

The Gifted Tribune

Mrs. Sarah Skelton- Gifted Coordinator

Students' Corner

High School Students visit Penn State Behrend

On December 7, the Iroquois High School students visited Penn State Behrend to learn about careers in Engineering and Technology. Students met with an admissions counselor, engaged in several hands on activities, including programming brand new iRobots, and enjoyed a light show at new Yahn Planetarium. Hands down, the best part of the day, included the all-you-can eat buffet lunch. This was a great learning experience for all students as Penn State Behrend has so much to offer!

See highlights from the field trip on pages seven and eight.

To learn more about Penn State Behrend and their summer programs, visit: <https://behrend.psu.edu/>



Dr. Hess, professor from Mercyhurst University talked to middle-high school students about careers in music.

Students Visit Mercyhurst

High School Students visited Mercyhurst University

In January, middle and high school students enjoyed a presentation from Dr. Nathan Hess and Dr. Scott Weis from Mercyhurst University. The professors discussed careers in music and shared all the unique opportunities available to students. While music may not be the most popular career choice, students are able to dual major, making it a favorable option for some. Students from the middle school band and chorus, in addition to Mrs. Kelly's music classes, participated in the event. They were a great audience; very engaged and asked plenty of questions.





Upcoming Events

Important Dates:

- February 8- IHS Field Trip to Mercyhurst University
- February 16- IES Field Trip to TREC
- March - 16- IES Field Trip to TREC
- March 14- Virtual Pi Day at Edinboro (High School Students)
- March 18- STEM Challenge Projects Due!
- March 29- IHS Trip to LECOM

*** Please visit Schoology for additional information regarding the gifted program

www.schoology.com

Brainy Braves (HS) Access Code:
CJDDV- GTCQ4

IES Gifted Braves Access Code:
5K93Q-JVH8T

Then, in February, the high school gifted students toured Mercyhurst University. Students talked with a student panel and experienced professors in various career fields. They also met with admissions and ate in the cafe. It was a great opportunity for students to explore their college and career options. This was the first time that Iroquois students visited Mercyhurst. And it was a nice follow up to the presentation from the music department in January.

The Iroquois High School Gifted Program focuses on college and career exploration. Each student has a goal that pertains to exploring their career options. It is crucial for our students to be exposed to a plethora of opportunities that encourage them to self reflect and evaluate college/ career options. Throughout the year, the gifted program focuses on the PA Career Standards, trying to implement career readiness into field trips as much as possible. See page six for more pictures.

IES Students Test for Water Pollutants

On November 12, students ventured out of school for a day of fun. The students collected water samples from various locations around Erie, including Presque Isle, Cascade Creek at Frontier Park and Four-Mile Creek at Napier Park in Wesleyville. Once the students collected all the water samples, they used a kit to test for common water pollutants. The students came to many interesting conclusions, but found that the Lake Erie water was the cleanest and had the least amount of pollutants.



Students collected water samples from Cascade Creek at Frontier Park.

In addition to collecting water samples, the students participated in their yearly beach clean up. Students spent part of their morning picking up trash at Beach One. The students did a great job completing the data sheet and identifying the most common types of trash. It was a bit overwhelming (and concerning) how much trash the students collected. The students had a fun time and enjoyed being part of the solution, in helping keep our beaches clean and safe!



IES students took part in the annual beach cleanup!



Students learned how to detect common water pollutants.

IES Students Visit Penn State Behrend

On November 30, the IES gifted students visited Penn State Behrend for a day of STEM fun! The students worked with the Behrend Outreach Engineering Students on coding activities. The students learned to operate and code a Botley and iRobot. They were completely engaged throughout the morning and enthralled with the multiple hands-on activities. Not to mention, the students got to work firsthand with some of Penn State's finest engineering students.



Students put their coding skills to the test and raced their Botley's.



The BEST part of the day was the all-you-can-eat buffet!

