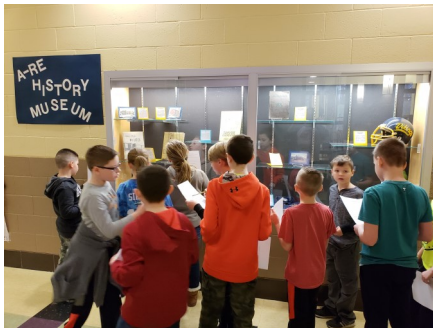


ELEMENTARY MUSEUM SHOWCASES RICH APOLLO HISTORY

This Innovative Project was funded by membership dues!

Fifth grade teacher, Chad Danka, has been a strong advocate for a museum to be created in the Elementary School to help students gain a better understanding of the rich history of their school and community. With funds he was awarded through an Innovative Projects Grant, the museum is now a reality!

Since Apollo-Ridge is celebrating its 50-year history, the museum is currently exhibiting yearbooks from Apollo High School (Kiskitas), Elders Ridge High School (Hi-Lites), and Sunnyside Elementary. There are also Apollo High School football programs from 1948, some shirts, an Apollo-Ridge football helmet from the early 1990's, and postcards of historical relevance.



Elementary students conducting a scavenger hunt at their New History Museum

Some of the items were purchased with the Innovative Project Grant funds Chad received in October, but many of them are on-loan from his personal collection and those of his colleagues. Chad also plans to collaborate with the Apollo Area Historical Society to keep the display fresh.

Kudos to Chad Danka for his commitment to expanding and enriching student understanding of their local history.

STEM +A-Rts Open House



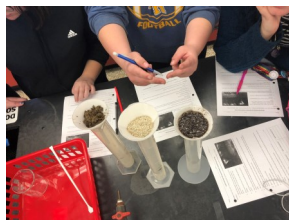
Friends of the Foundation are being invited to an Open House March 27 to learn more about the impact their gifts have on Apollo-Ridge students. If you wish to attend, please contact Cris Kostiuk.
kostiukc@apolloridge.com
724.478.6010



Students modeling the effect of temperature on chemical weathering with Alka Seltzer tablets.



Students are demonstrating how soils with different particle sizes affect drainage capabilities.



The students ran water over three different soil conditions to demonstrate that plant roots are the best aid for erosion prevention.

NEW HANDS-ON STEM COURSE IMPACTS BIOLOGY STUDENTS

This spring students in the Essentials of Biology class will experience a new section of the class entitled Environmental Science.

Tina Hartman, a new hire to replace Scott Gillespie who retired last year, felt that the hands-on aspect of the class would enrich the students' understanding of biology.

The students will be looking at native species of plants and animals while examining the local and global influences on their survival. They will also be studying

self-sustaining ecosystems by creating terrariums using grass, soil, and sand in plastic containers to investigate the carbon and water cycle.

The students will also gain an understanding of reusable/sustainable energy sources, possibly finding solutions to challenges created by human impact.

The students will be invited to participate in the regional Envirothon, a competition that includes information taught in this

course. They will take summative assessments to measure their understanding of the topics covered and will complete reflections on the terrarium project to evaluate the environments they created and what improvements could be made.

Congratulations to Tina Hartman for incorporating a new, hands-on STEM learning experience into the Biology curriculum using an Innovative Projects Grant funded by membership dues.

SUCCESS

JANUARY/FEBRUARY DONORS

thank
you

Ron Ferrara *Annual Membership*
Diana & Ron McCullough *Annual Membership*
Barbara Horrell *Donation/Annual Membership*
First Commonwealth Bank *EITC Donation*

WISHES GRANTED!

EITC Funds Enable STEM +A-Rts Wishes to be Granted

These wishes were granted with funds received from McCutcheon Enterprises and NexTier Bank through Pennsylvania's Educational Improvement Tax Credit program.

The Apollo-Ridge Drama Club received funding to install a backdrop track for the stage to enhance all performances / programs taking place in the high school auditorium.

The Apollo-Ridge secondary instrumental music program received the go ahead to purchase a marimba to intensify performances by the marching band, concert band, and jazz ensemble.

The High School robotics program received a Sphero SPRK+ Power Pack for charging, storing and transporting a SPRK+ robots.



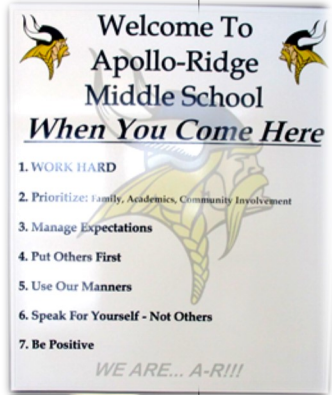
EITC funds paid for fifty 7th & 8th graders to participate in WEDIG's Rube Goldberg challenge in December at Penn State New Kensington.

Daniel Rametta was one of twenty-two students reimbursed for the cost of taking AP exams last school year. Students earning a 3 or better on the exams are eligible to be reimbursed. \$2145 was set aside from EITC donations to reimburse AP students in 2018.

Thank you Apollo-Ridge Education Foundation for reimbursing my fee for the AP Lit Exam.
Sincerely,
Daniel Rametta

POSTER PRINTER MAY IMPACT STUDENT SAFETY

This Middle School welcome sign was created using a poster printer purchased by the Education Foundation with EITC funds last year. The Tech Ed department is currently experimenting with printing on perforated vinyl that, when applied to the glass windows on and around classroom doors, will make it virtually impossible for intruders to see in, but those inside the classroom can see out. If this material works as advertised, it could have a major impact on student safety.



EDUCATIONAL IMPROVEMENT TAX CREDIT PROGRAM PARTNERS



In 2018, the Foundation received \$32,000 from these invaluable corporate partners. To learn more about this program visit newpa.com/eitc.

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OUR MISSION

To foster partnerships with business & community leaders to successfully prepare Apollo-Ridge students for the workplace or post-secondary education.



Apollo-Ridge Education Foundation is a registered 501c3 and all donations are tax deductible to the extent allowable by law.

PO Box 219 | Spring Church | PA | 15686

Apollo-RidgeEducationFoundation.org

MEMBERSHIP/DONATION FORM

____ LIFETIME MEMBERSHIP: \$500—PAYMENT PLAN IS AVAILABLE!
____ ANNUAL MEMBERSHIP: \$25 per year—RENEWABLE JULY 1 EACH YEAR!
____ ONE-TIME GIFT: ____\$1 ____\$5 ____\$10 ____\$15 \$____Other
____ IN MEMORY OR IN HONOR OF: _____

Print your email address below if you wish to receive the Foundation's electronic Newsletter filled with school-related news and upcoming events.

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