

## **STEAM ACADEMY INSTRUCTIONAL DAY**

**BACKGROUND:** STEAM Academy's instructional day currently begins at 7:45 AM, and ends at 2:35 PM. The 2:35 PM end time has been set to allow adequate time for FCPS Transportation staff to return students to their home high schools, where they transfer to buses that return them to their neighborhood stops.

The 2:35 end time has been problematic in that in many cases STEAM Academy students arrive at their home high schools prior to a time when supervision can be made available, and due to fluctuating arrival times of buses at STEAM Academy, students are dismissed in smaller groups over several minutes. This has created difficulty in having staff available for supervision during dismissal.

**RATIONALE:** The STEAM Academy staff proposes to extend the school day by 10 minutes, with dismissal of all students established at 2:45 PM. This proposed change allows for maximum instructional time at STEAM Academy, adequate supervision during dismissal, and adequate time for FCPS Transportation to return students to their home schools.

There are no additional costs associated with this proposal.

### **PROPOSAL:**

Item	Amount	Funding Source	Recurring/ Nonrecurring	Measurable Expected Impact and Timeline
Extend the STEAM Academy instructional day	N/A	N/A	N/A	An additional ten minutes will be added to the STEAM Academy instructional day.

**STAFF CONTACT:** Jack Hayes, Director of Innovation & School Improvement

**POLICY REFERENCE:** 01.11 – General power and duties of the Board: Establishment of Schools

**RECOMMENDATION:** A motion is in order to: Approve the extension of STEAM Academy's instructional day, from 7:45 AM to 2:35 PM, to 7:45 AM to 2:45 PM beginning with the start of the 2015-2016 school year.