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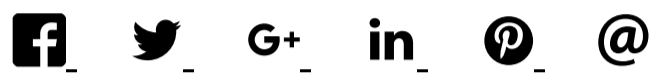
EDITOR'S PICK FEATURED

Area students present, compete at regional STLP event

BY WILL PERKINS wperkins@glasgowdailytimes.com 13 hrs ago

Park City Elementary fourth-grader Stanton Doyle, center, and PCE fifth-grader Alex Sawyer, right, present their STLP (Student Technology Leadership Program) project to judges during the STLP regional competition on Monday in E.A. Diddle Arena at Western Kentucky University's main campus in Bowling Green.

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BOWLING GREEN – Area students gathered in E.A. Diddle Arena at Western Kentucky University on Monday for the Student Technology Leadership Program (STLP) regional competition.

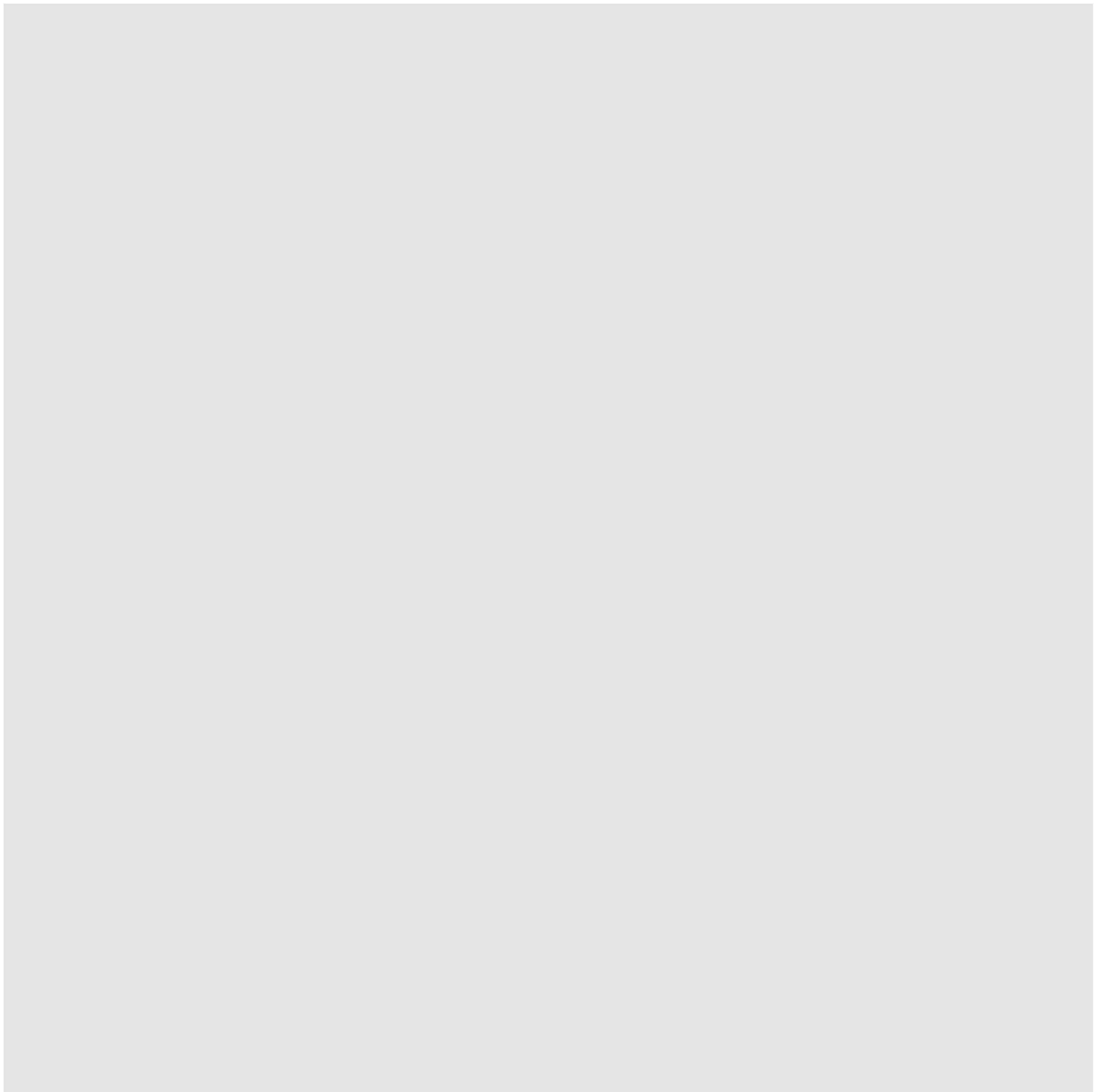
The Kentucky Department of Education's STLP “uses project-based learning principles to empower student learning and achievement through the utilization (and creation) of technology to solve school and community needs,” the organization's website states. “STLP provides a means for students to design, make, connect and learn.”

