Saturday Morning Series
Students will participate in 6 Saturday morning sessions which will be held from 10:00 a.m. to noon on the following dates:
- November 12, 2016
- December 10, 2016
- January 14, 2017
- February 11, 2017
- March 11, 2017
- May 13, 2017
A light snack will be provided. Professional presentations and activities will be shared by women in the following fields*:

Medical
- Review case studies
- Learn forensics techniques

Space/Science
- Explore space and beyond with NASA
- Study the chemistry of cosmetics

Information Technology
- Learn how data moves and security methods
- Use circuit modules to create an art machine

Engineering
- Design roller coasters
- Explore lean manufacturing

Environmental
- Explore healthy options for personal products and foods
- Learn sustainability tools for the environment

Math
- Explore actuary science
- De-code cryptographic messages

*Presentations are provided as an overview; specific activities are subject to change.

Registration and Information
Registration Deadline: October 12, 2016
Registration fee: $25
Register online at: newkensington.psu.edu/comets

For more information, contact:
Debbie Novak
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724-334-6119

Girls will receive a COMETS t-shirt, along with a complimentary gift for participating in this program.

The funding for this STEM initiative was provided by:
The Emerson Charitable Trust

In partnership with:
- PA eMentoring
- AWIS (Association for Women in Science)
- SWE (Society for Women Engineers)
- National Girls Collaborative Project
- Penn State Engineering Ambassadors
- FabFems
- ESWPA (Engineers’ Society of Western PA)

A program for girls to learn about math, engineering, technology, science, ... and their futures!

This program is named after the Comet Moth, which is native to Madagascar.

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The COMETS Program is designed to develop middle school girls’ interest in Science, Technology, Engineering and Math (STEM) fields. Students participate in online mentoring sessions, special events, and 6 monthly workshops. They also receive additional STEM resources for themselves and their parents.

Online Mentoring Program

Each student will choose an online mentor who helps her through the following ten career activities, leading to a career plan. Each weekly session lasts 15 to 30 minutes.

1. **New Thinking about Career Success**  
   **Goal:** To better understand the reality of the job market and the many paths to success after high school.

2. **Preparation for Careers**  
   **Goal:** To understand the different education and training paths to careers and some key advantages of each.

3. **Abilities and Aptitudes**  
   **Goal:** To determine how abilities and aptitudes relate to career choice.

4. **Personal Interests**  
   **Goal:** To determine how personal interests relate to career choice.

5. **Career Clusters and Pathways**  
   **Goal:** To choose a career cluster and career pathway of interest aligned to the desired field of work.

6. **Non-traditional Workplace Roles**  
   **Goal:** To consider how changing gender roles effects and impacts one’s choice of career.

7. **Experiencing Careers While Still in School**  
   **Goal:** To evaluate opportunities for career awareness and preparation that girls can take advantage of while still in secondary school.

8. **Selecting A Career Goal**  
   **Goal:** To support the girls in identifying a career goal and justifying their selection.

9. **Post-secondary Education Choice**  
   **Goal:** To review post-secondary choices and provide the girls with support for their choices of specific post-secondary options and career goals.

10. **Ending the PA eMentoring Relationship**  
    **Goal:** To share thoughts about possible career choices identified in the program.

- Mentor screening provided by Penn State New Kensington
- Additional computer access will be available from 9:30 - 10:30 a.m. prior to each Saturday session in the Penn State New Kensington Computer Center.

Parent Awareness

Throughout the program, parents will receive access to STEM resources such as:

- future STEM programs
- information on new careers in STEM fields
- tools that will enhance student interest.

Special Events

In addition to the online mentoring program, students will participate in the following:

**Meet - N- Greet Reception**  
October 17, 2016, at 7:00 p.m.  
Students and parents are introduced to the COMETS Program, and they will meet and mingle with professionals in STEM fields.

**Entertainment Technology Center (field trip)**  
November 18, 2016, 8:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.  
Students will spend the morning touring and interacting with university students and professionals who are challenged to explore, experiment and collaborate to create games, designs and stories using the latest technologies. Students will tour an additional center (TBD) in the afternoon that focuses on careers connected to technology, collaboration and design. Transportation will be provided for the entire field trip.

**COMETS Camp - (tentative date)**  
April 8, 2017, from 10:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m.  
Spend the day with Penn State Engineering Ambassadors to explore 3 engineering programs, such as:

- Engineering Prosthetics
- Aerodynamics
- The Physics of Roller Coasters

**Recognition Night**  
May 22, 2017, at 7:00 p.m.  
Students and parents join the COMETS team to celebrate the completion of the COMETS Program.