

**Steel Valley School District
220 East Oliver Rd.
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NEWS RELEASE

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Steel Valley Students Observe Heart Surgery

Munhall, PA – Reading about open heart surgery in a textbook is one thing; however, experiencing it in person is quite another.

On Feb. 4, six students in The Future is Mine Club (TFIM) at Steel Valley High School visited Allegheny General Hospital to observe the area’s top cardiovascular surgeons in action. The Open Heart Surgery Observation Program is coordinated by the Allegheny General Hospital Gerald McGinnis Cardiovascular Institute.

During this visit, students observed an aortic repair. As the surgery took place, the program coordinator was in the room with the students explaining what was happening in the operating room below.

The surgeon wore a head camera enabling students to see the details up close within the room as well. In addition, they informed the students about the various careers that were needed to make the surgery possible. The program coordinator discussed each individual on the operating room floor listing their job title, how much schooling they received, and their average salary.

Following the surgery, students were able to ask the surgeon questions.

“This is a once in a lifetime opportunity for our students,” said The Future is Mine Co-Advisor, Gary Goga. “Allowing them to observe careers in action in a real-life scenario before they are in a post-secondary school is really amazing.”

“It was awesome! This was my first observation and I've learned so much!” said TFIM Member Brooke Martin.

