



Pittsburgh  
Public Schools



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**For Immediate Release**

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## **Board Approves Comprehensive K-12 STEAM Model**

PITTSBURGH, PA, September 23, 2014 – Tonight the District presented a resolution to develop a comprehensive K-12 Science, Technology, Engineering, Arts and Mathematics (STEAM) pathway for children in the Pittsburgh Public Schools. Approved by the Board at this evening's Legislative Meeting, the plan opens up space at Pittsburgh Woolslair K-5 through a partial magnet, enhances Pittsburgh Lincoln PreK-5's Technology and Pre-Engineering program, phases in a STEAM magnet at Pittsburgh Schiller 6-8, and improves the current Bio-Technology program at Pittsburgh Perry High School.

"In our Whole Child, Whole Community Plan we identified the need to strengthen our existing elementary magnet themes and explore options for newly themed magnets. We also committed to partnering with the community in a new way. We received a strong proposal from the Pittsburgh Woolslair school community for a STEAM magnet. Knowing the potential STEAM has to engage students, I was compelled to present a plan to the Board that would impact more students within the District."

STEAM education combines several multiple disciplines into project learning to help students gain a better understanding of how science, technology, engineering, the arts and mathematics relate to the real world. The District is currently exploring funding options to support the K-12 STEAM plan. The STEAM proposal is contingent on the District's success in securing grant dollars to fund the plan.

Contingent on funding the Board approved the following actions:

### **Pittsburgh Woolslair K-5 to Adopt STEAM Theme with a Partial Magnet**

Pittsburgh Woolslair will become a partial magnet for the 2015-2016 school year beginning with grades K-2. The school will continue to accept students from its current feeder pattern. Students entering the school through both the feeder pattern and magnet will benefit from the new STEAM curriculum. Additional grades will be added to the magnet annually.

### **STEAM to Enhance Pittsburgh Lincoln PreK-5 Technology and Pre-Engineering Emphasis**

Strengthening the Technology and Pre-Engineering program at Pittsburgh Lincoln was identified as a priority in the District's Whole Child, Whole Community Plan. Teams from Pittsburgh Woolslair and Pittsburgh Lincoln will collaborate to develop the STEAM emphasis program. Elements from the STEAM program will be integrated into the Lincoln program. Students who attend Pittsburgh Lincoln will continue to receive an additional weight for admission in 6<sup>th</sup> grade in the magnet lottery for Pittsburgh Science and Technology Academy.

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### **Pittsburgh Schiller 6-8 to Phase in STEAM Magnet with 6<sup>th</sup> Grade for 2015-16 School Year**

Beginning with in the 2015-16 school year Pittsburgh Schiller 6-8, a Classical Academy Magnet, will offer a STEAM magnet option to incoming 6<sup>th</sup> graders. Additional grades will be added to the STEAM magnet annually.

### **Pittsburgh Perry High School Bio-Technology Program Enhancements Planned**

The District is exploring enhancements to Pittsburgh Perry High School's Bio-Technology program to support a STEAM continuum.

### **More Information Available**

To learn more about the District's *Whole Child, Whole Community Plan*, please visit the District's website at [www.pps.k12.pa.us/wholechild](http://www.pps.k12.pa.us/wholechild).

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