During Monday's competition, students and their project boards filled WKU's basketball court, as well as an auxiliary gym. When it was time for judging, students stood next to their booths and waited to present to their projects to officials.



Monroe County Middle School sixth-graders, from left, Kyla Burks, Abby Clarkson, Tyra Mink and Reece Dubree pose in front of their project board during the STLP regional competition on Monday at Western Kentucky University.

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Area students present their STLP (Student Technology Leadership Program) projects during the STLP regional competition on Monday at Western Kentucky University.

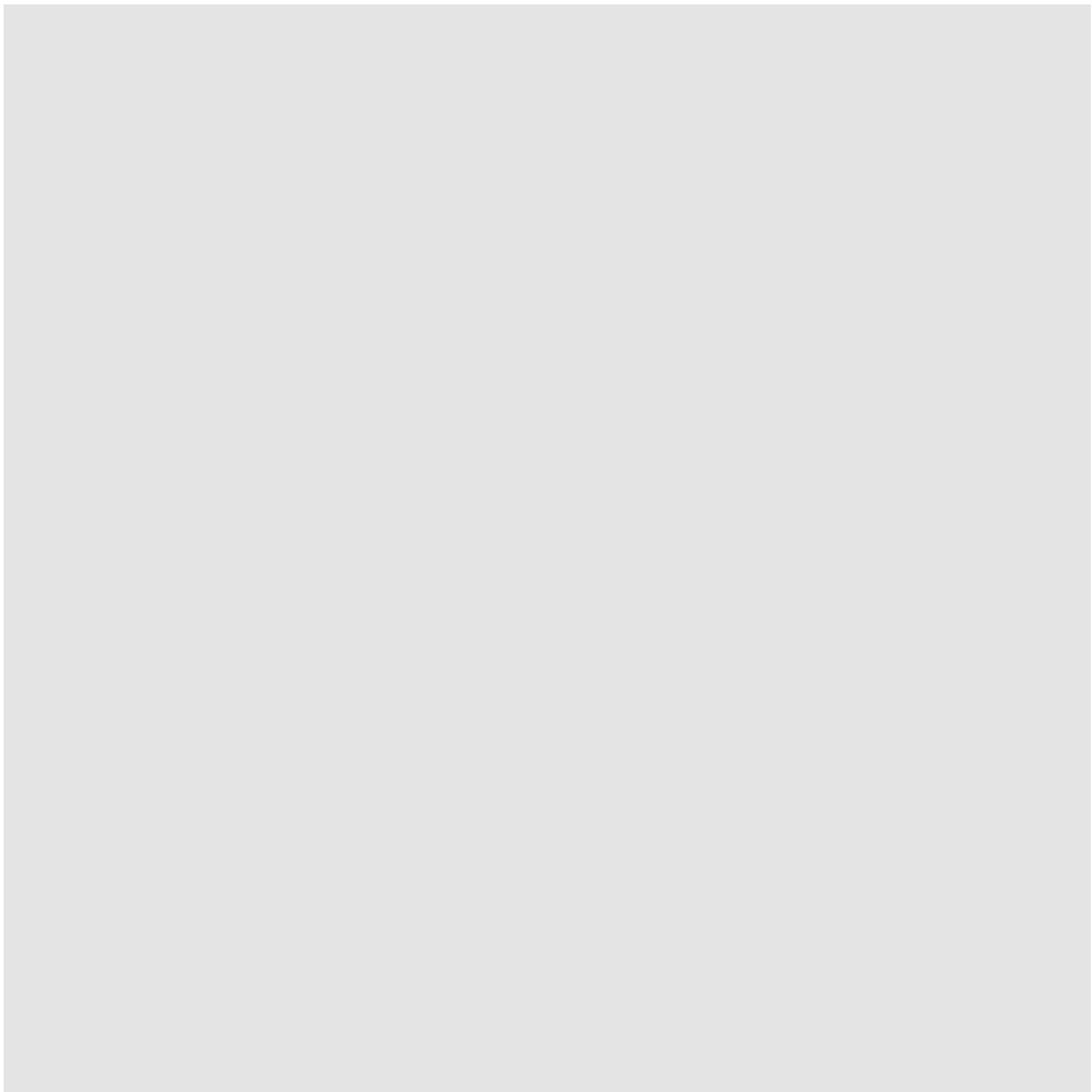
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Park City Elementary students Stanton Doyle and Alex Sawyer stood in their designated area along with solar panels and a solar battery. They said the goal of their project is to have their entire classroom running on solar energy by the end of this school year. Their project board included lights that were powered using solar energy.

