



# ROBERTSON COUNTY INNOVATION ACADEMY

...dare greatly

Collaboration | Time Management | Critical Thinking | Problem Solving | Public Speaking

## PBLs

### PROJECT BASED LEARNING

Combines all classes into projects with Middle Tennessee businesses solving challenges or creating new business ideas.



## STEAM

Science  
Technology  
Engineering  
Arts  
Math



## REACH

Reading  
English  
to Analyze  
Culture  
& History



- ✓ High level academic expectations
- ✓ Web-based classroom management
- ✓ Online Textbooks
- ✓ College Going Focus
- ✓ Online classes available
- ✓ Leadership Development Program
- ✓ Master science lab
- ✓ 8th Grade Vanderbilt Aspirnaut Program and TED Talks
- ✓ Classroom plans run by 9 week collegiate-style syllabus
- ✓ Dress for Success Code
- ✓ EPIC Summer STEM Camp

If you are interested in **more information** go to: <http://ww1.rcstn.net/schools/iA>



...a scientist



...a writer



...maximizing technology



...a public speaker

**Any Robertson County Middle School Scholar can apply!**



# Frequently Asked Questions

- 1 q Where is the application available?**  
**a** ww1.rcstn.net/schools/iA or paper copies are available at all Robertson County Elementary School Offices.
- 2 q When is the application due?**  
**a** All applications must be at Springfield Middle School by Friday, April 15th, 2016 at 3 pm. Applications should be in an envelope with the scholar's name on the outside. Springfield Middle School is located at 715 5th Avenue West in Springfield, TN.
- 3 q When will I find out if my child is accepted into the program?**  
**a** Monday, May 2nd letters will be mailed with your acceptance status; you may inquire about the status via email by contacting Lisa.Anderson@rcstn.net after Friday, May 6th.
- 4 q If my child is accepted into the program, when do I have to commit to them going and how do I do that?**  
**a** You must sign a parent/scholar commitment letter by May 24th. Information about signing will be included in the letter sent on May 2nd. There will be multiple opportunities for you to meet with the Innovation Academy Magnet Coordinator if you have questions.
- 5 q What are the eligibility requirements?**  
**a** Scholars who are going into the 6th, 7th or 8th grade for the school year starting 2016 and turn in a complete application by the deadline of 3pm on April 15th are eligible.
- 6 q How are scholars chosen to be in the program?**  
**a** If there are more scholars to apply than there are seats available, there will be a weighted lottery. For more information on how that lottery is scored, go to ww1.rcstn.net/schools/iA.
- 7 q Where is the program being implemented?**  
**a** Springfield Middle School 715 5th Avenue West Springfield, TN 37172 615-384-4821
- 8 q Can my child play athletics?**  
**a** Yes, per the TSSAA guidelines. If your child is going into the 6th grade, there are no restrictions on participating in sports; if your child is going into the 7th or 8th grade, TSSAA rules apply and a link to more information can be found on ww1.rcstn.net/schools/iA.
- 9 q What about transportation?**  
**a** You can bring your child to school as a car rider, or transportation will be provided by the district.
- 10 q Are applications only open for incoming 6th graders?**  
**a** No, you can apply as an incoming 7th or 8th grader but, there is very limited space in those classes at this time.
- 11 q Are you going to have parent information meetings?**  
**a** Yes, they will be posted on the Innovation Academy page at rcstn.net/schools/iA and information will be sent home with all 5th graders.
- 12 q What kind of classroom technology will be available?**  
**a** Computers will be available to each scholar along with classroom technology for PBLs (projects) and web based classroom management.
- 13 q Is this program going to continue on through high school?**  
**a** Yes, but the details have not been finalized. Once there is information about the program, it will be available on the iA web page and will be sent out to parents.
- 14 q Why are 135 minute classes an advantage to my scholar?**  
**a** Longer class times are conducive to collaborative project based learning activities that traditional class times do not allow. In addition, the time spent with fewer teachers allows for more meaningful relationships and greater understanding of the scholars capability and needs.
- 15 q Why will iA use standards based grading?**  
**a** Traditional letter grades (A, B, C, D, F) do not communicate specific skills that a scholar has or has not mastered. When you report on each individual standard, both teachers and parents can help a scholar improve. It is important that each scholar master every standard. If a scholar misses something along the way, it impacts their success in the future.
- 16 q Will there be any orientations or activities through the summer?**  
**a** Yes, there will be a STEAM EPIC camp open to all incoming scholars, a technology day to assign computers and give an overview of how they will be used throughout the year, and an orientation to the STEAM & REACH Magnet Program.

**for questions  
not addressed here,**  
please contact  
**LISA ANDERSON**  
**@ Springfield Middle School**

email: Lisa.Anderson@rcstn.net  
call: 615.384.4821