



Culver TEAMS Report

**Building a Better Education by Connecting
Technology, Engineering, Arts, Math, and Science**



Did You Know?

- Kindergarten students at Culver Elementary will learn basic computer coding along with problem solving and collaboration skills during the second semester.
- Culver 7th and 8th grade students are researching ways to improve Haystack Reservoir for Naomi Little's Language Arts research paper.
- Culver has its own weather station! Go to weather.weatherbug.com and enter Culver's zip code of 97734.
- This newsletter is a class project from Kim Bezdek's Desktop Publishing class.
- The Culver T.E.A.M.S. logo was designed by Culver yearbook students who changed it two times before its current image.

What Is STEM?

Why did Culver School District choose STEM/TEAMS Based Learning? Our Superintendent was searching for a catalyst to:

- Increase rigor and 21st century skills for our students
- Increase opportunities for K—12 students learning together
- Increase opportunities for K—12 teachers to work together & work with businesses and professions to also teach our students
- Increase funding opportunities
- Create opportunities for our students in the high school that opens up the classroom from just being 4 walls to being “the world”
- Increase job shadow/business visitations/exposure to real deal opportunities for HS students
- A way to have colleges and careers dying to get our Culver kids, something to set them apart from others

Hour of Code at Culver Schools

During the week of December 8-14, educators at Culver Elementary and Middle School offered and taught an Hour of Code to every single student from Kindergarten through 8th grade! The importance of teaching computer and problem solving skills to early elementary aged students was taken seriously by teachers and administrators. Kinders through grade 5 students used tutorials from code.org. Middle school teachers Wendy Dove and Karen Young coordinated the effort for grades 6th, 7th, and 8th. MS students jumped at the chance to use online tutorials at Khan Academy. Many students went home, got onto their computers and continued with the lessons on their own. AMAZING!

A fifth grade student learns to code using resources from code.org. All elementary students had one hour of code.



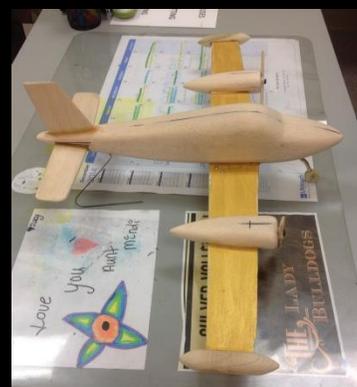
Kindergarten students learn coding during the hour of code.

2nd Grade Agriculture

Glenda Cloud is a teacher and a farmer. She understands the need and importance of having a local weather station in the community. Having accurate forecasts is important; a rain shower on newly cut hay can ruin a crop. In August, Culver School District Superintendent-Principal Stefanie Garber and Mrs. Cloud were able to secure funding from Central Oregon Seed, Inc., in Madras. Mrs. Cloud, together with grade 2 team teacher Bonnie Brown, immediately ordered a WeatherBug Station and within a month, had it up and running. Students collaborate to make decisions about important problems as teachers facilitate the process. This will be a yearlong unit, with student weather reports and other grades may tap into the resources as well. The app is available to everyone who has a smart-phone or a computer; it is called “WeatherBug” and it allows you to view the weather all over the nation.



Grade 2 students engineering a 'Harvester' that will harvest pumpkins.



Model plane made using measurements taken at airport. It is an accurate scale model.



As part of a November Enrichment Day, elementary students created an invention that dropped a weight on a target.

Language Arts Collaborations

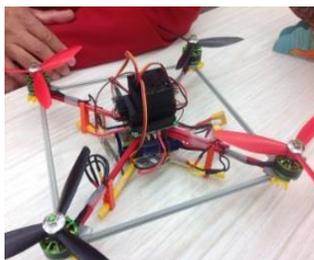
The Gary Paulsen book “Hatchet,” was the inspiration for a semester long common core collaboration between math and language arts. Students took measurements and worked towards creating a model of the airplane. They presented their model to classmates as the final piece of the project. Next semester Language Arts teacher Jake Shinkle and Math teacher Wendy Dove will use “The Giver,” to help make reading, writing and math more meaningful to their students.

Helping the Community with Technology

Kim Bezdek is always looking to connect with others to maximize the learning process. Working part-time in the library, and the remainder in the computer lab, she tries to connect what her students are learning, with what is happening in or around the community.

Ms. Bezdek’s fifth period class, Desktop Publishing, created the signs for parent conferences, college signs for college application week, a flyer for the Community Thanksgiving Dinner, and the music program for the winter concert. Connecting real projects with classroom learning is what it’s all about.

This is the drone the robotics class built from scratch. They are learning how to fly it through programming.



8th graders make observations at Haystack Reservoir as part of a research project they are doing in Naomi Little's LA class.