



DIVISIONS
ENERGY
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GEOLOGY AND MINERAL RESOURCES
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2015 Energy Expo held at Ridgeview Middle School

Dickenson County, VA – Nearly 200 Dickenson County 6th graders had the opportunity to learn about the industries that produce and support energy in southwest Virginia at the 2015 Energy Expo. This was the fourth Energy Expo held in Dickenson County but, for the first time, vendors came to Ridgeview Middle School.

Students had a chance to see a drone used in coal mining engineering projects, how a natural gas well works, mine rescue teams in action, how a drill digs a well and much, much more.

Representatives from area companies and organizations were set up at stations. Students visited each station throughout the day. Presenters included: Appalachian Production Services, CNX, Coal Mining Engineering Services, LLC., Dickenson County Chamber of Commerce, JMU Center for Wind Energy, Lee Supply Company, Inc., Noah Horn, Range Resources, Virginia Coal and Energy Alliance, Virginia Department of Mines, Minerals and Energy (DMME) and the Virginia Oil and Gas Association.

DMME helped organize and sponsor the event. Representatives from mined land reclamation, gas and oil and mine safety talked to students about how the agency protects workers and the environment at coal and gas sites.

A mine rescue competition was held on campus with seven teams competing. A pre-shift competition was also held. Mine emergency “problems” were set up on the fields behind the school for the teams and individuals to solve. The exercise also serves as important training for the miners. Lone Mountain placed first in the Mine Rescue Competition. Wellmore’s Grey Team placed second. Lance Wimmer with Wellmore’s Grey Team placed first in the pre-shift competition.

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