

Regional STEAM High School

Frequently Asked Questions

Q: What are the qualifications for admission?

A: *Any rising 9th grader in September 2025 from any Central New York School District.*

Q: If students are enrolled in a technical concentration, can they take performing arts classes as electives or after-school extracurriculars?

A: *Yes, all students in any Concentration will have availability of electives and/or extracurricular contingent on schedule.*

Q: Will 10th grade students be accepted into the program?

A: *No, this School will be accepting only rising 9th graders for September 2025.*

Q: This is a GREAT opportunity available for students with IEP? Any special qualifications, skills, knowledge that are needed for IEP students.

A: *Any student with an IEP will be able to apply and attend STEAM High School.*

Q: Will there be classes for foreign languages such as Russian, Polish, and other foreign languages not taught in schools, or does it stay as the standard Spanish and Latin?

A: *At this time, Spanish is the Foreign Language that will be available.*

Q: Two years ago, the district moved to "Soar" scheduling for all 9th grade students. This scheduling system forces students to choose between a CTE program and daily in-person foreign language instruction (or even other fine arts such as band or choir). Will the STEAM school be following the same Soar scheduling which prevents 9th graders from taking an in-person foreign language class?

A: *At this time, the STEAM School will have a flexible schedule that will allow students the opportunity to take music/art electives along with their concentration.*

Q: How will attending students be chosen? Is it random, or through applications?

A: Students will apply based on interest from December 15 2024 through January 31 2025. An interview will take place and then a lottery will determine placement.

Q: I have a daughter that recently graduated from Colgate University with a bachelor's in biology and chemistry. She has experience with helping students be college ready. Is there a place she can apply?

A: We are looking for certified teachers to teach all classes. Anyone interested in teaching students, please apply to the SCSD Applicant System. If you have interest in mentoring, please apply through HR as a volunteer.

Q: As a parent, I have had not be contacted by the school counselor about HS Choices for my son - this will be because his IEP/ Diagnosis.

A: On November 4, 2024 all 8th grade Syracuse City School District students will attend the Career and Technical Education EXPO at the Everson Museum of Art that will explain all 40 Career and Technical Education pathways offered in the Syracuse City School District. An evening event will be open to all families. This will be followed up with an interest form by the home school counselor afterwards. Applications will be available December 15 2024.

Q: How many students will be accepted into the high school in the first year it opens?

A: A total of 250 9th graders. 150 from SCSD and 100 from the partnering County Districts.

Q: If the school doesn't send information about High School Choices, where would I be able to find it and apply?

A: The SCSD and CTE Department will be sending information out before the application becomes available. If you do not receive this information, please feel free to contact us directly.

Q: How are the typical class subjects (Math, Bio, History, etc.) included along with the concentration classes?

A: A student will have a schedule with core content classes, as well as integrated core classes in each Career and Technical Education concentration.

Q: What happens if a student will need to change course, or change a class time/class altogether to pursue another?

A: *A student will be accepted into a CTE Concentration. Any change will be determined on a case-by-case basis.*

Q: Will there be any more informational meeting and/or calls about the high school, or do we have to look at the website after this?

A: *On November 4, 2024, the Everson Museum of Art will be hosting a CTE Open House for information to students and families. In addition, on November 5 2024 and November 7, 2024 there will be Registration and Selection Process Information sessions. On November 12 2024, there is a High School Choice Q&A Session. All CNY 8th grade school counselors in the Syracuse City School District have been given information about STEAM High School and the application process. We will also do presentations upon request. If any other questions come up, please reach out to Jody Manning and/or Dan Straub.*

Q: What if a student fails to complete all the coursework, or is struggling with the load of work they put on?

A: *Attendance and Engagement is critical in success of a student. Supports will be given throughout the day and the year to promote student success.*

Q: How is the STEAM school being promoted to individuals outside of Syracuse?

A: *There have been County Board of Education presentations, public forums, as well as promotional materials sent out to all Partnering Districts.*

Q: My understanding is that there has to be a city/count ratio...will city residents be put on a wait list if the county resident percentage is not met? And then a lottery?

A: *Concentrations will be a 60/40 ratio. If seats counts are not met, they will be filled from the waitlist.*

Q: Is the application open?

A: *Applications will be available December 15, 2024, through January 3, 2025.*

Q: What about students that are in Charter schools? Will they be receiving the same type of promotions?

A: All students who apply will

Q: How will STEAM students get to school?

A: *SCSD students will take Centro bus, as do all SCSD High School students, unless otherwise noted. County students will be transported by their home district.*

Q: Can 10th graders be accepted / apply for the programs?

A: *No. STEAM is only accepting rising 9th graders.*

Q: What about students that are in Charter schools? Will they be receiving the same type of promotions?

A: *We are promoting to all CNY families for any rising 9th graders. All applications have to go through the 8th grade school counselor.*

Q: Will SCSD be able to recruit enough teachers for every technical area?

A: *Our goal is to have all certified personnel in every CTE Concentrations. We're currently advertising and recruiting industry professionals for these positions.*

Q: For the arts concentrations – especially the performing arts – what level of experience are students expected to have to enter the program? Will the programs be appropriate for students that already have extensive experience in theater dance, etc. in the community?

A: *There will be opportunity for both novice and experienced Visual and Performing Arts students.*

Q: Have administrators and teachers been hired yet?

A: *The Principal has been hired and we are currently recruiting staff to be hired.*

Q: Will start and end times be the same as the other SCSD high schools?

A: *We are currently creating a flexible master schedule.*

Q: How many students will STEAM accommodate?

A: For 2025-26 SY, we will have 250 9th graders. Every year we will add 250 9th graders for a capacity of 1000 students for the 2028-29 SY.

Q: Will extracurricular activities (sports, music, etc.) be shared with other high schools?

A: STEAM HS will have their own sport teams and extracurriculars. They will mirror other sports as far as combining teams.

Q: Will there be opportunities for students to be dual enrolled to earn an Associates degree at graduation?

A: Currently, each concentration will offer up to 30 college credits. We are exploring the possibility of an associate's degree.

Q. *Is transportation provided?*

A: By legislation, each school must provide transportation for all STEAM students.