



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE  
October 25, 2024

## **Upper Dublin School District Students Learn to Fly Drones with \$5,000 Donation from Ambler Savings Bank**

The Upper Dublin Education Foundation supports new learning opportunities for students across the district – now that includes drones. Thanks in part to a \$5,000 donation from Ambler Savings Bank, the Foundation has introduced a new Science, Technology, Engineering and Math (STEM) lab where students learn to use Block and Python coding languages to fly drones.

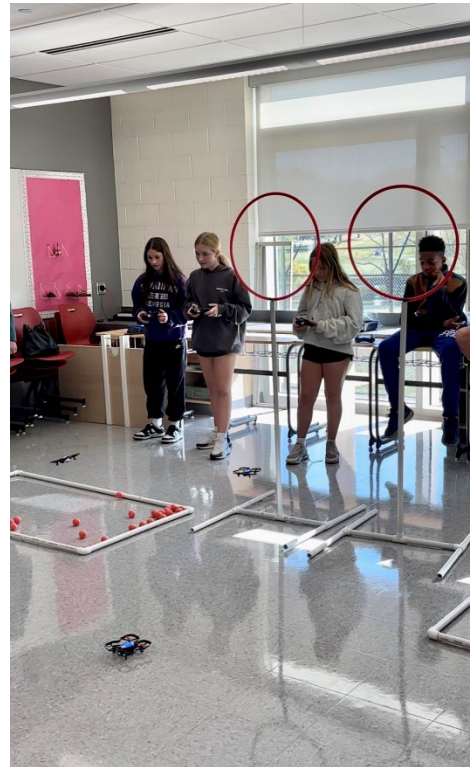
Mr. Robert Albert's 6<sup>th</sup> grade classroom is learning teamwork and engineering with the Discovering Drone program.

Ambler Savings Bank staff was on hand as students flew the drones through an obstacle course made of PVC pipes and ping pong balls on one side. The exercise challenged students to move the ping pong balls from one side of the course to the other. As they flew the drones near the obstacle course, the propellers generated air that moved the ping pong balls from one side to the other. Students worked in teams to see who could move the most balls in a given amount of time. This fostered a sense of creativity and teamwork as they collaborated to discover a way for their team to win.

"It's been rewarding to see the kids get excited to learn to fly a drone, and the teamwork they build going through the obstacle course," said Mr. Albert, Science Teacher, Sandy Run Middle School.

Outside of the classroom, students use the camera feature on the drones to take aerial pictures and videos to observe their surroundings on school grounds.

"Watching the kids demonstrate the drones was empowering to see that our support is making an impact," said Erin Cohen, Chief Relationship Officer, Ambler Savings Bank.



The Foundation supported 24 programs last year, ranging from the High School Melting Point Organic Chemistry Lab to the Kindergarten Jumbo Simple Machine Builders.

In High School Organic Chemistry, students dove into real-world lab experiments with Melting Point Apparatuses. This tool is rarely available at the high school level, giving these students a unique and valuable laboratory experience. Furthering the hands-on aspect of the science class with this technology will deepen their understanding of complex subjects and better prepare students who are pursuing a future in a science related field.

In Kindergarten classrooms, used the Jumbo Simple Machine Builders to design something to solve a problem or meet a challenge. Our students use super-sized wooden building sets to build life-sized working simple machines such as dollies, pulley systems, wheelbarrows, and levers.

“We are thrilled to be able to fund unforgettable, hands-on learning experiences like this, thanks to the generosity of supporters like Ambler Savings Bank,” said Michelle Boas, Executive Director, Upper Dublin Education Foundation.

*For over 30 years, the Upper Dublin Education Foundation has been enhancing the curriculum and funding innovative learning opportunities for students in the Upper Dublin School District. Learn more online at [www.undefoundation.org](http://www.undefoundation.org).*

*Ambler Savings Bank is a community-focused, mutually organized bank headquartered in Ambler, Pennsylvania. It operates branches in Fairview Village, Limerick, and Bally, and serves several continuing care retirement communities. Learn more online at [www.AmblerSavingsBank.com](http://www.AmblerSavingsBank.com).*