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Press Release:

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Riverview Students First to Pilot Speckle Tool Designed by CMU CREATE Lab.



This summer, CMU's CREATE Lab reached out to local schools in search of teachers to participate in a pilot program using the "Speckle". Riverview Science teacher, Suzie Everett, was one of five teachers selected to design and implement curriculum using the Speckle. Ms. Everett's 7th grade STEAM Arts and Bots students are the first in the pilot group to work with the newly designed Speckle tool.

So, what is a Speckle, you ask? The Speckle was designed by the CREATE Lab at CMU. The CREATE Lab has designed several educational technologies which are used in classrooms around the world, such as the Hummingbird Duo Robot, the Finch, and the Speck. The Speckle is an educational technology similar to the Speck, a commercially-available air quality monitor. But the Speckle kit comes unassembled and students must assemble the Speckle before using it to collect air quality data.

Students work in pairs to build the Speckle and collect air quality data using both a voltmeter and computer. The students then take on the challenge of designing and building a housing unit using the Speckle components. The goal is to make the Speckle marketable by enclosing the technological components while still allowing the Speckle to function as an air quality monitor. Students are asked to market their product to an audience by designing a print ad for a magazine, newspaper, billboard, etc.

Established in 2014, Alle-Kiski Best Practices Collaborative CREATE Lab Satellite Network (ABC CREATE) works with 15 school districts across the Alle-Kiski Valley, the CREATE Lab of Carnegie Mellon University, and Penn State New Kensington. As part of the CREATE Lab Satellite Network, ABC CREATE is supporting teachers who engage in innovative teaching and learning methods, encouraging a culture of collaboration, and creating meaningful technology integration across all content areas. Teachers and students in ABC CREATE districts are reporting increased engagement and interest in STEAM-based learning and improved access to creative technologies and opportunities to share ideas and strategies with their peers from other districts.

Congratulations on your commitment to learning and "Happy Creating" to our Riverview 7th graders!

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