

# KEDC Congressional Academy

## Laurel County Schools

South Laurel Middle School is a participant in KEDC Congressional Academy through project HEART (History Education through Advanced Research Technology). Located in London, Kentucky, South Laurel Middle School has 40 student participants in the congressional academy ranging from 6-9<sup>th</sup> grade. Students participating in the Congressional Academy will learn in depth about history and its' importance in everyday life.

Students from South Laurel Middle School visited Shaker Village of Pleasant Hill in Harrodsburg, Kentucky on Wednesday June 6, 2018. Students got to explore and learn about Kentucky Shakers that lived in the village from 1805 to 1910. The Shakers were a religious organization that believed in the second coming of Christ through their leader, Mother Ann (Ann Lee). Mother Ann had visions of Christ, which helped her lead the Shaker community. Shakers lived a simple life of farming and conservation. Today there is only one community of Shakers in Lewiston, Maine with two remaining members.

While at Shaker Village of Pleasant Hill, students were on a guided tour and got to emerge into the lives of Shakers. Students were surprised to learn that in the Shaker community, men and women had to live separately and did not reproduce. Another astonishing thing to students, was how innovative the Shakers were. Many were surprised to learn Shakers had indoor plumbing before the White House.

Haylee Hubbard, a student at South Laurel Middle School said, "I was shocked to learn they had the first indoor running water! That also answered my question to the difference between Amish and Shakers, because I thought they were the same thing!". Haylee along with her peers said they enjoyed the field trip to Shaker Village and would love to stay, they also would recommend visiting Shaker Village to other students.



Pictured above are students and teachers from South Laurel Middle School participating in KEDC



Students on a guided tour through Shaker Village of Pleasant Hill learning about the daily farm life of Shakers.



The building that stored and measured water that would run into the Shakers houses. Student Haylee Hubbard referenced how amazing this was to have running water before the White House.