But hands down, the best part of the day, was lunch! Students were able to enjoy the all-you-can-eat buffet at Dobbin's cafe. After numerous trips to the dessert bar, students finished the day at the Yahn Planetarium. The class met with Mr. Gavio who shared an extensive presentation on our solar system, with a focus on light radiation.

Overall, it was a fantastic day. The students engaged in several hands-on engineering and coding activities, enjoyed a fascinating planetarium show, and learned about all the awesome opportunities available at Penn State Behrend. More pictures from the field trip on page eight.

High School Students Visit Gannon

On November 11, 2021, the Iroquois High School students visited Gannon University. They had a full day of events, which concluded with a tour of the newly renovated facilities at GU; The Forensic Investigation Center, I-HACK Innovation Building and Center for Advanced Engineering. Students met with admission counselors as well as retired FBI agent, Dr. Jerry Clark. Dr. Clark talked to the students about his unique career track and opportunities in the criminal justice/ FBI field. In addition, Dr. Clark shared his expertise and experience with the world-known, Pizza Bomber Case. The students also visited with professors in various departments and had the opportunity to ask questions. Not to mention, it was a beautiful day out, so the students didn't mind the campus tour!



Dr. Jerry Clark addressed the students about careers in Criminal Justice.



Students toured the brand new I-HACK Innovation Center at Gannon.



Students met with a professor from the Advanced Engineering Center.



Students toured the newly renovated Forensic Investigation Center.

IES Students Learn About Micro-Plastics

On December 16, the IES gifted students headed to TREC to work with the Regional Science Consortium Team for a day full of fun and educational learning. The class was able to enjoy the 60 degree temperatures in December as they spent the morning outside on the beach. The students started the day with a beach cleanup, where the students tracked and recorded their data. In the end, they collected hundreds of articles of trash, 57% of it being micro-plastics. This was a perfect introduction to our lesson with the Regional Science Consortium (RSC).

Later in the day, in the RSC laboratory, students learned about micro-plastics and how many are too small to be filtered through our water system, thus ending up in our drinking water. Students learned about the harmful effects to our aquatic ecosystems. In addition, the class gained a greater understanding about POPs (Persistent Organic Pollutants) which are resistant to environmental biodegrading. In the end, student discussed what can be done and how to use less plastic. The students also sampled sand from the beach, which they studied under microscopes. It was a jam packed day that included lots hands-on learning and smiles! More pictures on page ten.



IES students posed in front of TREC!
Gifted News



Cathryn and Trevor analyzed sand under a microscope.

PAGE Update

Time to book your reservation for the Page Conference 2022! Early registration is OPEN! Resignation is open for the 2022 Conference. The conference will be held at the Kalahri Poconos Resort on **October 17 & 18, 2022**. The PAGE Committee has secured a room rate of \$143/ night which includes breakfast AND water park passes. Should you wish to stay the weekend, the rate for those nights will be at a discounted rate as well. This could be a fun opportunity for the entire family!

To register for the upcoming conference, visit: <https://www.giftedpage.org/>

If you have any questions regarding PAGE, please contact Mrs. Skelton (sskelton@iroquois.iu5.org). She is also the President of the local NW PAGE Affiliate.

Daily Mind Benders:

Riddles:

Always Old, Sometimes New

Always old, sometimes new. Never sad, sometimes blue. Never empty, sometimes full. Never pushing, always pulling. What am I?

A Batter

I am used to bat with, yet I never get a hit.
I am near a ball, yet I am never thrown.
What am I?

Table Talk:

Martin Luther King, Jr. was a great leader. Dr. King wanted everyone to live together peacefully. The central idea of his most famous speech was built around

his statement, "I have a dream." Dr. King's dream was that one day all people would be treated equally.

If you became a great leader, what would your dream be? What would you do to help people make a better world?

