



Austintown Local Schools District STEM Newsletter



"We provide an inspiring education that strengthens and prepares our students for unlimited future opportunities."

October 2018



Austintown Local Schools expand STEM Program

October 24, 2018

The Town Crier

STEM IN THE NEWS!

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This is the seventh year for the Austintown Local Schools STEM Program, an interdisciplinary learning environment focusing on project based learning and 21st century skills. It began in 2012 with a seventh grade class of 25 students. Since then Austintown Schools has expanded their STEM program, adding a grade level each year with a recent completion of a full pathway for grades seven through 12. "Due to both student interest and continued success we decided to expand this educational option to our sixth grade students," said Danielle Chine, District STEM Instructional Coach.

They now offer a full STEM Program spanning grades six through 12, focusing on broad-based engineering with additional coursework available in computer science.

[Click here](#) to read the full Town Crier article.



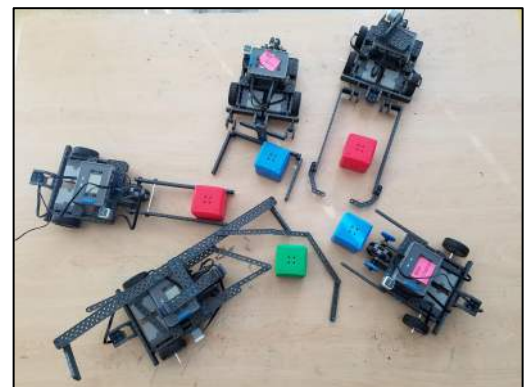
[Click here](#) (after Nov. 5) to watch Falcon Focus discussing our STEM Programs.



Fitch STEM students taking Computer Science toured the YSU Department of Computer Science and Information Systems. Currently, this is the largest growing college major at YSU with over 500 students enrolled.



5th grade students are working in teams to build robots strategically designed to move colored blocks. Students had to solve a real world environmental challenge and use block base coding to program their 'bots to stop upon sensing the color red. The flecks of red in the floor tiles posed an addition challenge for these young Falcons!

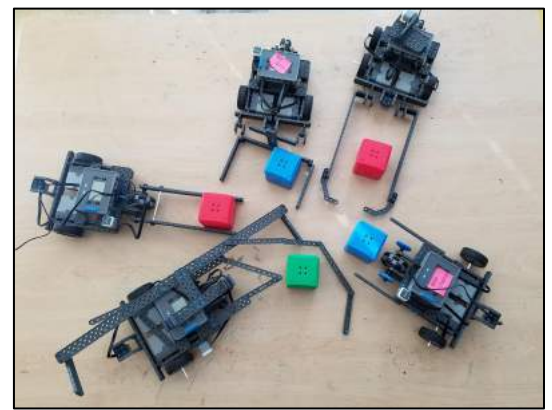




A sample of block base coding students use with the VEX IQ robots. The program above shows a loop that goes forever that upon a color sensor reading the color green it will perform a defined command.



"In fifteen years we'll be teaching programming just like reading and writing ... and wondering why we didn't do it sooner."



Students worked in collaboration to uniquely design their VEX IQ 'bots to strategically perform a given task of moving colored blocks.



AUSTINTOWN INTERMEDIATE SCHOOL



Students are exercising the design process to solve problems in building their robots and programming them to solve problems.



Every other Friday there is STEM time in Mrs. Palmer's 4th grade class. Last Friday students were predicting, making hypotheses, and measuring how far items could be launched. [#STEMiseverywhere](#)



6th grade created furniture or hobby organizers using the design process and are beginning using 3D modeling software.



[Click here](#) to view 7th gr. students' creations on Thingiverse.



[Click here](#) to access our YouTube Channel and watch videos from the year.

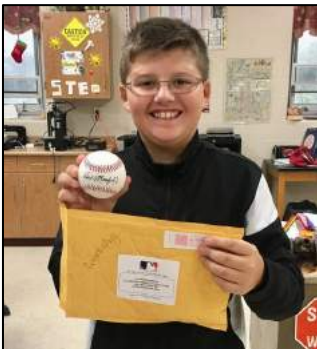
AUSTINTOWN MIDDLE SCHOOL

[Click here](#) to access our class website to see projects from the school year.

