

News Release

Alexandria Public Schools-ISD 206
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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

ALEXANDRIA PUBLIC SCHOOLS TO HOST STEAM EXPO

On Thursday, March 26th, Alexandria Public Schools will host the annual STEAM (Science, Technology, Engineering, Arts & Mathematics) Expo from 4:30-7:00 p.m. at Alexandria Area High School. This fun, educational event is free to attend and open to the public. Healthy food/refreshments will be available for purchase - a la carte selections/pricing, or a full meal option of either roasted chicken salad, taco in a bag, or pizza for only \$7.00.

The STEAM Expo creates educational experiences appropriate for all ages, promoting science and the arts for PreK-12 and the community. The goal of the event is to create enthusiasm for learning through hands-on, interactive activities that demonstrate how much fun STEAM can be – showcasing the elements of the STEAM curriculum and connecting learning with real-world applications.

Here's what you can expect at the event:

- Step into the lively Performing Arts Center and experience the captivating Headwaters Science Center Animal Menagerie! Discover the secrets of animal habitats, remarkable adaptations, unique defenses, safe handling tips, and fascinating facts that will amaze you. Meet extraordinary creatures up close, including a European Glass Lizard (a legless lizard), Eastern Box Turtle, Russian Tortoise, Milk Snake, Ball Python, Corn Snake, Walking Sticks, Madagascar Hissing Cockroaches, and even a friendly Bearded Dragon. Depending on the day and animal availability, you may even have the chance to gently hold or touch some of these amazing animals!
- In the gymnasium, enjoy live robotics demonstrations, electricity trivia, face painting, therapy demos, bracelet-making, robot DNA technology activity, a flushing science lesson, and MN DOT's augmented reality sandbox.
- 20 exhibitors will be set up in the school Commons, offering engaging activities in their booth area for students. Full descriptions are in the event brochure posted on the district website at alexschools.org/community/steam-expo
- Tap into your creative self in The Nest, where students can try out real musical instruments!
- All ages can join veggie stamping in the Culinary Learning Lab, explore engineering tech in the Design/Build Learning Lab, and collect a 3D-printed trinket, or try their hand on the pottery wheel, and create with air dry clay in the Art Learning Lab.
- Listen to a Cinematic Strings performance by the Discovery Middle School *Stormy Strings*, the school's auditioned orchestra, who will perform titles from the silver screen. Selections will include themes from blockbuster films such as How to Train Your Dragon, The Avengers, The Lord of the Rings, and more.
- Assemble a chickadee house to take home! Limited to 125 kits – one per family.

Full event details can be found on the district website at alexschools.org/community/steam-expo and within the attached brochure. If you have any further questions, please contact Jill Johnson, Communications & Marketing Director, at (320) 762-2141 ext. 4202, or Lynn Jenc, Community Education Director, at (320) 762-2141 ext. 4271.

The STEAM Expo is made possible with support from: Alexandria Area High School 'A' Club, Aagard, Alexandria Education Foundation, ALP Utilities, Alexandria College, Alomere Health, Bethany on the Lake, Hagstrom Engineering, LGC Biosearch Technologies, Pope/Douglas Solid Waste Management, Runestone Electric Association, and Sanford Health Alexandria.

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