



STEM High School

Q. Where will the high school be located?

A. The Central-Hower campus

Q. What grade levels will it include?

A. To start, we will most likely add one grade per year; so, in fall 2012, the majority will be next year's eighth-graders who pass to ninth grade. We may add students to the 2012 ninth-grade class.

Q. What partnerships exist?

A. Akron Public Schools, The University of Akron, Invent Now, City of Akron, Greater Akron Chamber and Akron Tomorrow

Q. How many students are being accepted each year?

A. Approximately 100, to start

Q. What is the process to get into the school?

A. Students currently enrolled at the STEM middle school will automatically continue on to the high school if they pass the ninth grade and commit. Additional students may be admitted to reach an enrollment of approximately 100 students.

Q. Will the teachers be interviewed for the positions?

A. Yes

Q. How will the administration be selected?

A. Through a rigorous recruitment process to ensure a high-quality administrator

Q. What is the plan for our students regarding the STEM high school? Are they automatically entered into the STEM high school, or will there be another lottery?

A. Enrollment is automatic for current STEM middle school students.

Q. Is APS planning to add additional students (outside of the ones already attending the STEM middle school) to the STEM high school?

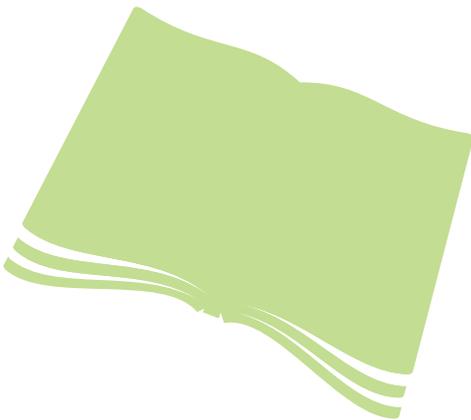
A. We may allow a limited number of outside students. Opportunities for adding additional students are still being explored.

Q. Will there be athletic teams?

A. Students will have to participate at their home high school for athletics. Intramural sports will be offered.

Q. Will there be after-school activities/clubs? What types?

A. We will continue similar age-appropriate programming at the high school.



Frequently Asked Questions

Q. Is transportation provided?

A. APS does not provide transportation to high school.

Q. What will carry over from the middle school? (core values, school belief system, 21st-century focus, PBL, mastery learning, advisory groups, etc.)

A. All best practices from the middle school will continue at the high school level.

Q. Who should they contact with additional questions?

A. Ellen McWilliams, Assistant Superintendent, 330.761.2926

Q. What will be included in the curriculum?

A. It will be similar to what learners experienced in the NIHF-STEM middle school with a college prep focus. The first year, ninth-grade programs will consist of English 9, Biology, Engineering Design Tools I, Math 2 (Geometry, Algebra II and Statistics), History, Chinese, Spanish, Health and Physical Education, Advisory, and one elective (music or art). Tenth grade will have similar offerings.

Q. Will all of the learners be provided with laptops?

A. We are working on plans for 1:1 technology.

Q. I have heard questions about what the class offerings will be — will there only be one class for each subject, or will there be a variety of courses from which to choose? What kind of electives will be offered?

A. Students will have to complete APS-required courses for graduation. There will be one elective course in ninth and 10th grade. In 11th and 12th grade, opportunities for more choice will come through internships, college courses or college credit earned through project/PBL-designed courses.

Q. When does it open?

A. Fall 2012

Q. What engineering and medical curriculum will be offered?

A. Elective courses are being developed in these areas, in addition to ninth grade curriculum, the school will incorporate engineering medicine.

Q. Will there be any internships available (i.e., work with an engineer off campus)?

A. We are working with industry partners on setting up work experience in the field.

Q. Will there be school dances? If so and a student is from out of district, can they be accompanied by a non-APS student?

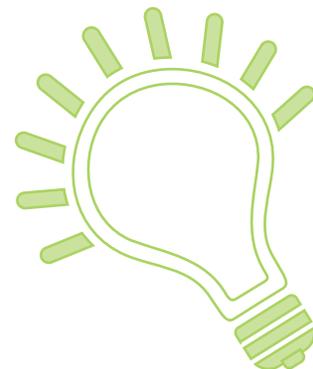
A. Social activities are part of the high school experience. Guest policies will follow district guidelines.

Q. Will there be after-school clubs?

A. Yes, we plan to continue extended-learning options for students.

Q. Will students earn college credit? Also, how is this different from Early College?

A. We are working with UA to offer college credits. The goal is to prepare students for entry into STEM-related areas if they choose these fields in order to earn a bachelor's degree.



Q. Will the students be required to wear uniforms?

A. Uniforms are not required in high school. All students will be required to follow current guidelines on appropriate dress.

Q. What procedures are in place to assist with college applications?

A. One focus of the STEM high school is getting all students into college. College access services and supports will be provided and delivered through the Advisory Curriculum.

Q. Will there be any sort of tuition reduction if a student attends the STEM high school and then continues on to The University of Akron to pursue a career in STEM?

A. Only authorized dual-enrollment courses taken while students are enrolled in the STEM high school are free.

Q. What is the benefit to a student to attend the STEM high school who is considering a career not in the STEM field?

A. The skills that students will learn (creative problem solving, critical thinking, collaboration, etc.) are applicable to all fields.

Q. Will the Akron Early College High School also be housed at Central-Hower?

A. Not in 2012-13; however, we are exploring options in future years.

Q. Will Chinese continue to be taught, and will they have options to pursue other languages?

A. The current plan is to continue offering this course and add Spanish.

Q. Will there be options for advanced science and mathematics classes? If so, what will they be? Will the students choose them or be assigned placement?

A. Yes, students will work with their counselor on scheduling.

Q. Will there be an AP or IB component?

A. No, not at this time

Q. Is there a sibling policy?

A. We are currently reviewing admission policies for students who did not attend the NIHF-STEM program.

Q. Will the music and arts programs be supported?

A. Yes

Q. Will there be options for courses in video game/website design? Will there be advanced computer programming and coding courses available?

A. These programs may be developed in conjunction with The University of Akron based on student interest.

Q. How many extra students will be permitted to enroll in the ninth grade?

A. While the program is ramped up, there will be limited outside enrollment.

Q. Will the school be combined with the Early College?

A. No. While some courses may be open to students in AECHS, the programs are separate.

Q. Will visual art and music also be part of the curriculum offered? If so, will it be required like it is at the middle school?

A. No. Visual art and music will be optional for students.

