ACE Program Connects Pickens Students with Mentors

Thanks to a new mentoring program introduced in APS this year, students who have dreams of someday becoming an architect, an engineer or a construction manager are one step closer to achieving their dreams.

The ACE Mentor Program serves students who are interested in careers in architecture, construction and engineering. The program is offered to Pickens Technical College and Rangeview and Gateway high school students participating in the Science, Technology, Engineering and Math (STEM) Pathway. Students meet at Pickens weekly to plan and design mock projects with the guidance of professionals in the building industry.

This year's mock project consists of designing a retirement community master plan for military families in the Fitzsimons neighborhood. Students will present their design proposal at a special ACE presentation night at the Denver School of Science and Technology on May 4. ACE has worked with 350 students in 10 high schools in the Denver metro area and awarded more than $300,000 in scholarships.

“I have a more in-depth feel for how architecture works. ACE allows me to find out more about career choices and get a full understanding of what each involves.”
- Alazone Smith, Gateway High School student

APS thanks our ACE mentors:
- Ralph Kasper & Cameron Donegan, Lead Mentors
- Adolfson & Peterson Construction
- Hooman Aryan
- Architecture 101
- Randall Phelps
- Kimley-Horn and Associates, Inc.
- Tom Klein
- TCK Design and Planning
- Rachael Johnson, grad student/mentor
- University of Colorado-Denver
- Gary Prager
- VTBS Architecture