



## Frequently Asked Questions

### **What is STEAD?**

Science, Technology, Environment, Agriculture and systems Design.

### **What is The STEAD School?**

The STEAD School is a science-based, student-led and project-driven new high school (9-12) focused on solving global food, health, energy and environmental issues.

### **Where is The STEAD School located?**

In the heart of the Reunion community in Commerce City, Colorado.

### **Do I have to live in Commerce City for my child to attend?**

No, we will be accepting applications for a lottery. Children from all over the Denver-Metro area are welcome. Priority is given to students who reside in School District 27J.

### **Is this school part of School District 27J or is it a Charter School?**

The STEAD School is a Charter School within the School District 27J system.

### **When will the school open?**

The anticipated opening for initial phase is Fall 2021.

### **What grades will be represented at opening?**

The school will open with just 9<sup>th</sup> grade students and grow a class each year.

### **What is The STEAD School's curriculum?**

The STEAD curriculum is delivered through the lens of project based learning in the plant, animal, food, and environmental sciences. In addition to these scientific courses of study, a STEAD student's coursework includes advisement, internships, college credit opportunities, and instruction in the arts, foreign language, English Language Arts, Mathematics, Physical Exercise, and History. All courses are aligned to National, State, and District standards.

### **How will the STEAD experience prepare students for college and exams like the SAT?**

The STEAD experience provides students with a myriad of opportunities to volunteer, participate in internships, and earn college credit. In addition, PSAT/SAT prep will be built into the curriculum each year and the STEAD curriculum covers all topics that are on the SAT/ACT. Coursework will be based on each student's individual academic level--as it would be covered in a traditional HS--the *what* is the same, it is the *how* that is the difference at The STEAD School.



**What extracurricular opportunities will be available at STEAD? Will there be a music program, an art program, and sports?**

Extracurricular activities will be driven by student interest, staffing, and facilities. Music, art, and sports courses will be offered throughout the week (called “creative and physical expression” classes) in addition to any after school clubs or teams.

**Will the arts be incorporated into the curriculum?**

Yes! Not only is art an option for creative and physical expression courses, but the way that projects are set up is that students are assessed throughout each 6-week project block on assignments that include art. In addition, the project block will culminate with one final project that each student creates with a written component (a type of formal writing assignment), an oral presentation, and a visual component that is very open-ended to purposely allow for artistic expression. This could look like a power point, a diorama, a creative writing piece, a painting, a dramatization (play or podcast), whatever supports the student in being creative and demonstrating an understanding of the work that has been done in the project.

**Will my child receive a recognized diploma?**

Yes! The STEAD school will follow National Standards as well as State and District Standards for education curriculum and advancement. What’s more, students will receive practical training and skills and even college credit or trade accreditations based upon our anticipated curriculum and outcomes.

**Does The STEAD School have a school leader?**

Not yet. The STEAD School board has officially posted the position of STEAD School Founding Principal and is accepting applications with a goal start date between March and August of 2020.

**How do I enroll?**

We invite you to fill out an interest form to receive information on enrollment, The STEAD School information sessions, and the lottery. Priority is given to students who reside in School District 27J. All of this information and more can be found on our website!

**How is the STEAD School being financed?**

Through the use of a public/private partnership model, the STEAD School will use a variety of financing sources to fund the campus facilities and school operations. Early funds will likely come from a series of start-up grants to help cover expenses related to getting the school leader hired and other related start-up operational expenses. School facilities will use both traditional financing tools like a bank line of credit and grants, as well as naming rights and sponsorships to complete facilities through a phased development process. A portion of the schools per pupil revenue (PPR) will help repay facility financing costs.



**Will my property taxes go up as a result of the new school?**

No. As a charter school, the STEAD School will need to secure its own financing (see question above, '*How is the STEAD School being financed*').

Questions? Please email us at [info@thesteadschool.org](mailto:info@thesteadschool.org)