

pie project

Mary A. Goetz Elementary



Ludlow Independent Schools received a \$40,000 grant to be used for a STEM initiative (Science, Technology, Engineering, and Math) from PIE. PIE (Partnership for Innovation in Education) received the funds from the Duke Energy Foundation and decided to utilize the grant to sponsor a STEM program at Ludlow.

PIE Chief Executive Officer, Mary Welsh Schlueter, said, "We are extremely pleased this grant will be used for Kentucky children in Ludlow Independent Schools. The grant will be used to implement the PIE KydPreneur Program that teaches the application of Science, Technology, Engineering, and Math (STEM) concepts in a real world curriculum. Kids have a chance to apply what they are learning, from both a regional and global perspective. Our 21st century curriculum prepares children by teaching skills a future career might demand." Funds will be used to purchase technology items (Microsoft Surfaces and Galaxy Tablets) and curriculum materials for this project.

Jane Paulin will head this project for Mary A. Goetz Elementary. The school is partnering with MyClyns, a local business that produces and sells disinfectant products, using advanced technologies. Products will be donated to the school so that hand sanitizer dispensers can be placed in all classrooms, the cafeteria, and other high-traffic areas. Wipes will be used on classroom furniture, doors, and computer keyboards.

Students will track attendance rates, marking the trends they see in absences once the products are in use. They will use the technology purchased to create charts, enter the data, and document their findings. The students will also work with NKU's College of Informatics to design an app, probably a game, that relates to the project. The app will be sold in the App Store, with the proceeds returning to the school as a fundraiser.

A case based study conducted at this level and magnitude is the first in Kentucky. It has already been drawing attention from some larger corporations who want to sponsor activities like this throughout our region.

Once the project ends, Mary A. Goetz Elementary gets to keep all of the technology items and curriculum materials. These will be a great benefit to our classroom technology.