

March 30, 2017.

Dear Parent/Guardian,

Thank you for your interest in the **STEAM-X program** for the 2017/2018 school year. STEAM-X is an accelerated program specifically designed for gifted students to become adequately prepared for university rigor and university life in 3+ years. We are very excited to look ahead to our third year of the STEAM-X program at the **Surrey Academy of Innovative Learning**.

In **STEAM-X 8/9** students will **experiment with learning**—which means to take risks, make mistakes and explore who they are as learners. In the process, students will develop a richer conception of learning. The 'Big Ideas' in Science, Social Studies, English and Math will be studied through an **interdisciplinary lens** using a **blended learning approach**. The foundation will be to experiment with learning. Students will be supported to become thoughtful, motivated, and collaborative problem solvers capable of engaging in their own inquiries who thrive in our ever-changing world.

The application process is designed is a way to ensure that the program is the best fit for the student. It will provide us with valuable information on how your son/daughter learns and what interests them; as well as allow students to gain a better understanding of the program. After the application process, students should leave with a clear sense of what the **STEAM-X** offers and whether it is in line with their learning needs.

Applications to the STEAM-X Program will require the following:

- 1) Complete a Literacy and Numeracy Assessment on April 18th, 2017.
- 2) Attend Intake Meeting which are being held on April 27th, May 1st and May 3rd, 2017.
- 3) Provide Supporting documents (See below)
 - a. Two Confidential References
 - b. Two Recent Report Cards
 - c. Letter of Interest
 - d. Portfolio of Learning

Ensure you complete all parts of the checklist below. Incomplete applications will not be accepted. Parents/Guardians will be contacted about acceptance into the STEAM-X program in June.

Sincerely,

SAIL Academy of Innovative Learning



STEAM-X Application Checklist

Literacy and Numeracy Assessment

- ☐ Complete the Literacy and Numeracy Assessment
- Date: April 18th, 2017 - 3pm-4:30pm
 - Location: Surrey Academy of Innovative Learning (14033 92nd Avenue, Surrey, BC)

Intake Meeting

- ☐ Schedule and attend an Intake Meeting
- Parents must contact our office at 604-592-4263 to schedule a meeting time. All supporting documents (as listed above) should be brought to the intake meeting.
 - Meetings will take place April 27th, May 1st and May 3rd
 - My intake meeting will take place on: _____

Supporting Documentation (to bring to intake meeting)

- ☐ Two Confidential Reference Letters - (see attached document)
- Use attached Reference Form
 - Letters must be in an envelope with the referees signature across the seal
 - One letter from a former/current teacher
 - One letter from a community member who interacts with the student regularly (coach, extra-curricular mentors)
- ☐ Two Most Recent Report Cards
- ☐ Letter of Interest
- In a maximum of 500 words explain why you are interested in the STEAM-X program. Please use the following questions to guide your response.
 - Why are you interested in the STEAM-X program?
 - Who are you as a learner? (Describe your ideal learning environment? How do you learn best? What helps you learn?)
 - What would you consider as some of your strengths and your biggest challenges as a learner?
- ☐ Portfolio-(4-8 items)
- Examples of ideas include a list of awards and achievements; extra-curricular activities list; leadership/community involvement; samples of work that student is most proud of