“This thing can power all five of those lights for 85 hours,” fifth-grader Sawyer said.

After presenting to the judges, Doyle, a fourth-grader, said he wasn't nervous when he was presenting because of all the preparation they put into it, adding that they met every Monday after school.

“We thought it wouldn't be scary,” Doyle said. “Because if you put forth the effort, you shouldn't be scared.”



Park City Elementary fourth-grader Stanton Doyle, center, and PCE fifth-grader Alex Sawyer, right, present their STLP (Student Technology Leadership Program) project to judges during the STLP regional competition on Monday in E.A. Diddle Arena at Western Kentucky University's main campus in Bowling Green.

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Eric Riemer, a teacher and STLP leader at Park City Elementary, said the school received a grant from Warren Rural Electric Cooperative Corporation for energy conservation.

“Through some research, the students were able to pick out a project that they wanted to do to be energy efficient,” Riemer said. “So we purchased the solar panels and the battery generator. The solar panel captures the energy, charges the battery and the battery powers the lights.

“So this battery charges our laptops, which we can use in class.”

Riemer said this project is hands-on, engaging and it raises awareness for energy conservation.

“It's important for students to learn at an early age alternative energy sources,” he said.

Doyle said he enjoys STLP because they get to be around a variety of electronics that he wouldn't have access to otherwise.

Sawyer said he enjoys the social aspect of the organization.

“You get to be around other people and learn to work with other people,” he said.



North Jackson Elementary sixth-graders, from left, Mason Bunch, Carlie Sanders, Hadley Adams and Mollie Webb pose in front of their STLP project.

