



Welcome to the SVA STEAM session. I hope we addressed your questions and concerns. Listed below are a few questions that have been asked. For future reference, we will be adding a link on the SVA webpage that will be all about STEAM. It will feature a FAQ, STEAM news, and house many of our documents about the progress of the STEAM program.

Questions:

What is STEAM?

The simple answer is STEAM is: Science, Technology, Engineering, Art, and Mathematics.

The real question is: What is STEAM at SVA, and how will teachers integrate STEAM into the classroom? We are embarking on a philosophy change, and that takes research, planning, and time to develop. Over the next few years, we will be doing just that: researching, planning, and implementing. We want students to experience problem based learning that will challenge them and allow them to be more creative with their solutions. We want students to be problem solvers in many different capacities.

How will we help our students develop problem solving skills?

Developing skills in problem solving is the main focus for the year and the driving force for becoming a STEAM academy. Professional development this year will include: cross-content/cross-grade collaboration, instruction using the 5e's (Engage, Explore, Explain, Elaborate, and Evaluate), problem based learning, and engineering design. For several years now, elementary and middle school science teachers have been working with NKU and CINSAM (Center for Integrated Natural Sciences and Mathematics) to see what using the 5e's and inquiry based science in the classroom looks and feels like. Well, now it is time to expand past using these tools in just science and utilize these methods in all the classrooms.

How are we going to be different than the other schools?

Kenton County offers the best education regardless of which school you attend. Programmatically at SVA, we will be looking at what is already working and what is not. Many teachers are already doing some excellent STEAM lessons; we need to capture those lessons and expand on them. Over time, we will feature STEAM units and lessons that have many options in the way students respond and demonstrate their understanding of the main content being taught. We will also be looking at what changes we can make as a school; are there other ways that the structure of school can be changed to help aid in STEAM education? Summit View Academy will be partnering with various companies/industries to show students real world problems and careers. We will be highlighting various STEAM careers and paths for students to research and follow.

As a parent, what changes in education will my child see?

Students will see changes in the way content is taught. Teachers will be focusing on 5e/Problem based learning methods and integrating those styles into their classrooms. SVA will also offer more STEAM based electives, i.e. various arts, robotics, computer skills... This year will be a year in experimentation of methods in the classroom, accompanied with research as to what other STEAM programs are doing. As we build "steam," we will be implementing more integrated classes and opportunities for students to explore.

Thank you for your time, if you have any other questions or concerns please feel free to contact me.

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