

August 25, 2023 - STEM School Info 08/25

Parents/Guardians,

As we approach the end of August, here are some items of note for you.

Transportation Change- beginning 8/30/2023

Students who ride Bus 375 in the mornings will begin riding Bus 404 on, Wednesday, 8/30/2023. The route is the same, only the bus number is changing.

School Picture Day: Grades 9, 10, 11

STEM Yearbook Picture Day for grades 9, 10, and 11 will be Thursday, August 31, from 9:30am to 1:00pm. Students will need to wear STEM Dress Code for their yearbook pictures. This year, pictures will be taken inside the Riverview Conference Room using Lifetouch backgrounds. Please remind your students to wear their favorite STEM dress code attire and a smile on Thursday, August 31!

Senior Pictures

The deadline to submit senior portraits for the yearbook is Friday, January 12. For the STEM Yearbook, seniors can have their Senior Portraits taken by Prestige Photography, our official senior portrait photographer OR seniors can use an outside professional photographer and send in their chosen photos. Prestige will send the portraits to the school automatically once the senior chooses the selected pose online, but portraits taken by an outside photographer will need to be sent to Ms.

Bolus, bolus_lisa@hcde.org, as a digital file. Ms. Bolus will send a Google Form to seniors and families for submission in October. Remember that the chosen Yearbook pose should be dressy casual (avoid hats, sunglasses, t-shirts, shorts). Seniors can also choose to use the formal tux/drape poses, but they are NOT required for the yearbook.

Teacher Meet and Greet (Open House):

Mark your calendars: The STEM School Teacher Meet and Greet (Open House) will be Sept 14, Thursday Night, 6:30pm-7:30pm. This will be a night to meet your student's teachers, learn more about our STEM magnet program, and visit the school. More information to come. The Teacher Meet and Greet is open to all grade levels.

PLT:

The first Parent Leadership Team (PLT) meeting will take place on Monday, August 28 at 6:30pm at the STEM School in the Commons. This team is an opportunity for parents who want to lead parent initiatives. Mark your calendar to come and participate if you are interested. All parents are welcome to join this team.

Over the Counter Medicine:

Several parents and students have already contacted the school nurse about administering over-the-counter (OTC) medication to their student at school. These medications are especially helpful for students with frequent headaches, orthodontic pain, menstrual cramps, stomach upset or allergy symptoms. OTC medications commonly given at school include acetaminophen (Tylenol), ibuprofen (Advil), Midol and Tums. In order for your student to receive OTC medication at school, you will need to complete the OTC Medication Permission Form at this link: [OTC Medication Permission Form](#) AND send a supply of the medication to the school in a new, sealed bottle. If you have any questions, please don't hesitate to get in touch with our school nurse, Mrs. Scruggs (scruggs_larisa@hcde.org).

School Fees:

The Hamilton County School Board sets the approved fee schedule each year for schools. The fees for this school year for STEM are a \$50 magnet programming fee (all grades) and a \$25 art, science and technology fee (grades 9 and 10). These fees are used to help support our STEM initiatives and activities at the school and help pay for consumables needed each year.

Hamilton County Schools has moved to an online payment system for school fees. The website for the platform can be found at <https://hcde.schoolcashonline.com/>. Once an account has been created a parent can select the STEM School from a list and add a student by their first and last name and their birthday.

Thank you,

Jim David
Principal

August 18, 2023 - STEM School Info 08/18

Parents/Guardians,

Thank you to everyone for a tremendous start to the school year. We love our incredible staff, awesome student body, and fantastic parents! Below are some items of note for you this week.

Clubs:

Over the next week, we will be updating our [school club list](#). We find it very important to provide spaces for students to interact with their peers outside of regular class times. On Friday, September 8, students will have a club day to learn about our school

clubs, when they meet, and how to join. I'd like you to please look over the list in the upcoming weeks and encourage your student to consider participating in a club.

Chromebooks:

At this point, each student should have been supplied with a district-issued device. The new 9th-grade Chromebooks have not yet come in due to worldwide supply chain issues. We have been assured that the new devices are on their way, but it may be a few additional weeks before they arrive.

Illness:

If your student becomes sick and has a fever, please remember that a student needs to be fever free for 24 hours before returning to school. If you have any questions about illness, please contact our school nurse, Mrs. Scruggs (scruggs_larisa@hcde.org).

PLT:

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Spirit Wear:

Ms. Johnson and Ms. Kirby will have left over spirit wear items for sale during lunch beginning next week. These items are on a first come first serve basis. Additional spirit wear items will be available for ordering within the next couple of weeks. Be on the lookout for an email with more details.

