

Looking At The ISSUES

Stark Education Partnership

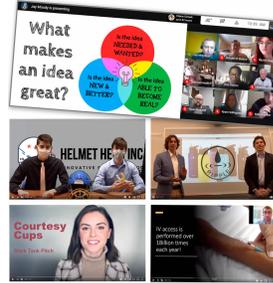
March 19, 2021 [View as Website](#)

Stark's Sharks Search for Stars

Creative and collaborative thinking may be nurtured and encouraged in young minds. This idea is the basis for [Stark Tank](#) where local students are given the opportunity to explore entrepreneurship – building and advancing skills, growing interests, and potentially considering a future in entrepreneurship.

Modeled after the popular television show, Stark Tank brings together a team of Stark County Sharks (successful local entrepreneurs) who are on the hunt to find and fund the best entrepreneurial ideas developed by students in our community. Stark County's competition is a combination of high intensity pitches, thoughtful critiques and moments of joy as competitors at all levels exhibit talent and pride in their presentation and their team.

This year's 2021 Stark Tank event began March 18th with the middle school teams' virtual pitch competition and will be followed by the high school virtual event (April 14) and – new this year – college event (April 7). Students will present their "killer" ideas in a business pitch competition among their peers with expert feedback afterwards. Students will present their "killer" idea in a business pitch competition among their peers with expert feedback afterwards. Winners may receive an endorsement and investment by one of the five Sharks – Dominic Bagnoli, Ken Brott, Mark Fedor, Sue Grabowski and/or William Morgenstern. Special



encee, Elec Simon (popular percussionist, musician and actor), will provide entertainment for the college and high school events.

Thank you to the Stark Tank's coordinator, Jay Moody, as well as the TomTod Ideas' team for their middle school leadership, ten volunteer community judges, the Stark County Educational Service Center, local school districts. Strengthening Stark partners and all of the students and their coaches for their work to develop these innovative ideas.



Congratulations to SEP's own President, [Teresa Purses](#) for being recognized with the United Way 2021 Gold Key Service Award for her exemplary volunteer work. Also recognized with a Gold Key Award was [Scott Hamilton](#), and [Ryan Miller](#) received the DeHoff Emerging Philanthropist Award. Way to go!

The Stark Education Partnership (a 501(c)3 non-profit organization) collaborates with education, business, civic and community members across the entire spectrum – cradle to career – to create and respond to opportunities that will provide ALL students with education and career success.

