

# **STEAM Academy of Umatilla**

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Dear Umatilla School Board Members,

## \* Program Overview

The STEAM After School Program had an exciting and successful launch this month! Our team has been busy connecting with families, registering students, training staff, and preparing engaging activities for the year ahead.

### ⇔ By the Numbers

- 3 Open House events attended across district schools
- 200+ students registered for after-school programs
- 24 FIRST LEGO League (FLL) students a record high!
- 6-week STARBASE class registration in progress
- 2 new dedicated program spaces at McNary & CVI

# Program Highlights

#### 1. Successful Program Launch

Our first day of STEAM was **Monday**, and we're pleased to report a smooth and positive start to the year. Students and staff jumped right in, setting the tone for an exciting semester.

#### 2. Record-High FLL Enrollment

This year, we're proud to announce **24 students** have signed up for **FIRST LEGO League** — our largest group yet! Students will explore robotics, coding, and teamwork while preparing for upcoming competitions.

#### 3. New Chess Class

We've introduced a **chess enrichment program at CBMS and UHS**, giving students an opportunity to develop critical thinking, strategy, and problem-solving skills in a fun, engaging environment.

#### 4. STARBASE Partnership

We're thrilled to continue our partnership with **STARBASE**. Currently, we're organizing registration for a **six-week STARBASE** class at **CVI** during after-school hours. This program will give students hands-on STEM learning opportunities.

# **a** Facilities & Space Upgrades

This year, we are especially excited about our new spaces at McNary and CVI.

- Dedicated **classrooms** allow students to leave projects out for continued building.
- Additional storage and supply areas make organizing and managing activities easier.
- The improved layout supports more hands-on learning and collaborative projects.

## Looking Ahead

With high enrollment, innovative classes, and strong community partnerships, this is shaping up to be a fantastic year for the STEAM After School Program. We remain committed to providing **enriching**, **student-centered opportunities** that inspire creativity, exploration, and learning.

Thank you for your continued support!

Sincerely, J. Stephanie Williams