Booklist:

The [link listed here](#) is a list of books that are contained at the STEM School. This same link is posted on our school website, under Info -> General -> Book List. We make books available for students to use or checkout and teachers use the books to teach curriculum and provide free reading materials for students. If there is a book on the book list that you would not like your student to use, please email Mr. David ([David J@hcde.org](mailto:David.J@hcde.org)) so we can ensure your student does not check out that book.

Social Media:

The school has three public-facing social media accounts and one private Facebook parent page:

1. Public Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/STEMSchoolChattanooga/>
2. X (Formerly known as Twitter): <https://twitter.com/STEMcha>
3. **NEW** Instagram account: (**Please Follow**): <https://www.instagram.com/stemschoolchattanooga/>
4. Private Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/groups/292269504589055>

Facebook Internal Parent Page: The Facebook page is for parents to share information; emails to parents are posted there; families will resell used (or unused) uniforms; carpool info is posted; it's a parent-support group; it is a private group; to join the group you must answer a security question; the current security question is "Who sends the majority of STEM emails to you?"; an email was sent out with information for parents who want to join.

Over the Counter Medicine:

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Teacher Meet and Greet (Open House):

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Thank you,

Jim David
Principal

August 11, 2023 - STEM School Info 08/11

Parents/Guardians,

We had a blast this week re-connecting with STEM students and connecting with our new STEM students.

Transportation – Bus Update:

STEM bus routes have been established by the Hamilton County Schools transportation department. [Here is a link to the routes](#) (also will be posted online on our school website). Please note that every year, these times are the best estimates made by the transportation department. Our buses are on the last tier of routes, so we may have buses that run late. If transportation makes a permanent change in times for a route, we will update those on our website. We will also provide students with information if transportation makes a permanent change that impacts them and students will have a new sheet to share with their parent.

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The school has three public-facing social media accounts and one private Facebook parent page:

1. Public Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/STEMSchoolChattanooga/>
2. X (Formerly known as Twitter): <https://twitter.com/STEMcha>
3. **NEW** Instagram account: (**Please Follow**): <https://www.instagram.com/stemschoolchattanooga/>
4. Private Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/groups/292269504589055>

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unused) uniforms; carpool info is posted; it's a parent-support group; it is a private group; to join the group you must answer a security question; the current security question is "Who sends the majority of STEM emails to you?"; an email was sent out with information for parents who want to join.

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School Fees:

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pain, menstrual cramps, stomach upset or allergy symptoms. OTC medications commonly given at school include acetaminophen(Tylenol), ibuprofen(Advil), Midol and Tums. In order for your student to receive OTC medication at school, you will need to complete the OTC Medication Permission Form at this link: [OTC Medication Permission Form](#) AND send a supply of the medication to the school in a new, sealed bottle. If you have any questions, please don't hesitate to get in touch with our school nurse, Mrs. Scruggs (scruggs_larisa@hcde.org).

Pick Up and Drop Off:

In the morning and afternoon, pick up and drop off for student car riders happens in the McCormick/Wacker/CETAS parking lot. Please [click on this map of the STEM Traffic Pattern](#) for drop off. The lot next to the STEM School entrance is only for staff, visitors, and buses during the times of 9:00am-9:35am and 4:00pm-4:45pm. Please be mindful of this procedure. As for STEM student drivers, the McCormick/Wacker/CETAS parking lot is also where these students are to park along the tree line in the back of the lot. All STEM drivers must get a Chattanooga State parking pass, or they may be ticketed starting August 15. Chattanooga State police also patrol this lot often and will ticket any drivers who speed. The speed limit in the lot is 15 mph.

For parents that want to pick up students early from school, please note there is a 4:15pm cutoff. In order to maintain appropriate dismissal procedures, parents must arrive in the front office before 4:15pm in order to dismiss any student early from school. The STEM School building hours are from 9am to 5pm.

The building may be open prior to 9am and beyond 5pm, but we cannot guarantee that is the case on any given day. As for the Chattanooga State campus, the library is a popular spot for STEM School students to use before 9am and after 5pm.

Teacher Meet and Greet (Open House):

Mark your calendars: The STEM School Teacher Meet and Greet (Open House) will be Sept 14, Thursday Night 6:30-7:30. This will be a night to meet your student's teachers, learn more about our STEM magnet program, and visit the school. More information to come.

