

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

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Steel Valley School District's "Ironmen Café" Now Open

Munhall, PA – “The Ironmen Café,” a mobile snack cart at Steel Valley Middle School, is officially open for business offering a variety of snacks and drinks to students and staff at a small cost.

Students in Middle School Math Teacher Erin Noblet's class had the soft opening of the mobile Café recently where they fulfilled orders, exchanged money and practiced essential communication and social skills.

This process began a few weeks ago when students designed a Google form to gauge staff interest on what items they'd like to see on the cart. Students also met with the District food service director before creating a business plan. They then used the ‘Numbers’ app to generate shopping lists, budget income and expenses, and inventory all of the items on the cart.

Ms. Noblet and Mrs. Furrick couldn't be more proud of the group.

“The students worked very hard on launching their ‘business’ and we still have so much to learn!” said Noblet. “This hands-on real-life project allows my students to build employment skills and apply math application skills such as counting money and building budgets. My students are learning more from this project than anything I would adapt out from a curriculum series. They are engaged in daily tasks and it was exciting to experience this through their eyes.”

On opening day, students were organized into shifts and each one took on the role of either a snack server, drink server or cash attendant.

“One student is even serving as cart manager where responsibilities include making change, filling inventory, and giving directions to employees,” said Noblet.

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According to Noblet, Steel Valley Middle School staff members have received this project with open arms and purchase many items each week.

The Ironmen Café is into its third week of operations, and students are learning the reality of how long it takes to make a profit.

"We need to raise our prices to make more money!" said 7th grade student Joseph Ketterman.

