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**NEWSLETTER / NEWS RELEASE  
From the Office of the Mayor**

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

AUGUST 4, 2017

**A RIBBON CUTTING CEREMONY WAS HELD TO UNVEIL THE FERGUSON-FLORISSANT SCHOOL DISTRICT'S INNOVATIVE, NEW STEAM ACADEMY**



On Friday, August 4, at 8855 Dunn Road, Ferguson Florissant School Superintendent Joseph Davis presided at a ribbon cutting for a new Science, Technology, Engineering, Arts and Math “STEAM” academy which was made possible by Proposition I passed just two years ago by the residents of the district. Dr. Davis introduced several guest speakers and thanked the present and past school board members who had a part in the success of this exciting project. He also asked all teachers and students to come forward front and center with inspiring remarks from him and loud applause from the assembly.

The District promised innovation with Prop I and Dr. Davis is committed to drive a shift in the district toward deep learning; a group-based approach that stresses critical thinking and problem solving more than rote memorization. The STEAM learning center will reserved for a select group of academically advanced students and house the district’s gifted program, Probe.

Mayor Schneider was invited to speak at the unveiling of the Steam Academy. He reflected “Two years ago this month there were two important events that took place, one challenged our region and was reported on around the world, the other event took place at the ballot box a few days earlier when the good people of the Ferguson Florissant District voted to pass Prop I. Now we are gathered in front of a true symbol of the success of this district but there are no reporters from the NY Times, Washington Post or Asia or Europe, no CNN or FOX news cameras. I was fortunate to obtain an Engineering degree and I am excited for those students of the district who will do the important technical work of tomorrow such as taking care of a national infrastructure that is deteriorating faster than we can repair it. I salute all of the students who will learn here and the teachers who will mentor in this building,” said Mayor Schneider.

For more information on the innovative new Steam Academy visit [www.fergflor.org](http://www.fergflor.org).