

Dear Parents and Guardians:

Wow! The future looks bright for our 2016/2017 school year. This is my second year here at Dixieland and I can't wait to get it started. Many changes have taken place at our school and we will continue to embrace new changes in our classroom instruction, sports, and school activities that will add to the educational development of our students and community of Dixieland. I am a firm believer that all students can achieve as long as we provide them with the right learning environment.



The staff is eager to start implementing the “**Dixieland STEAM World**” We are excited to incorporate **S**cience, **T**echnology, **E**ngineering, **A**rt and **M**ath: Education for Global Leadership.

The United States has developed as a global leader, in large part, through the genius and hard work of its scientists, engineers, and innovators. In a world that's becoming increasingly complex, where success is driven not only by what you know, but by what you can do with what you know, it's more important than ever for our youth to be equipped with the knowledge and skills to solve tough problems, gather and evaluate evidence, and make sense of information. These are the types of skills that students learn by studying science, technology, engineering, art, and math—subjects collectively known as STEAM. All young people should be prepared to think deeply and to think well so that they have the chance to become the innovators, educators, researchers, and leaders who can solve the most pressing challenges facing our nation and our world, both today and tomorrow (US Department of Education).

We will also be starting our “**K-8 Lego Robotics Afterschool Program.**” It's the 21st century's newest must-study subject. The LEGO Robotic program will be designed for the elementary learners. It is a cross-curricular learning tool that challenges students to build LEGO models featuring working motors and sensors. The students then connect them to a computer and use a simple programming tool to program behavior. Working through a series of theme-based activities, students will develop skills within science, technology, engineering, art and mathematics, as well as language and literacy. Reasons to integrate robotics into curriculum.

- Hands-on, engaging lessons. Students learn by doing.
- Fosters creativity and imagination.
- Prepares students for STEAM-focused careers.
- Teaches complex computer science, engineering, mathematics, art, and science concepts.
- Requires students to collaborate and work as a team.
- Aligned to Common Core Standards.

We encourage parents to be involved in your child's school, with regular contact with their teacher and by being involved on committees or parent organizations.

Respectfully,

Ana D. Carrillo,
Principal

