

Dear Parents and Students,

My name is Kevin Roberts. For the second year in a row, I'll be teaching STEAM tech classes here at Arches Academy. I'm a Utah native with a background in Technical Art, which covers everything from 3d modeling to animation to programming. I studied at UVU where my senior project won a Student Emmy for our Animated Short, where I helped as the Technical Director. I've also had a history with educational simulations working for the Christa McAuliffe Space Education Center in Pleasant Grove. I love the chance I have to share what I have learned with students. Technology is an important part of our lives, and I'm excited to share all of its wonders with our students.



This year we're looking forward to building on our students' foundations with computers and showing them more of the wonderful world of technology. We'll be covering typing basics for our elementary school students, while middle school students will jump in to programming lessons. This year we have some great programs to use to help our students along. For typing, we're using Typing Agent, which takes students through their basics based on their grade level, and records their progress each class so we can see their improvements. In middle school, we will once again be using Scratch coding and Unity 3d to teach the fundamentals of programming. At the end of the year, our students will be creating a simple game to show off their skills!

All grades will also participate in a variety of computer based learning activities to increase their general knowledge, computer literacy, and digital citizenship skills. We are also going to be using our InfiniD space camp software to enhance their learning in their other classes, by taking them on fun, educational, magic school bus adventures. It's going to be a wonderfully fun year!

Mr. Roberts