It is the District mission to provide all students a secure learning environment and exemplary academic programs that inspire all students to reach their full potential.
DISTRICT INNOVATIONS THROUGHOUT ELEMENTARY CLASSROOMS

• STEAM Activities
  • Half-Days
  • Family Events
  • Matter Monsters
  • IU13 STEM Bowl
  • Classroom Lessons

• Computer Science
• Genius Hour
• Design Challenges
• Teacher Training
  • Pulse 2.0
  • Engineering by Design
Each elementary school incorporates different activities. Some examples include:

- A Lancaster Science Factory program at Clay Elementary School
- Robotics and coding with EHS students

Families participated in multiple activity stations in middle school classrooms and the makerspace.
Highland Elementary School
Parents & Pastries

- New this school year!

- Mr. Esbenshade works with the PTO to offer breakfast snacks and a 45-minute family STEAM challenge.
  - September – TINFOIL BOAT CHALLENGE
  - November – TOWER OF CREATIVITY CHALLENGE
Students in Grade 4 Districtwide participate in a day of interactive science lessons.

Building-wide assemblies

Facilitated by Science Explorers/SPARKS Foundation

Designed to create a memorable experience for students, foster an appreciation of STEM learning, and potentially influence students to choose a STEM-related career.

Funded by the Ephrata Area Education Foundation.
Elementary students have chosen to participate in different STEAM competitions offered by IU13.
Teachers continue to implement numerous STEAM activities in their classrooms throughout the school year.
• Nick Crowther, District Computer Science/STEAM Department Supervisor visits 3rd and 4th grade: STEAM and coding via the Blockly app and Dash and Dot robots
• Introducing computer science concepts in 1st and 2nd grades.
• Hour of Code
Genius Hour

- Students choose a topic, develop research questions, and create a public presentation.
- Use of Green Screen
- Inspired by Google
  - Google estimates 50% of Google’s projects have been created during this creative time period, including Gmail and Google News
Students have been given opportunities to participate in design challenges. Many times, students ideas are then implemented. Recently, a group of students shared their design challenge experiences at the PSBA Convention.
Teacher Training

- **PULSE 2.0**
  - Funded by a U.S. Department of Education Math/Science Grant
  - Provides high quality professional development to K-8 teachers
    - Summer professional development
    - Monthly meetings
    - Sessions throughout the school year
    - Up to 20 hours of coaching at IU13
- **Engineering by Design**
  - Funded by Steinman Grant
  - Teachers receive training and materials
- **Ozobot**
What’s Next?

• Continuation and expansion of current programs
• Second Family STEAM Night
  • Eight stations facilitated by the Maryland Science Center
• Fulton Elementary School Design Challenge
  • Friday, December 22
• Full program and curriculum review