

Get to know the Merced City School District's



Q: What is the STEAM Center?

A: The STEAM Center is a cutting edge facility where TK-8th grade students from throughout the Merced City School District have an opportunity to experience 21st century, hands-on learning in the subjects of science, technology, engineering, the arts, and mathematics. It also allows groups of teachers to work together and receive support and training so they can continue to expand their own horizons and bring that knowledge back to our 18 school sites. The goal is to have a positive impact on student learning for generations to come.

Q: Where is the STEAM Center located?

A: The 5460 square foot center is located next to Ada Givens Elementary. It includes a lab classroom and two “flex” classrooms, along with a lobby/breakout space and a large outdoor amphitheater. The entire design is intended to allow for engaging, interactive lessons that can be tailored to various age groups and class sizes. Construction was completed in the summer of 2017, and students began using it in August.

Q: How is the district including the community in this project?

A: Community support and partnerships are critical components of the STEAM Center and our district's STEAM program. Community members participated in the initial STEAM Planning Committee meetings, and we continue to enjoy collaborating with other educational agencies, businesses, and organizations. Local scientists and engineers often visit the center to show students how STEAM subjects are used every day in the real world. Residents have also been invited to free family nights that feature a mix of education and entertainment.

Q: How is this project funded?

A: The STEAM Center was constructed with Local Control Funding Formula dollars, as guided by the Local Control Accountability Plan. The LCAP is developed each year through a process involving stakeholder engagement with the goal of serving all students, especially those with the greatest needs.