

KENOSHA NEWS

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★★★\$1.25

THE BUILT WORLD LIST 19

ARE WE IN CONSPIRACY

AND WHY ABOUT THAT MUCH

LAST COST SAVINGS AT THE

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Innovation Lab opens at KTEC west campus

Snap-on collaboration allows students to enhance tech skills

BY TERRY FLORES

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Josie Haase has never been one to shy away from a building job.

And it was no different Thursday night for the 7-year-old, who participated in the grand opening of the Innovation Lab at Kenosha School of Technology Enhanced Curriculum's west campus.

With safety goggles over her eyes, Josie, who attends the school, lifted a larger hammer with both hands and pounded a nail into one of the pre-carved wooden letters that spells the school's name.

Her dad Dave helped steady her hands, but said his daughter often helps him in the garage on many projects.

"Me and my dad built (pinewood derby) cars," she said, after putting down the Snap-on hammer.

Partnership

The seed for the Innovation Lab, a collaboration between the school and

THE NEW LAB

contains

*work stations
equipped with
Snap-on tools.*

*It is a classroom
for students,
teachers and the
community.*

Snap-on Inc., began three years ago and involved renovating a shop classroom inside the former McKinley Middle School, now the home to KTEC-West, 5710 32nd Ave. Students at KTEC's east campus also use the lab. A total of 1,128 students are enrolled at the two campuses for the 2016-17 school year.

Snap-on supports the school's Project Lead the Way initiative that



KENOSHA NEWS PHOTO BY BILL SIEL

Grace Mathewson tries out a screwdriver during an opening reception for KTEC's Innovation Lab at the west campus Thursday night. Mathewson is a second-grade KTEC student.

develops science, technology, engineering and math curriculums for schools, along with professional development training for instructors.

The new lab contains work stations equipped with Snap-on tools. It is a classroom for students, teachers and the community. The lab includes

a computer room with systems and hardware donated through a partnership with Leeward

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LAB: School partners with Snap-on for curriculum

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Business Advisors.

While Thursday night's open house marked the grand opening of the lab, it has been in use by students since October. Students have designed, built and completed projects ranging from the second grade's birdhouses to Rube Goldberg machines at the high school level.

Scott Hodges, assistant principal and director of STEM development, said the goal this year is to complete lessons at each grade level.

Breaking the stigma

In piloting the second-grade curriculum last fall, students learned how to build a birdhouse. They also integrated a problem-solving story for why it was being built, the tools and materials needed and the safety procedures required.

"They learned to ID the tools and how to use them safely, their practical applications, measuring (pieces) and the final project, which was building the birdhouse," he said. "What's important is to appeal to learners from the earliest age possible before the stigma of engineering ... can even developed.

"Our students don't know that engineering is just for guys or a certain group of people," he said. "It's for everybody. So



Scott Hodges, center, explains precision measurement tools to Alexander Landa while his father Josh listens during an opening reception for KTEC's Innovation Lab at the west campus Thursday night. Landa is a fifth-grade student at KTEC.

we're trying to break those barriers that have been put up."

Chrissy Knight, whose son Gavin, 7, also attends the school, said she was especially excited for her daughter Layla, 3, who will attend 4-year-old kindergarten there next year.

"I think it's pretty nice. We're getting a preview," Knight said, watching her daughter use a ratchet. "I'm excited for her to come here, just for the opportunities — especially nowadays, with all the technology that everybody has and is used for pretty much everything."

WE BUY PENS

EVERY WEDNESDAY IN FEBRUARY

10 A.M. - 4 P.M.

We buy one pen or large pen collections
Fountain Pens, Roller Balls, Ball Pens and Pencils



Parker
Sheaffer
Waterman
MontBlanc
Lamy
Retro 51
Cross
Pelikan
Acme Studio



Rotring
Porsche
Monteverde
Aurora
Montegrappa
Papermate
Pilot
Harris
Diamond Medal