

BEE INFORMED

about Medina City Schools



MHS students watch Cleveland Clinic brain surgery

Medina High School students in the AP biology classes watched an open heart surgery earlier this month. In the near future the psychology classes will watch brain surgery -- via the distance learning laboratory at the senior high.

The four AP psychology classes involving 102 students and taught by Regis McGinty will have the opportunity to attend the real-time surgery, pending parental permission.

The live surgeries are broadcast into the classroom through a partnership with The Cleveland Clinic's Office of Civic Education Initiatives Worldwide Classroom.

The partnership was established this year as a result of senior Katie Kerns learning about the Worldwide Classroom

program when she interned at the Cole Institute of Cleveland Clinic this past summer.

In partnership with area schools, local businesses and fellow nonprofit organizations, the Office of Civic Education creates innovative programs designed to enhance children's education in the areas of math, science, health and wellness, arts and innovations.

One of the goals of the Office of Civic Education Initiatives is to share the intellectual and scientific resources of The Cleveland Clinic/Cleveland Clinic Health System to provide students (K-12), teachers, and the community at large with valuable learning experiences.

The Worldwide Classroom™ is a curriculum of state-of-the-art distance learn-

ing courses that puts a world of educational opportunities within reach. It offers real-time presentations and lectures, virtual tours and a variety of online resources that can assist with career development, college preparation, in-

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Regis McGinty
MHS psychology teacher

ternship opportunities and post-secondary placement.

Teachers and students are prepared ahead of time for the real-time surgical broadcast with a teacher's guide containing pre-surgery and post-surgery lessons

and discussions. The lessons prepare students to view the surgeries and include ideas to extend the learning into other curricular areas.

For instance, the curriculum guide suggests dividing students into groups to research such aspects of the brain as spinal cord stimulation, cerebrovascular aneurysm, deep brain stimulation, making a model of the brain and spine.

Students found related internet sites to learn as much as possible before the live surgery took place and prepared questions to ask the surgeon.

The "deep brain stimulation" surgery will be performed by Dr. Andre Machado from Brazil. The 54-year-old male patient has Parkinson's disease.

"The surgery fits in nicely

with our unit on neuroscience and behavior. The anatomy aspect provides the students an opportunity to see the function of several brain structures, primarily the thalamus," McGinty said.

"Deep brain stimulation" is designed to alleviate the symptoms of essential tumors, Parkinson's disease and, in some cases, depression.