

SUPERINTENDENT'S BLOG

ROCKAWAY BOROUGH SCHOOLS--DECEMBER 7, 2018

5TH GRADERS PRACTICE
CODING IN THE NEW
MAKERSPACE



TJ GETS A NEW MAKERSPACE

Coinciding with the Week of Code, Thomas Jefferson welcomed the last of its new makerspace furniture this week. Located in the former computer lab, this new instructional space is the home for technology and S.T.E.A.M. (science, technology, engineering, art, mathematics) based instruction as well as an incubator for problem solving, creativity and collaboration in the middle school. It is our hope that this new space will give students an opportunity to explore their own interests, learn to use tools and materials, both physical and virtual, and in turn, develop creative and innovative projects. With this variety of activities taking place, often simultaneously, it makes sense to incorporate varied and non-traditional seating arrangements and work areas within the makerspace that accommodate quiet, individual work as well as group work and instruction. The makerspace is also the home base for our new technology teacher and coach, Ms. Samantha Selikoff.

A makerspace is defined as any collaborative work space designated for making, learning, exploring and sharing that utilizes a variety of both high tech and no tech tools or devices.