

E-TECH MONTHLY

May 7, 2015

On April 15th, 2015, Energy Tech celebrated a grant provided by the Verizon Foundation for our WinSTEM after-school program. At the event were a variety of students, families, teachers, community members, and keynote speakers from our school's partnerships. Speakers Delfina Isaac (Con Edison) and Renee McClure (National Grid) inspired our students to pursue their STEM-related goals and aspirations.



WinSTEM Updates

Past and upcoming events and activities

By Rosie Eddy, Lead Teacher, WinSTEM Initiative @ Energy Tech

And they're off! While this week the Kentucky Derby made national news, back at home in New York City WinSTEM had a successful collaboration between Energy Tech High School (E-Tech) and Brooklyn Technical High School (B-Tech). Over 50 students, half from E-Tech and half from B-Tech, worked together to discover the object-oriented world of

coding. Special guest instructor, Katie Holden, a computer programmer from Google, led students through an introduction to programming. Students used an online forum developed at MIT called "Scratch." The students used the Scratch program to navigate a character around a box. Students then built upon the new skill sets to repeatedly loop the drawing

of shapes to make fun computer screen saver designs. WinSTEM is providing an opportunity for E-Tech students to have fun with engineering and we hope to see you at the next meeting as we continue the race for gender equality in science, technology, engineering and mathematics. We look forward to more sessions - all are welcome!

IN THIS EDITION

WinSTEM 2015.....	1
Monthly Summary.....	2
Giving Thanks.....	2
Classroom Corner.....	3-4
Upcoming Events.....	5
Announcements.....	5

What's happening at Energy Tech

At a glance

Monthly Summary

The month of April was marked by the launch of the WinSTEM initiative. We were excited to be featured in a weekend edition of the New York Daily News, and we have since held several successful sessions. Some of the activities have included:

- a collaborative coding session with the Girls Who Code club from Brooklyn Technical High School
- collaborative mathematics problem solving
- introductions to Arduino robotics
- networking sessions

The second marking period has come to a close, and reports cards are available to parents and students. We encourage students to make sure that they are in tutoring sessions and Saturday Academy to study for Regents exams and make up science labs and other major assessments.

In the pages that follow, you will find pictures from trips, special events, and other activities that took place this month. You will also find updates from your child's teachers, outlining what has been happening in class, and what is to come. After school, our classrooms have been packed with students building Rube Goldberg machines, re-taking mathematics assessments, revising papers, studying for science examinations, completing laboratory experiments, analyzing and writing poetry, etc.

We have hosted a number of exciting guests, such as other 9-14 P-TECH high schools, executives from our partnerships, and other school districts that are interested in opening more schools like ours. Our students have been phenomenal hosts and ambassadors, and have represented themselves as professionals. We are deeply appreciative of all of the support that they receive not only from their teachers, but also from their parents and our school partners in the development of their professional presentation skills.



Giving Thanks

- Thank you, **Con Edison** and **National Grid**, for your deep and continued support of our programs, including a number of amazing experiences - like project days and field visits at your labs and facilities. Thank you, also, for your generosity, mentorship, and support of the school's planning.
- Thank you, **Verizon**, for grant funding in support of the WinSTEM initiative.
- Thank you, **Solar One**, for increased opportunities for students to explore energy and environmentalism.
- Thank you, **Parents Association**, for your generous gifts for our teaching staff during Teacher Appreciation Week - this, and your everyday support, are much appreciated.



On April 20th, we hosted Jonathon Dawson, Non-Executive Director for National Grid and Andrew Barnes, Manager, Community and Customer Management. Mr. Dawson and Mr. Barnes met with a group of student ambassadors for lunch and then a student led tour of the school.

Classroom Corner

A glimpse into our classes

English Language Arts

Students will further their journey as active constructors of meaning as the 9th grade ELA team has taken on the challenge of teaching poetry. Upon completion of this unit, students will be able to first determine tone and mood by focusing on word choice. Then, students will analyze how authors use tone and mood to develop a central theme. They will finally be asked to create an original composition that demonstrates their mastery of the literary elements learned. It is our hope that through this process students will not only develop a deeper understanding and analysis of the texts they read, but ultimately establish an appreciation for the art.