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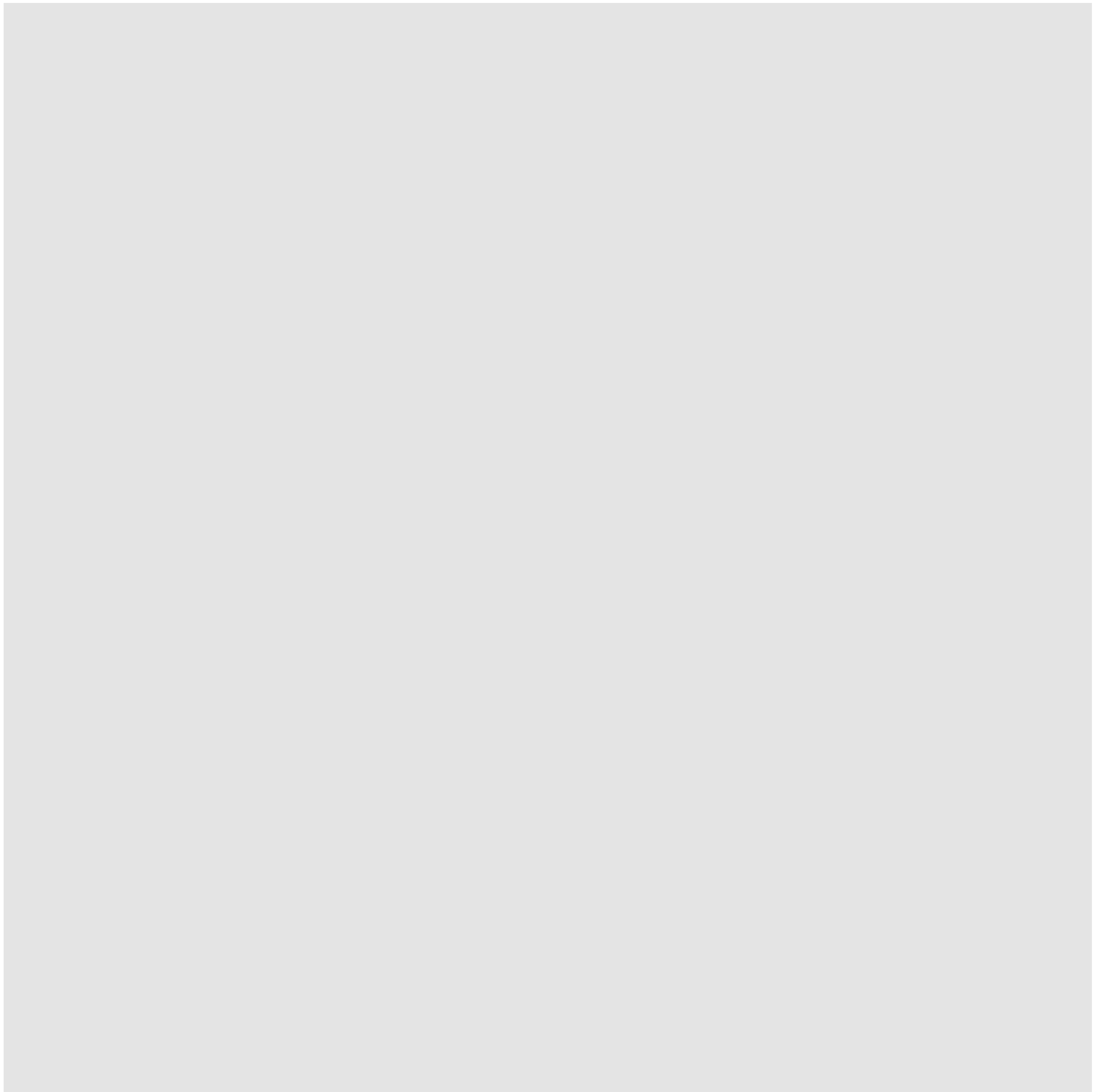
Students from North Jackson Elementary presented their project where they created virtual tours of district schools.

“These are virtual tours of Barren County schools,” NJE sixth-grader Mollie Webb said. “These are for our new students who don't know what their new schools are going to look like.”

The students said this project took a few months to complete and they really enjoyed traveling to all of the schools and meeting the students, teachers and administrators.

NJE sixth-grader Carlie Sanders said she has learned a lot from participating in STLP.

“There's so many different ways to promote your county, your community and your school with technology and STLP,” she said.



Red Cross Elementary students, from left, Myles Shirley, Keiley Ferguson, Ella Hoggard and Riley Wilson pose in front of their STLP project.

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Students from Red Cross Elementary presented their project which outlined the school district's Family Coding Night, which was recently hosted at RCE.

“We invited leaders from our community into our school,” RCE sixth-grader Myles Shirley said of the coding event.

RCE fourth-grader Riley Wilson said she really enjoyed teaching parents and community leaders how to code.

Molly Warf, a teacher and STLP sponsor at RCE, said the students have worked really hard on this project since August, and that she really enjoyed when the students were able "to see their idea come to fruition.”

Shana Vincent, RCE computer science teacher, said it is important to get elementary students familiar with coding and computer science, so that “when they get to the middle school, they'll have a bigger advantage, and when they reach the high-school level they'll have a larger advantage.”

“When they get out into the workforce, they'll already know what they're doing and they'll be prepared,” Vincent said.

BCS Director of Instruction and Technology Scott Harper said this STLP regional competition is “a great opportunity for our students to really showcase their learning and their leadership skills that they've gained while being in the classroom at Barren County Schools.”

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