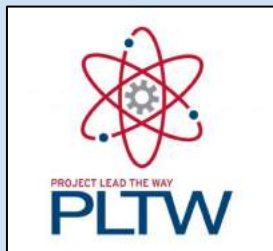
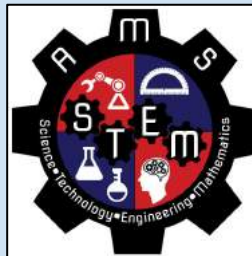
Austintown
Middle School
STEM website



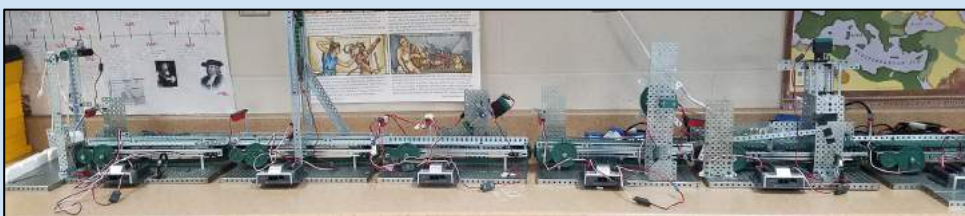
6th grade students toured Engineering Departments at YSU, checked out archaeological discoveries at the Clarence R. Smith Mineral Museum, and watched a show at the Ward Beecher Planetarium. They got first hand experience in a college engineering lab and got to witness the day in a life of a college student! #GoSTEM



7th & 8th gr. students wrote business letters to colleges. Gavin wrote his letter to the MLB Commissioner, Robert Manfred and got a signed baseball back today! #GoSTEM



8th grade students competed against each other on a robotics challenge: to build, program, and race a dragster car. The winner traveled 20 feet as fast as possible and then was programmed to stop.



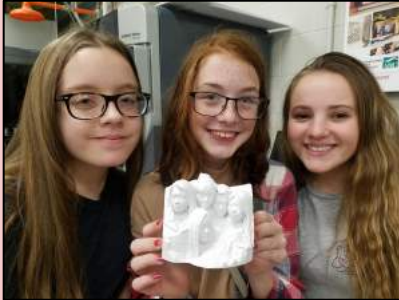
Thingiverse

[TinkerCAD](#) is a free online 3D modeling program. [Thingiverse](#) is a free open source 3D creation library. Check them out today!



AUSTINTOWN FITCH HIGH SCHOOL

"We provide an inspiring education that strengthens and prepares our students for unlimited future possibilities."



Emily, Emma, Bella pose with a 3D printed replica of Mount Rushmore with the faces of women. Studies show that young women introduced to engineering get interested in engineering fields! Sounds like common sense to me!

WHEN THEY'RE SHOWN WHAT ENGINEERS DO,

76% of GIRLS
get interested in
ENGINEERING.



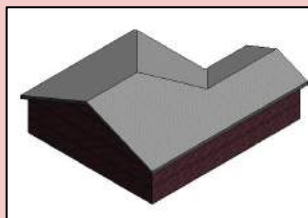
Mr. Wyant and Ms. Sroka pose with Sam Hofmann, a Fitch STEM 2018 graduate. Teachers ran into Sam on the field trip to YSU this month. Guess what? He is majoring in Computer Information Technology! #STEMfuture



Mr. Wyant sat on the Ohio Department of Education committee responsible for creating the Computer Science standards. These standards will be released later this year.



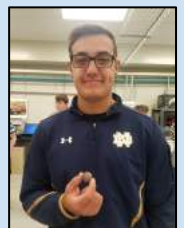
Fitch STEM students are attending the Entrepreneurship STEM Forum at YSU on Nov. 8. Business leaders will be speaking on their success!

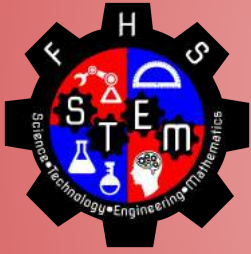


Civil engineering students are designing a single story home with specs from a chosen teacher.



VEX Robotics competitions will take place on Nov. 6 at the MCCTC and Nov. 11 at Brecksville High School. Students are working hard troubleshooting their robots for this competition!





Austintown Local Schools STEM Programs

Meet Our Staff



Chris Berni



Danielle Chine



Doug Eisenbraun



Josh Folkwein



Jason Freudenberg



Lauren Hrusovsky



Ashley Smith



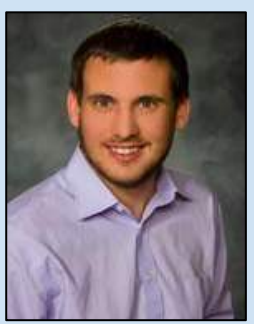
Celia Sroka



Jessica Tomic



Brian Umstead



Robert Wyant



The vision of Austintown Local Schools is to offer a united community with a proud legacy and a progressive approach to education. We prepare our students by providing an inspiring education with a focus on a future of unlimited possibilities. One way of extending progressive educational initiatives is through our many **STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering & Math)** programs and extracurricular activities starting in kindergarten through graduation. These programs provide a project-based and student-centered learning environment with a focus on 21st century skills to give our students skills to ensure success that lasts a lifetime.



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[Austintown STEM website](http://AustintownSTEMwebsite.org)