



NEWS RELEASE

For Immediate Release

CONTACT: Justin Aglio

412-709-2357

Montour School District Named 30 Districts Worth Visiting in the U.S.

McKees Rocks, PA - November 16, 2015 – Tom Vander Ark, of Getting Smart®, named Montour School District as among the top 30 Districts Worth Visiting in the country. Mr. Vander Ark referenced the new leadership team, university partnerships, innovative practices, and learning communities as some of the district’s highlights. Districts were chosen for changing their community trajectory by working on blended, personalized and competency-based learning. Most are making career preparation including communications, critical thinking, creativity and collaboration a priority.

“This recognition is a direct reflection on the hard work and dedication of the Montour School community including the board of education, administration, teachers, parents, community leaders, business owners, and most of all - the students,” said Dr. Mike Ghilani, Superintendent of the Montour School District.

Tom Vander Ark is CEO of Getting Smart®, a learning design firm and a partner in Learn Capital, an education venture capital firm investing in edtech startups. As a mission-driven organization Getting Smart® is passionate about accelerating and amplifying innovations in teaching and learning. Previously Mr. Vander Ark served as the first Executive Director of Education for the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation. Tom served as a public school superintendent in Washington State and has extensive private sector experience, including serving as a senior executive for a national public retail chain.

Montour’s mission is to provide an exemplary and comprehensive educational experience that enables each individual to achieve maximum potential, to respect themselves and others, and to become a responsible and productive citizen. Montour School District Core Values include Putting Children First, Developing a Growth Mindset, and Promoting a Learning Culture.

Getting Smart® article: <http://goo.gl/IRGaNO>