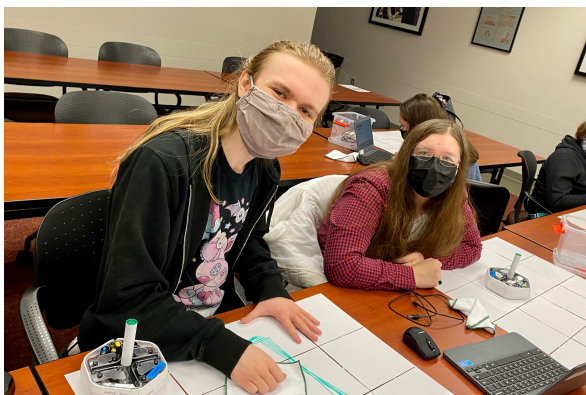
Answer to the Daily Mind Benders:

Riddles:

#1- The Moon

#2- Your eyelashes

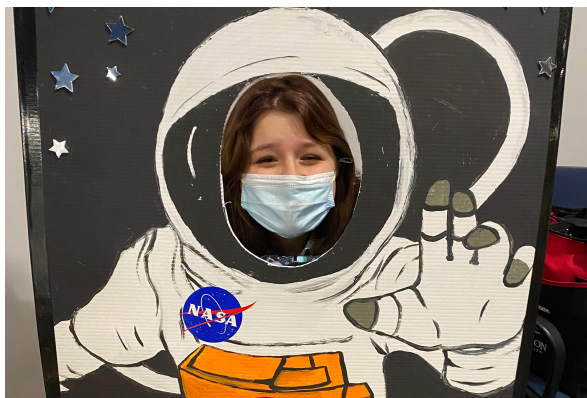
More Pictures from Penn State Behrend- December 2021



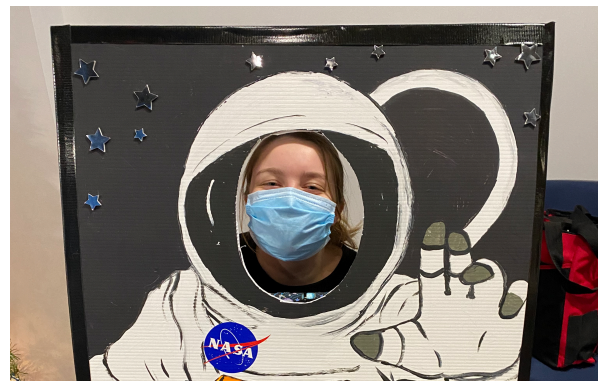
Ellie and Jenna code the iRobots at PSB.



Lexi, Aubrey and Morgan enjoyed the programming activities at Behrend.



Aubrey posed as a NASA Astronaut!



Lexi posed as a NASA Astronaut!



Caitlyn and Emma programmed their robot to play tic-tac-toe.



Mr. Gavio prepared the students for the planetarium show on ultraviolet light.

More Pictures from Penn State Behrend- December 2021



Savannah's an experienced programmer when it comes to coding.



Violet learned how to code an iRobot.



Cody and Camden team up to program the iRobot.



Students worked with the Behrend Engineering Students on coding activities.



Trevor practiced coding the iRobot.



Camden worked hard on coding his Botley.

Gifted Students Study Geology

In January, the IES gifted class ventured off to TREC for their monthly STEM adventure with the Regional Science Consortium. They started off the day by touring the National History Museum where the students examined various preserved plants and animals from around Presque Isle State Park. Next, students completed a TREC scavenger hunt where they had to locate answers to questions regarding the formation and changes of Presque Isle, erosion, the Great Lakes and so much more. Finally, students completed a Geology lab where they learned about sand, minerals and current erosion issues, such as Tombolo's. They concluded with a hands-on Geology activity where they had to identify various minerals based on specific identification measures. Although we missed some students, the class had a wonderful time!



IES students visited the National History Museum at TREC.



Cathryn and Violet studied reptiles at the NHM.



Ivy and Camden posed while completing a TREC scavenger hunt.



Violet and Camden identified different types of minerals during a Geology lesson.

More Pictures from TREC December 2021



Camden and Trevor collected trash at Beach Seven!



Savannah and Violet posed at the beach!



Ivy and Cathryn enjoyed cleaning up the beach!



Savannah studied sand samples at the RSC.