



Dear STEAD community,

Hello! My name is Amie Weldy and I am your STEAD School Interim Principal. I am an educator, lifelong learner, and a deeply invested member of the STEAD community and the STEAD mission! I joined the STEAD team early on and have since served the STEAD School as a Founding Science Guide, Founding Dean, and Project Based Learning Coach. This year has been full of exciting firsts and now we are faced with one of our first big leadership changes. As our community supports the Dentons in their transition I am sad to see their family moving on and I know that this is not goodbye. We will work closely in the coming months and even into the fall to make this transition seamless and efficient.

I have a deep passion for making a positive, lasting impact on the students and educators around me. I have worked for a very long time researching, creating, and implementing educational processes grounded in student voice and choice and having students create solutions to real world problems. In my philosophy and experience, learning comes from doing - it doesn't come from a book or a lecture. That is why STEAD is such an amazing place.

This is my 12th year in education across continents and grade levels. I have a Bachelor's of Science in Secondary Science Education and a Master's of Education in Educational Leadership with a minor in Innovative Technologies. I have worked with colleagues and students from Kindergarten through 5th grade as an Instructional Technology Specialist and Project-Based Learning lead for two years. In addition, I have taught math and science for grades 6 through 8 in the suburbs of Atlanta where I was also the STEAM coordinator and designed and implemented staff professional learning centered in Project-Based Learning and STEAM in multiple environments.. I have worked abroad in Bucaramanga, Colombia as the STEM coordinator for an international bilingual school and helped the school achieve STEM certification from Cognia, a globally-renowned accrediting organization, which led to our school becoming the first STEM certified school in all of South America.

I am so excited for what is to come here at STEAD. We get to shape that future together. Students and community members will continue to help create what this school will look like and I am excited to help facilitate their vision. We will continue to develop our CTE specialties through rigorous, hands-on experiences designed by our incredible staff and shaped by our students. We get to create our farm and entrepreneur program with input from our community and form lasting partnerships with businesses, local farms, and neighboring museums. It is very important to believe in the work being done here - because we truly are doing something special.

I invite the whole community to share my excitement and commitment to this vision, this team, and this student body. I have never been more impressed with the resiliency and perseverance of a community. I have been part of intense planning meetings with our staff to create the most amazing experiences for our students. Our best-practice model is already paying dividends in our student body, and we all look forward to continuing in this work as our program grows.

As a community, we can rally together to lead this innovative experience for our students and be a role model to other schools. I hope to partner with each of you as we expand our community and grow into what we can and will become. My door is always open. I will also be in attendance at the coffee with the principal on April 13th at 8:30am. I am looking forward to learning alongside your students!

Sincerely,

Amie Weldy

Amie Weldy

aweldy@thesteadschool.org