

In 2022, Grove City Area High School became one of six local high schools to partner with United Way of Mercer County and the Teens2Career program. Teens2Career is supported through a 21st Century Community Learning Center grant from the PA Department of Education through the United Way of Mercer County in collaboration with the school partners. The Teens2Career after school program model promotes achievement, STEAM education, career path planning for high-demand employment, and transition to post-secondary training and education through quality afterschool experiences. This innovative design incorporates career development, educational enrichment, and youth leadership development with each participating school, creating a program based upon the talents, interests, and needs of the students.

Grove City Area High School is a proud participant in the Teens2Career after-school program. The various educational opportunities are offered either before school from 7:00-7:30 am or after school from 3:00-5:00 pm on Monday through Thursday. Now in our third year of the partnership, this school year started with a full complement of programs and experiences for the students to participate in. Each program is headed up by a high school staff member and, this year, most of the programs also have a Teens2Career Student Ambassador. The role of the student ambassador allows an interested student to learn and showcase their leadership skills by encouraging the student to present an idea or topic for the program, partner with the adult, and recruit their peers to join the program after school. To date, Grove City Area High School is offering twelve after-school programs, some of which occur multiple times throughout the week. Some of our programs also include a component of outreach to the local community. An example of this can be seen in the hats and blankets that the students made and donated to the Neonatal Intensive Care Unit last year through the Crochet Studio.

The fishing, environmental inquiry, and archery group is currently learning how to tie flies and hopes to go out fly fishing in the coming days. Another group of students is working to paint and decorate cornhole boards that will be used in the courtyard during lunch and learn when they are complete. A group of students is working to make jewelry and other beautiful items. They are planning to donate many of these items as gifts for the upcoming holiday season. While the STEAM Lab group will be doing a variety of activities, they are currently working on

refurbishing picnic tables for lunch time in the courtyard. Book club group will be starting their first book, this week, and will be having discussions as well as book-related activities in the coming weeks. Cooking group is just getting started, but it has lots of delicious ideas for recipes and activities. Once the data collection devices arrive, the agriculture and bee group will be collecting data on the high school's newly obtained honey bee hives. The art studio group began last week and is always looking for students who would like to learn new skills after school. Throughout the year, various field trips will be advertised as well.

The current program schedule is listed below. Further information about changes or additions will be communicated through student email, ParentSquare messages, and bulletin boards at the high school. The journalism group will be working on specific stories and articles about the different programs that they hope to have published in future newsletters. We are looking forward to another exciting year of partnership with the United Way of Mercer County and the Teens2Career program.

Monday

Dr. Armstrong, Room 178 - **Crochet Studio** - 7-7:30 am and/or 3-4:30 pm
Mr. Barber, Room 172 - **Fishing, Environmental Inquiry, and Archery** - 3-5 pm
Ms. Wissinger, Room 408 - **Cornhole Board Design and Tournament** - 3-5 pm
Mrs. Doane, Room 405 - **Journalism: Textbook Times** - 3-5 pm

Tuesday

Ms. Schafer, Room 155 - **Jewelry Making** - 3-5 pm
Mrs. Doane, Room 405 - **Windmill Exploration** - 3-5 pm
Mr. Mourtacos, Room 310 - **STEAM Lab**- 3-5 pm

Wednesday

Ms. Kerr, Room 181 - **Book Club: The Eye of Minds** - 7-7:30 am
Mr. Barber, Room 172 - **Fishing, Environmental Inquiry, and Archery** - 3-5 pm
Ms. Wissinger, Room 163 - **Cooking** - 3-5 pm

Thursday

Mr. Logan, Room 190 - **Agriculture and Bee Data** - 7-7:30 am
Mr. Mourtacos, Room 310 - **STEAM Lab**- 3-5 pm
Mrs. Doane, Room 405 - **Journalism: Textbook Times** - 3-5 pm
Ms. DiAlesandro. Room 179 - **Art** - 3-5 pm