

2 Lancaster County schools advance to statewide What's So Cool About Manufacturing video contest

May 13, 2025



Students from Pequea Valley Intermediate School record an educational video at Astro Machine Works for the What's So Cool About Manufacturing? video contest.

Students from two Lancaster County schools will advance to a statewide competition Wednesday, May 14, as part of the 2025 What's So Cool About Manufacturing? video contest.

The contest asks students to explore manufacturing careers by producing video profiles of companies in their communities. Winners in regional contests advance to the state contest. Winners of the state contest will be announced at a Wednesday afternoon award ceremony at the Whitaker Center in Harrisburg.

Fifteen schools submitted videos in the southcentral PA division of the contest. Of those submissions, Pequea Valley Intermediate School, Ephrata Area Middle School and ELCO Middle School (Myerstown, Lebanon County) will advance to the state competition.

Students from Pequea Valley Intermediate School profiled Astro Machine Works, a company that specializes in custom machinery and precision parts that's located at 470 Wenger Drive, Ephrata.

Ephrata Area Middle School students took viewers on a trip inside the High Steel Service Center at 400 Steel Way, Lancaster.

Additional, specific honors were awarded in the regional contest. Lancaster County winners are:

— **Outstanding Overall Program:** Pequea Valley Intermediate School

— **Outstanding Creativity:** Ephrata Area Middle School.

— **Outstanding Cool:** Manheim Township Middle School, for their video filmed at Harden Architectural Security Products, 31 Industrial Circle, Lancaster. See that video below.

For more information on the What's So Cool About Manufacturing contest, visit whatssocool.org.

Jamial Smoker was awarded the Lancaster-Lebanon IU 13 Secondary STEM Teacher of the Year!

