

Clairton Peer to Peer Project
Open Heart Surgery Field Trip
May 24th

On May 24th, 14 Clairton High School students attended a viewing of an open heart surgery at Allegheny General Hospital. The man was 72 years old and the procedure took about 5 hours.

They saw a nurse take out a vein out of his leg and clean it out. They sewed up the branches of the vein so that blood could not leak out. The doctors needed to stop the heart so that they could carefully work on it without it moving. They cut pieces of the vein and attached it to bypass the heart. Later, they used paddles to restart the heart again and they were able to watch the monitor to observe the blood pressure. They needed to leave before the procedure was over but were told that they would be using wire to close the chest back up.

“It was amazing to watch my students become so involved and ask so many intelligent questions. They handled themselves in a very mature manner. I was proud of them.”
-Ms. Johnson

“This trip made me rethink my career options. I realized that I have a lot of time to look into some different things.” –Erika

“It wasn’t hands on but it was up close and personal which is just as good.” – Crystal

“It was super cool to watch. I had so much fun and everyone was so nice. I’d love to do it again next year.” –Giorne

“I learned not to smoke because that’s the number one cause of damaged arteries and heart problems. Eating bad is number two.” - Chelsey