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## News From The STEAM Team

### WHAT IS STEAM?

Students and parents alike have been asking, “What is STEAM?” STEAM is an integrated approach to teaching and learning. The acronym stands for Physical and Social **SCIENCES**, Incorporation of **TECHNOLOGY**, Principles of **ENGINEERING** and Design, The **ARTS** (English Language Arts and Visual Arts) and expression through a variety of media, and Application of **MATHEMATICS**. This style of teaching and learning includes keeping students engaged with hands-on lessons, integrating subject areas, and better preparing students for their post high school lives. It involves Inquiry Based Instruction, Co-Teaching, and Differentiated Instruction that addresses the needs and interests of all students. The program design revolves around project-based learning to help promote 21st century skills such as Creativity, Communication, Critical Thinking and Collaboration. Our goal is to create a team of curious, active learners that display grit, responsibility, and are prepared to produce results. The STEAM project relies on Common Expectations, Community Building, and Flexible Scheduling.

The Malone Middle School modeled its STEAM program after Pine Grove Middle School in East Syracuse. After visiting, the teachers decided it was something they had to bring to Malone.

#### What does STEAM look like at MMS?

Students will meet together for Monday Morning Meeting every week. There we discuss what is coming up, what we’ve done, work on projects, and we recognize the efforts and grit of the group. We work “in the field” as much as possible to give student hands-on learning experiences and integrate a lot of technology to help motivate students. This teaches them how to work and communicate productively in an ever-changing digital world.

This year, the students can look forward to a rigorous curriculum and challenging learning experiences with a team of teachers that will push them to reach their personal best.





## STEAM STUDENTS HIT THE FIELD

STEAM team students toured Malone on Friday, September 26th to experience the rich history Malone has to offer, especially in regard to the Civil War time period. Five groups of twenty students ventured out to different sites including The Congregational Church, The Webster Street Cemetery (Burial Site of Rev. Ashbel Parmalee and several Civil War Soldiers), Morningside Cemetery (Burial Site of William A. Wheeler), Elks Lodge (former home of William A. Wheeler), House of History, and Arsenal Green, where students learned about signs and signals on the Underground Railroad.



Students spent the following week working in groups on a "S'MORE" presentation for their fellow classmates. The presentations include interviews, videos, music, written accounts, and pictures about the site they visited on their trip. They have been challenged to use multiple forms of technology in this particular project, including IPads, Netbooks, Kindles, and their own mobile devices.



As a culminating experience, students will present "S'mores" to their peers and enjoy a visit from guest speakers Carl Marshall, Civil War Re-enactor, and Gary Moore, local Historian. Ask your son or daughter to see their group's presentation! S'mores will be posted on our STEAM team website @ [www.mmsteam82.weebly.com](http://www.mmsteam82.weebly.com).

Find out more about Smores. Visit [www.smores.com](http://www.smores.com).

To see the Malone Telegram article about our field experience, go to [www.mymalonetelegram.com](http://www.mymalonetelegram.com)

