Thanks to a $200,000 grant from the National Science Foundation (NSF), the Advanced Technology Center (ATC) held a Renewable Energy Summer Camp for area high school girls. The ATC hosted 20 girls from Irvin, Montwood, Coronado, Franklin, El Paso High, Bel Air and the David Carrasco Job Corp Center.

“The students learned through a variety of activities and information from ATC instructors what types of renewable energy sources are available and what energy efficiency is and how it’s impacted,” said Dr. Olga L. Valerio, ATC dean. “The students performed a home energy audit and learned how different household items impact energy efficiency in their homes.”

The high school students also participated in hands-on projects like building solar ovens, wind turbine generators, worked on roof simulators to learn how to set up solar panels and learned how to calculate solar loads.

The students received a $50 stipend for their camp participation.