

Northside Elementary was named a 2016 Georgia School Bell Award winners by the Georgia Association of Elementary School Principals (GAESP). Northside Principal David Sams will be presented the School Bell award on Oct. 13 during the GAESP conference held in Savannah.

The GAESP presents this award each year to no more than 10 schools with outstanding programs in the area of curriculum and organizational leadership. Northside won for its science, technology, engineering and math (STEM) program titled, "STEM-Guiding Our Journey to Success." Northside Elementary's STEM activities include coding, robotics, rocket launches, Sarah's Garden, weekly engineering design challenges, Science Nights for parents and the NES Science Olympiad team, which won First Place at the 2016 Middle Georgia RESA Elementary Science Olympiad. All of these activities are taught within a cross-curricular framework with a strong emphasis on the correlation between the Georgia State science and math standards.

Northside Elementary was awarded STEM certification by the Georgia Department of Education (GADOE) in December 2015.

In addition, this past spring Northside was named 2016 a GaDOE Reward School. This award is reserved for Title 1 schools with the highest performance or biggest academic gains by students over the past three years.