

## COLLABORATION & COMMUNITY

Middle school AALI coaches collaborate with elementary school AALI coaches to plan educational opportunities for AALI students and school-based community events.

The district's AALI, Math and ELA coaches participate in professional development activities to improve classroom instruction and increase student learning district-wide.

Middle and elementary AALI coaches keep parents informed through newsletters and the AALI web pages. Access these via [www.fitchburgschools.org](http://www.fitchburgschools.org) or by visiting a middle school's website.



## AALI Coaches

School	Coach and Email
Longsjo	Christine DiMauro dimauroc@fitchburg.k12.ma.us
Middle School	John Donnelly donnellyj@fitchburg.k12.ma.us
McKay Arts Academy	Danette Day dayd@fitchburg.k12.ma.us
Memorial Middle School	Jean Beckner becknerj@fitchburg.k12.ma.us

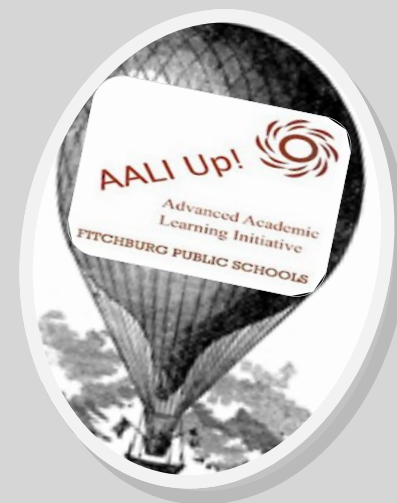
**Mr. Andre Ravenelle, Superintendent**  
**Ms. Paula Giaquinto, Asst. Superintendent**  
**Mr. Robert Jokela, Asst. Superintendent**

**Fitchburg Public Schools**  
**376 South Street**  
**Fitchburg, MA 01420**  
**[www.fitchburgschools.org](http://www.fitchburgschools.org)**

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**FITCHBURG PUBLIC SCHOOLS**  
"Prepared to Succeed"

# Advanced Academic Learning Initiative



**MIDDLE SCHOOL PROGRAM**

*“All students should be challenged at whatever level of learning they are at in a given time and a given grade.”*

## AALI MISSION

*The AALI mission is to develop the highest academic potential of all students in the Fitchburg Public Schools. The AALI coaches provide a continuum of opportunities in which students engage in complex subject matter, preparing them for more challenging and rigorous classes as they advance in grade level.*

The AALI coaches provide:

- opportunities for all students to demonstrate academic strengths through more rigorous and challenging instruction.
- staff members with mentoring and models for differentiating classroom instruction.
- students with opportunities to excel in science, technology, engineering and mathematics.

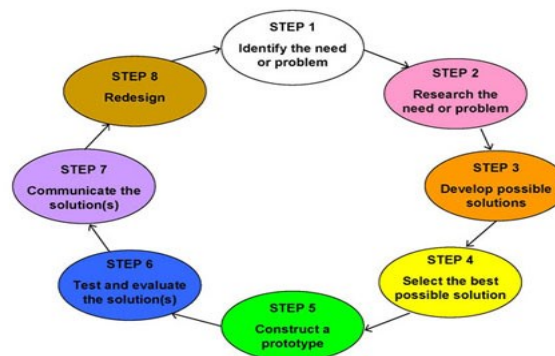
## AALI OVERVIEW

AALI coaches identify resources to create science, technology, engineering and mathematics (STEM) units directly aligned with the school district's standards-based curriculum. Units reflect best differentiated, instructional practices and are built to extend student learning.

Students in the AALI program create, design, build, discover, collaborate, and solve problems while applying what they learn in math and science.

The AALI program features Gateway to Technology (GTT), a project-based curriculum that uses the engineering design process to challenge and engage the natural curiosity and imagination of middle school students.

### Engineering Design Process



## GTT Program Curriculum

### • Energy & the Environment

Students investigate the impact of energy on our lives and the environment and design and model alternative energy sources.

### • Automation & Robotics

Students use a robust robotics platform to design, build and program a solution to solve an existing problem.

### • Design & Modeling

Students are introduced to and use the design process to solve problems and understand the influence that creative and innovative design has on our lives.

