

The Hawks Nest Coffee and Snack Shop

KITTANNING: In the world that involves educating America's youth to prepare students, as much as possible, for the world that awaits them when they leave high school, school districts are always working on new and innovative ways to educate our students. In the Spring of 2017, faculty and staff of the Special Education Department started brainstorming ideas to supplement the Special Education classroom.



In a collaborative effort, which included Luann Fee, Director of Food and Nutrition for Armstrong School District, Dr. Matt Pawk, Coordinator of Special Education and Psychological Services, Dr. Mike Glew, Coordinator of Special Education and Pupil Services, and faculty members Todd Strobel, Melissa Bowser, and Kevan Landstrom, a plan was developed to proceed with equipment ordering and curriculum building. With the assistance of an Armstrong School District Foundation grant for \$5,000.00, various

equipment was purchased, including a Cappuccino machine and a coffee maker.

Students were then trained over a two week span to use the equipment, and began the week of September 18, 2017, do make dry runs to practice delivery of the products that they will be selling.



Other schools have a similar program in place, and now Armstrong Jr-Sr High School is proud to open The Hawks' Nest Coffee and Snack Shop to students and faculty as well. The Hawks Nest officially opened for business on October 10, 2017. Special needs and general education students will work collaboratively with teachers and food service personnel to provide this service to our students and staff. The benefit of this program is that students will learn many real world job skills such as taking and filling orders, operating equipment, taking inventory, learning money skills, operating the point of sales system, time management, and customer service, among others. The students will implement these skills on a daily basis. All products including drink, food and snack items, meet guidelines established by the PA Department of Education. To begin with, only cash will be accepted as a form of payment.

Story produced by Chris Garritano, ASD Multi-Media Technician