Contact: abartelucci@energytechhs.org,
tmohammed@energytechhs.org

Students in 10th grade English are beginning a novel study of Elie Wiesel's *Night*. During the course of this unit, students will be performing close readings of pivotal passages to analyze structure, literary elements, and author's intent. Following the novel study, students will be drafting an argumentative essay to hone their skills in creating and developing claims and counterclaims, in order to prepare for the Common Core English Regents.

Contact: aradcliffe@energytechhs.org

Mathematics

We are winding down the year with our last major unit (Circles) and will begin intensive Regents review in mid-May. Students should be encouraged to start reviewing on their own-- good resources can be found on regentsprep.org or by looking up past exams on the New York State Department of Education website. Tutoring is available Tuesday, Wednesday, and Thursday after school from Mr. Davis, and Saturday Academy review is in full swing. The Mock Regents exam in Geometry will be held on Tuesday, May 12 and will provide a lot more detailed information

about specific topics that should be reviewed. **Contact:**
gdavis@energytechhs.org, tlong@energytechhs.org

In Algebra I, students are finishing up their last unit of new material from the EngageNY curriculum and will begin Regents review by mid May. Tutoring announcements are made in class for extra days of tutoring to accommodate all students. **Contacts:**
nfolwell@energytechhs.org, dkaneris@energytechhs.org

In Algebra II & Trigonometry, the students have just finished their last trigonometry unit and are moving on to probability and statistics. From now until the end of May there will be two more unit tests (one on Probability and one on Statistics) and then we will begin Regents review. Tutoring announcements are made in class for extra days of tutoring to accommodate all students.

Contact: dkaneris@energytechhs.org

Chemistry

In chemistry, students are quickly finishing up the last few units in our curriculum. We are learning about kinetics and equilibrium now, and will be finishing up the year learning about acids, bases, and redox chemistry. In addition, students have been working hard at understanding how to name carbon-based compounds, which are called organics. This is one of the trickier parts of chemistry, but students have been working hard and working with each other to figure out how to master this skill. The pace in our class has picked up, but students are starting to feeling more comfortable. In preparation for the upcoming Regents Exam, please know that I am available every day (except Monday) for extra tutoring, lab make ups, or extra practice time with the students. Students who receive a passing grade for the Lab Section are on track to take the Regents, but others will need to arrange a time with me to get caught up on labs before it's too late.

Contact: agarcia@energytechhs.org

ONLINE GRADE BOOK: POWERSCHOOL

Students were sent home with log-in information for PowerSchool in September. The instructions were printed on one page, and included both student and parent log-in instructions.

Please contact Ms. Alvarez ASAP if your child did not give you this important information. PowerSchool is an online platform where teachers post student grades and comments regularly. You may access the site using the link below:

<https://earlycollege.powerschool.com/public/>

On April 16th and 23rd Solar One hosted our 9th grade students at their location in Manhattan along the East River. During these trips, students helped to identify the wide variety of native plant species within Stuyvesant Cove Park (maintained by Solar One), while learning about their benefits. They also conducted a number of water quality tests and collected plankton.



Living Environment

At this point in the year, we have completed three of the four required state labs. Students have been hard at work completing the assignments, and working on lab make-ups and corrections. We are heading into our last unit of the year: Ecology and Human Impact. Students will explore how ecosystems and environmental issues interact, and the role that humans play in nature. There will be at least one more major laboratory assignment, and daily homework to ensure that students are ready for their end-of-year Regents exam. I will hold tutoring Wednesdays and Thursdays from 3-4pm, and on Tuesdays or mornings by appointment.

Contact: cyablon@energytechhs.org

Global Studies

In Global History students are launching into their study of the Cold War to conclude their study of Global History. Students will begin a cumulative review for the Regents exam and will take a mock Regents Exam Friday, May 8th. Tutoring will be available Tuesdays and Thursdays from 3-4:00 to prepare for the Regents exam, in addition to Saturday Academy.

Contact: blutterbein@energytechhs.org,
jfried@energytechhs.org,
ademarco@energytechhs.org

Physical Education

In physical education classes, students are currently working on skills leading up to gameplay in volleyball. More teams will form from class activities to extend an ongoing volleyball tournament during lunch periods.

