



STEAM Academy at Stanley Middle School

Frequently Asked Questions

1. What is the purpose of the STEAM Academy at Stanley Middle School?

The STEAM Academy at Stanley Middle provides a layered approach to the Core Curriculum incorporating the five strands of STEAM. The Academy will use Science, Technology, Engineering, the Arts and Mathematics as access points for guiding student inquiry, teamwork, and critical thinking. All students who attend Stanley Middle School are part of the STEAM Academy.

2. What are the requirements for admission to the Academy?

Students must be in good standing including appropriate attendance, behavior, and academics. The parent/legal guardian must be residents of Gaston County.

3. Who can apply to the STEAM Academy at Stanley Middle School?

Incoming sixth-grade students may apply. Rising seventh graders may apply with limited seats available.

4. What are the requirements for continued enrollment?

The parent/legal guardian must maintain residency in Gaston County. Students must be in good standing including appropriate attendance, behavior, and academics.

5. What will my child gain from this program?

The core courses in each grade will be infused as follows: 6th grade will focus on Technology, creating a foundation of knowledge and skills; 7th grade will continue to build on their technology foundation while adding the perspective of the Arts in their core classes; 8th grade students will apply the concept of Engineering in all of their core courses. All Core Plus (elective) courses are designed to support students' areas of interest as well as enhance the STEAM experience for them. All students, grades six through eight, will be exposed to the STEAM strands and skills in their core classes (English-Language Arts, Math, Science, and Social Studies) and core-plus classes. Core Plus classes allow students to explore STEAM strands of personal interest or individual curiosity more in-depth. All students will also engage in standards-driven Project Based Learning experiences in their core and core-plus classes.



Gaston County Schools
Health Sciences
Academy



Gaston County Schools
Technology and Industrial
Engineering
Academy

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6. **What happens after I complete the STEAM Academy at Stanley Middle School?**
Students who meet high school Academy requirements may choose to apply for a seat in one of the many pathways in the Health Sciences Academy at East Gaston High School. They can also choose to attend the Technological and Industrial Engineering Academy at Bessemer City High School.
7. **What options are available at the middle school level for the STEAM Academy at Stanley Middle School?**
Students will have the opportunity to take courses such as Earth and Environmental Science (high school credit), Engineering: Modeling and Design, and Medical Detectives. We look to add a Flight and Space course in the 2020-2021 school year. Additionally, students in arts programs have unique opportunities to showcase their work and talents.
8. **What opportunities will be available because of my enrollment in the STEAM Academy at Stanley Middle School?**
In addition to the academic opportunities listed previously, students will have the opportunity to join one of the 40 STEAM clubs that meet during the school day. The STEAM clubs are designed for students to explore an area of interest or intrigue simply for the joy of learning. All students receive a Chromebook in 6th grade which is assigned for their use for three years. Students use the Chromebook during the school day in all classes and are given the opportunity to take it home as needed.
9. **Are there any additional requirements for students in the STEAM Academy at Stanley Middle School?**
Students must be willing to commit to the Academy's Objectives and extracurricular activities as well as all other school expectations.
10. **What is the earliest I can drop my child off and the latest I can pick up my child?**
7:00 am Drop Off and 4:00 pm Pick Up