



# Daviess County Public Schools

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## MLES receives grant for STEM learning

Meadow Lands Elementary School students will begin reaping the benefits of a Dart Foundation grant valued at nearly \$5,000 that allowed the purchase of STEM-related materials. As part of the school's focus on studies in the fields of science, technology, engineering and mathematics, items that will enhance hands-on learning include base coding kits, Lego chain reaction kits, circuit mazes, gravity mazes, laser mazes and new Chromebooks. Activities with primary students are scheduled from 2:30 to 3:30 p.m. Thursday, March 21, and again on Thursday, March 28.

Teachers Bruce Baldwin, Derek Grant and Rachelle Brown were instrumental in securing funding for these educational resources. The new STEM lab will bring real-world scientific and mathematics learning applications to the classroom.

Baldwin, who teaches art for all grade levels at MLES, said, "These items will help foster a love of learning and discovery. Students are naturally curious about 'How do things work?' and 'Why do things work the way they do?' The STEM lab items allow students the opportunity to discover the how's and why's for themselves. This love of learning will help benefit them in their future endeavors. For example, students will have an opportunity to learn coding as a part of the STEM lab and develop a strong understanding of basic coding principles. This understanding of coding principles will help lead to more creative and innovative ways to use coding in the future. Students will have the capability to grow with technology and help develop new technology as well. Elementary students will be able to develop skills to think creatively and develop a base for innovative thinking. Students will identify what they are passionate about and be able to increase their knowledge of the skillsets needed to continue those passions into careers they love."

MLES assistant principal Marjie Pippin said, "Today's students are natural explorers of learning and enjoy discovery and experimentation of new knowledge. It is imperative that we provide our 21st century learners with opportunities to do just that. We must encourage our young learners to become problem solvers and critical thinkers. This style of inquiry learning will help build interest and strong foundation in the field of science, technology, engineering, and mathematics."

**Note to media** – Our media partners are invited to visit Meadow Lands Elementary School from 2:30 to 3:30 p.m. Thursday, March 21, and again on March 28, to see these STEM lab materials being utilized by primary students in hands-on learning experiences. After Spring Break, the lessons will resume for four weeks with students in intermediate grades. MLES is located at 3500 Hayden Road. For more information, contact principal Kevin Lowe at 270-852-7450 or [kevin.lowe@daviess.kyschools.us](mailto:kevin.lowe@daviess.kyschools.us)

Learn more at <https://www.dartfoundation.org/>

For more information, contact DCPS Public Information Officer Lora Wimsatt  
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