

STEAM Academy

**A partnership for Next Generation Learning
between Fayette County Public Schools and
the University of Kentucky's College of Education**

FAQ

How are students selected?

We will use a lottery system to identify the 150 ninth-grade students.

What are the criteria for entry?

The STEAM Academy is an open-enrollment opportunity. There are no pre-requisites or criteria to determine entry.

Will transportation be provided?

Yes, transportation will be provided based on current district transportation procedures. Transportation routes and scheduling will be determined at a later date.

Will my child be able to participate in sports, band and other extra- or co-curricular activities?

Yes, extra- and co-curricular activities will be available through the home school. A student's home school is the high school he or she would attend if not a student in the STEAM Academy.

How will the STEAM Academy meet the needs of a diverse student population?

The STEAM Academy will take full advantage of mastery learning. Individual student learning plans will enable students to accelerate learning opportunities as well as provide adequate time to achieve mastery in areas where needed. Students will work to a standard and be provided the time needed to reach the goal. Time will be flexible; the standard will not be.

What makes this school innovative?

The STEAM Academy will capitalize on discovery- and design-based learning through project-based learning. Standards-based instruction will come in a variety of ways, including technology and blended learning to achieve mastery, and will be foundational to the student's learning experience. The STEAM Academy will be focused on a pure teaching and learning environment that engages students through creative and authentic learning opportunities for the 21st century.

Will there be music opportunities other than the extracurricular at their home school?

Absolutely. As the "Arts" part of STEAM, students will have many opportunities to focus on the arts as they work to understand and solve real-world, context-based problems and issues. Arts will be a critical part of the curriculum at the STEAM Academy.

MORE ...

Have we patterned this school after other models?

There are many innovative schools in the country, and the design team has turned to many of them for ideas and consultation. The Metro High School in Columbus, Ohio, has been an important model, as well as schools in Cleveland and Reynoldsburg, Ohio, and several others.

What's really different other than being on the college campus?

The approach at STEAM will be innovative. Students will learn through a project-based structure in which learning takes place as they explore and research to better understand issues in the world around them, then work collaboratively to develop ways to address those issues. They'll learn to work closely with team members, integrate learning (science with math, with English, etc.) so that it makes sense, and to communicate their learning by presenting proposals, research studies and projects. School at the STEAM Academy should look much less like "school" and much more like "college" and the "workplace."

Will students only learn through technology? Will they have professors and K-12 educators?

They will certainly have teachers and professors to instruct and assist them. While much of the learning will take place at the time of need for students (online), much of that work will take the form of homework or independent assignments. Students will spend the majority of their time in the presence of educators trained to guide their experiences appropriately, assessing their learning along the way to make sure students reach their learning goals.

Contacts for more information:

| | | |
|----------------|----------|--|
| Michael Dailey | 381-4741 | michael.dailey@fayette.kyschools.us |
| Jack Hayes | 381-4168 | jack.hayes@fayette.kyschools.us |
| LeRonda Morton | 381-4613 | leronda.morton@fayette.kyschools.us |
| Vicki Ritchie | 381-4233 | vicki.ritchie@fayette.kyschools.us |