Contact: lpetrocelli@energytechhs.org

Career and Technical Education

In Engineering Design, the 9th graders are testing and presenting their team's Rube Goldberg machines. They decided on a simple task for their machine to complete at the end, and they designed different steps and simple machines to complete their end goal. Their next activity is to learn about electrical circuits – the relationship between voltage, current and resistance (via Ohm's Law), and how they interact differently in series versus parallel circuits. They will learn the theories and apply them by building breadboard circuits. In Pre-Engineering, the 10th graders are designing floor plans for their personal dream houses, and completing a scale drawing using AutoCAD 2015 after manually drawing one on graph paper.

Contact: Isoares@energytechhs.org



Damian, Jordan and Shaq were All Star reps for Energy Tech. Mohammed participated and won the 3-point contest. Arthur and Damian helped rebound for the one-minute-per player contest. Mohammed made 9 baskets to advance to the finals. He made 10 baskets in the finals to win the contest.



Pictured on the left Energy Tech students meet with and learn from Holocaust survivors and their relatives. Our students were deeply moved by their histories and their accounts of WWII and the Holocaust. Thank you, Ms. Fried and Mr. Lutterbein for making this day possible. As you will see, it was a truly memorable experience.



On 5/6/15, students in the WinSTEM club met with mentors from Brooklyn Tech and LaGuardia Community College to tackle a very challenging math problem. The students learned a great deal about persistence when solving difficult problems. They also discussed upcoming meetings, trips, and robotics.



In the picture above, 9th grade students complete the Beaks of Finches laboratory activity in their Living Environment class. This is a lab that is required by New York State for students to be eligible to take the Regents examination in June. Please check to make sure that your child is on track with labs!

MONTHLY CHALLENGE

This month, we challenge you to ensure that your child attends Saturday Academy in preparation for Regents exams. Please review the schedule with your child, as well as test prep materials that we have provided (e.g. Barron's books). Contact the school for more information.



Upcoming Events & Announcements

Dates to Note

- **Thursday, May 7th:** Spring School Showcase - Enjoy an evening with our students and staff to learn more about classes, clubs, and activities at Energy Tech!
- **Friday, May 8th:** Black Lives Matter Summit, LaGuardia Community College - please contact Ms. Quinones or Ms. Castillo for more information
- **Monday, May 11th:** 9th grade field trip to Con Edison's Astoria lab and learning center facilities - contact Mr. Rogerson for more information.
- **Friday, May 15th:** Industry mentoring for 10th grade students

LATER ON...

- **May 19th** – General PA Meeting, 6pm - PA Elections
- **May 20th** - WinSTEM trip to Etsy, 4-5:30pm
- **May 26th** - NYCHA visiting ETHS
- **May 29th** - Queens College math team competition - contact Ms. Kaneris or Mr. Davis for more information
- **June 1st** - Con Edison trip for 9th graders
- **June 3rd** - Broadway show trip, details TBA
- **June 12th** - Con Edison trip for 9th graders
- **June 13th** – Annual Family Potluck Luncheon
- **June 16th** – Last General PA Meeting of 2014-2015, 6pm
- **June 22nd** - Broadway show trip, details TBA
- **June 25th** - Spring Awards Night, details TBA

Important Announcements

- If your child requires a 504 plan, needs to take medication while at school, or has an allergy, please contact the school as soon as possible to complete the required paperwork.

Please contact Ms. Alvarez if you need more information.

- As a reminder, students need to earn an 80 or higher on Regents exams (particularly in mathematics and English) before beginning some of the college classes. Teachers also look at course grades. Students who do not early the CUNY benchmark of 80 will be offered a summer enrichment program and a Regents re-take in August.
- Summer mathematics enrichment programs will be offered to all current and incoming Energy Tech students. The program will run from July 13th - August 14th on Mondays through Thursdays from 9am-noon. Breakfast, lunch, and Metrocards will be provided. Current students will be expected to re-take mathematics Regents during the last 3 days of the program for a higher grade. Incoming students may use the program as an opportunity to improve their mathematics skills before the school year begins. Look forward to more information that will be sent home soon!
- Please join us for the PA Elections on May 19th. At this time, we will be electing new officers for our Parent Assembly. Please contact Ms. Alvarez for more information.
- Students have started to take mock Regents examinations to better understand their current progress and what topics they most need to improve before the official assessments in June. Please look forward to data that your child will bring home about his/her preparedness.



C
O
N
G
R
A
T
S