here. Kudos to our amazing students! They were great speakers and did a phenomenal job representing our school.

Topics shown were: Our Cyber Café, members from our Chrome Squad, some cool robots from our Maker's Space, members from TSA and Green Team, and the TSA Derby Car in action
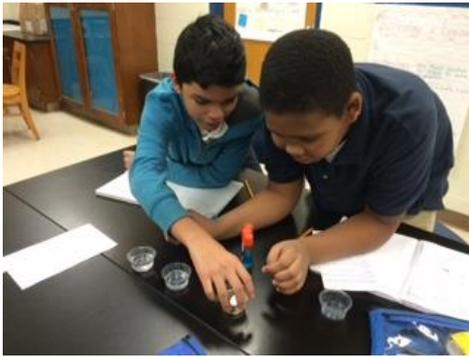
Missed it? Check out the taping by clicking on this link:

[Wilson's World at Kennedy](#)

STEM Spotlight in the Classroom

Mr. Wardwell and Ms. Kelly's science classes have been learning about solubility. Rather than just being told about the topic, they made solubility more hands-on through some fun labs.

They tested a variety of solvents, such as water, oil, and rubbing alcohol to determine which the best solvent was. They also experimented with how temperature affects solubility.

Kennedy's STEM Habits of Thinking

We encourage our students to apply these habits of thinking in all of their classrooms.

These are also skills and habits that people from a variety of careers exhibit on a daily basis.

Inquire

Collaborate

Investigate

Innovate

Design

Reflect

Upcoming Events

October 2: Manufacturing Day! Virtual Field Trip to ALCOA Manufacturing Plant (1:00) AND 7th-8th grade trip to Olympic High School's Manufacturing Center

October 5: FTC Robotics Application due to Ms. Myers (room C21)!

October 12: STEM Day Field Trip at UNCC

October 21: Michael Walter from UNCC blackberry solar cell lab with 6th graders