Please be sure to include your child's first and last name on all correspondences.

STEAM Syllabus

Please note: This syllabus is intended only as a general idea of how grades will be computed this year. It is possible that there will be changes in what is assigned, scored, collected, etc. and therefore possible changes in how grades are figured.

Description/Objective

The aim of this class is to help students learn and practice effective study skills and expose them to a variety of topics via STEAM (science, technology, engineering, art, and mathematics). Students should expect to produce artworks, learn to code, create electronic presentations and get a better understanding of how things work.

Expectations - Safe, Respectful, Responsible, On task, Positive Attitude

Being prepared for class is an important part of a student's responsibility for learning. Most supplies will be provided, but students are expected to bring the materials they need for class each day, including their notebook, binder, textbook, etc. Students who do not come to class prepared will lose participation points. If for any reason you cannot get the supplies needed, please let me know! I will do what I can to make sure your child is prepared for class.

Required Supplies

- ✔ 1 - one inch binder   (will be left in the classroom)
- ✔ 1 - pocket folder (with holes)   (will be left in the classroom)
- ✔ 1 - composition notebook or 90 pg spiral   (will be left in the classroom)
- ✔ Charged Chromebook
- ✔ Planner

Format

- ✔ Two days a week are dedicated to study skills and intervention
  - Some students may be pulled for intervention during this time.
  - Students remaining in the classroom are expected to work on their homework.
  - If students don't have work to do, then remediation and/or enrichment will be provided.
- ✔ Every Monday is a study skills day for all the students.
  - Planner checks – students must have something written on every day for every subject other than PE
  - Clean out backpacks – students will remove everything from their backpacks, organize loose papers into folders or notebooks, throw away trash, organize materials, update notebooks, etc
  - Grade check – students will show they have no missing work.
    - If work is missing, students will complete that work.
    - If an assignment is listed as missing but has been turned in waiting to be updated, students will be assigned an academic assignment to work on.
    - Students not missing work will have the opportunity to work on future assignments, read, play online chess, or do something else that benefits them academically.
- ✔ Three days a week are dedicated to a STEAM topic.
  - Our first topic is Art.
  - Other possible topics are Career Exploration and Financial Decision Making, Forensic Science/CSI, Simple Machines, Robotics and Coding.
  - Not all topics will be covered.

- Deadlines are continuously announced so work is expected to be completed and turned in on time. This includes having a name on it!!!
- Students who miss class are responsible for making up their missed work on their own time. Deadlines will not typically be extended due to absences and lessons will not be retaught.
- Students with approved independent study will be given alternate work to complete for this class.

✔ There is no homework for this class unless a student has been absent or fallen behind in their work.

Grading

✔ **Grades** are divided into three categories: *Work, Projects, and Participation*

- **Work (50%)** – students complete lessons and practice to prepare for a final project or assessment. These items may be in the form of drawings, rough drafts, worksheets, notes, online work, etc. and kept in their composition notebook, binder, and/or work folder
- **Projects (25%) –** students submit a final project or take an assessment
- **Participation (25%)** – students are expected to participate in classroom activities and discussions. This includes on-task behavior, appropriate use of class time, using materials and electronics responsibly, and following directions.

✔ **Aeries**

- The Aeries portal is used to keep parents up-to-date on their child's progress. Please contact the front office if you are unable to access your child's information.
- Students are responsible for keeping up with their grade on Aeries and speaking with me if they have questions.
- Students have 3 days from when the assignment score is posted to turn it in for "late" credit. Late credit earns only partial credit.
- Due to the nature of this elective class, grades visible on Aeries don't necessarily represent the most accurate grade for a student. Scores are typically entered at the end of a unit or project. This means a student's grade can change quickly as grades are not necessarily updated every two weeks.
- A detailed list of my **grading codes** is available on my school webpage. The most often used codes are "NP" for "not present" and "I" for "incomplete". "NA" means the assignment didn't apply to that student.

✔ **Work**

- Class assignments are posted in Google Classroom.
- If a student misses a day they still must complete that work.

Communication

✔ Please include your child's first and last name in all communications.

✔ The best way to contact me is via email. Please email me at dmcrae@jsdtracy.com and allow at least 24 hours (Monday – Friday) for a response if you've asked a question. Please keep in mind that I don't read my emails on weekends. Please do not leave messages on the classroom phone. I don't check it.

✔ Parent meetings will only be scheduled after the student has met with me personally to address their concerns.

✔ If a parent meeting is needed, they are scheduled prior to school from 7:40 – 8 am. Students are expected to be present for the meeting and be an active participant in all discussions.

I look forward to introducing new topics and skills to the STEAM students this year.

Sincerely,

Ms. McRae