



# News Release

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## Center Grove Investigates Development of K-12 STEM Lab

GREENWOOD, IN (November 20, 2014) — Center Grove is investigating the development of a STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering, and Math) Lab to support student coursework in grades K-12. An initial concept for the STEM Lab was presented to the Center Grove Board of School Trustees at its regular meeting on Thursday, November 20, 2014.

The concept involves the repurposing of the former maintenance building located on the district's main campus, southeast of Center Grove High School. Initial sketches provided to the board Thursday show the renovation of the building, which fits the footprint of the former maintenance building. The renovations would be funded through monies from the Capital Projects Fund. The superintendent is also investigating the possibility of donations from outside businesses.

"In the last 18 months, we've heard from many parents and community members about their desire for more STEM offerings in grades Kindergarten through 12. Their voices came through loud and clear during our CG100 meeting," said Dr. Rich Arkanoff, superintendent. "The Board has also asked the administration to investigate what the future of STEM could look like in Center Grove. This is the very, very beginning of what could be an exciting new chapter for Center Grove Schools. The STEM disciplines make up the first 22 jobs on US News and World Report's Top 100 Jobs list for this year. The forecast for jobs growth in STEM-related careers is stunning. We want to make sure we're providing our students with every opportunity to discover and excel in these areas."

"We want a facility that will be able to provide hands-on learning experiences to engage and support all learners in these exciting academic fields," said Dr. Wendy Kruger, director of curriculum. "We plan to develop specific curriculum with input from the Strategic Planning Committee, UTACG (United Teachers Association of Center Grove), and various other teacher and parent groups."

Center Grove High School currently has a STEM curriculum in place through Project Lead The Way which includes bio-medical and pre-engineering courses. Students can also attend Central Nine Career Center to pursue certifications in various STEM areas. The district is also home to the award-winning Red Alert Robotics team, which is an extra-curricular STEM club.

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