



Welcome to The William B. Ward Elementary School



S.T.E.A.M. Café

This is a multi-purpose collaborative space. All staff members have access as a faculty lounge. The theme of the room was based on previous research into the Google philosophy of access to open space and creative expression fostering work productivity. The instructional practice of infusing science, technology, arts, and mathematics (referred to as STEAM) instruction in an integrated strategic manner had begun to be a topic of discussion in the education world. The maker-movement was also taking root across the globe. These ideas were combined. An area would remain as a place for staff to unwind, connect, refuel, call parents, and perform other standard faculty room activities. Another portion of the room would become an instructional area that could be utilized for professional development or student instruction. Tables would be arranged to facilitate both direct instruction and small group collaboration. Along the walls were designated areas for STEAM. One area was created with realia and activities focusing on Science. One area was created with access to Technology resources. One area was created with supplies and activities for focusing on Engineering. One area was created with supplies and activities for art projects, creative works, and instructional-based expression. One area was created with math manipulatives, books, and activities.

These combined ideas and room design/function resulted in our new S.T.E.A.M. Café. Employing a theme of steam from coffee cups and a comfortable environment for learning and exploring generated a wonderful location for both students and faculty. What would you like to learn today in the S.T.E.A.M. Café?

S = Science

T = Technology

E = Engineering

A = Arts

M = Mathematics

C = Community

A = Area

F = Focused on

É = Education