Thank you,

Jim David
STEM School Chattanooga
Principal

August 4, 2023 - STEM School Info 08/04

Parents/Guardians,

We are incredibly excited for this upcoming school year at STEM! We look forward to seeing everyone in next week and connecting with all our students. Below you will find some items of note to begin planning for this upcoming school year.

Rising Grade 9 Orientation – August 7

An additional day of orientation activities takes place for grade 9 students. On Monday, August 7, from 9:30am to 1:00pm, we will be hosting the incoming grade 9 students. This half-day orientation activity session is important for grade 9 students to connect together, learn from upperclassmen leaders, and take their first step into their STEM house (will it be Staupers, Tesla, Einstein or Mirzakhani?). All grade 9 students should plan to attend.

1st Days of School – August 9 & 10

The first day of school for students is Wednesday, August 9. All students in all grades (9-12) are to report by 9:30am. The school day goes from 9:30am to 4:30pm each day. Students in each grade will have two full days of orientation activities on Wednesday and Thursday. These days are vital to starting the school year well and getting everyone acclimated to the expectations for the upcoming year. Upperclassmen in grades 11 and 12 will begin their college-type schedules on Monday, August 14.

Friday - August 11

There is **no** school for students on Friday, August 11, as that will be a PD day for staff across the entire district.

Pick Up, Drop Off, and Building Hours

In the morning and afternoon, pick up and drop off for student car riders happens in the Wacker/CETAS parking lot. Please click on this [map of the STEM Traffic Pattern](#) for drop-off. The lot next to the STEM School entrance is only for staff, visitors, and buses from 9:00 am-9:35 am and 4:00 pm-4:45 pm. Please be mindful of this procedure. In order to also maintain appropriate dismissal procedures, parents must arrive before 4:15 pm in order to dismiss any student early from school.

As for STEM student drivers, the Wacker/CETAS/Gerald McCormick parking lot is also where these students are to park. All STEM drivers must get a Chattanooga State parking pass, or they may be ticketed starting August 16. Chattanooga State Police also patrol this lot often and will ticket any drivers who speed. The speed limit in the lot is 15 mph.

Please note that the STEM School building hours are from 9 am to 5 pm. The building may be open prior to 9 am and beyond 5 pm, but we cannot guarantee that is the case on any given day. As for the Chattanooga State campus, the library is a popular spot for STEM School students as it opens earlier than STEM and stays open later.

Registration

Hamilton County Schools normally has a “Registration Day” for parents to register their student. Please note that we do not hold an “in-person” registration. All of our registration is done and will continue to be done virtually. Amy Robinson has sent out registration information via email. If you have any questions about either the STEM Specific Registration or the Hamilton County Schools PowerSchool Registration, please email Ms. Amy at robinson_amy@hcde.org.

School Fees, Supply List and Chromebooks

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Hamilton County Schools has moved to an online payment system for school fees. The website for the platform can be found at <https://hcde.schoolcashionline.com/>. Once an account has been created a parent can select the STEM School from a list and add a student by their first and last name and their birthday.

The supply list for STEM students includes 500 sheets of copy paper (1 ream), pencils (pack of 25), and headphones. The copy paper and pencils should be dropped off in the front office during the first week of school. The headphones are for each student to keep with him/her for personal use.

Please note that all students are provided a Chromebook for use throughout the school year. Chromebooks will be distributed during the first days of school for grades 10-12.

New Chromebooks for 9th graders will be distributed as soon as the new devices arrive.

Uniforms

Students are expected to be in required [STEM dress code](#) starting the first day of school. For new students to STEM (specifically grade 9 students), there will be opportunities to order additional STEM garments during the first few weeks of school. If a new student does not have a STEM shirt to start the year, a white or blue shirt with no pictures or writing is permitted for the first few days. Uniform ordering information can be found on our school website at [this link](#).

Thank you for your support!

Jim David

Principal

July 28, 2023 - STEM School Info 07/28

Parents/Guardians,

We hope your summer is going well. We are incredibly excited for this upcoming school year at STEM! We look forward to seeing everyone in August and connecting with all our students. As we approach the end of July, here are some items of note to begin planning for this upcoming year.

Rising Grade 9 Orientation – August 7

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Registration

Hamilton County Schools normally has a “Registration Day” for parents to register their student. Please note that we do not hold an “in-person” registration. All of our registration is done and will continue to be done virtually. In the coming week, Amy Robinson will send you a Google Form to complete registration items for the STEM School and information regarding registration for the district items through PowerSchool.

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Thank you for your support!

Jim David

Principal: STEM School