

September 29, 2023 - STEM School Info 09/29

Parents/Guardians,

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

Graduation Date and Time:

The graduation ceremony date and time have been set for the Class of 2024! The STEM School ceremonies will commence at 7:30 PM on Friday, May 17, in the Memorial Auditorium. Information regarding graduation items for seniors will be forthcoming from Ms. Pearson, our graduation coordinator.

Senior ACT Retake:

Just a reminder for those of you who have seniors, the Free Senior ACT Retake is Tuesday (10/3) at the STEM School starting at 9:30 AM. This free optional opportunity does take place during ER. Students who are in ER who decided to take the ACT will be allowed out of ER to take the ACT.

Math Lab and ELA Writing Lab Time:

This fall, we are hosting Math Lab time and ELA Writing Lab time each week before school. This is a fantastic opportunity for students to get assistance on items they have for English classes as well as support for math homework, practice and summative assessment preparation. The lab days and times are as follows. All students are welcome to participate. No prior appointment is necessary. ELA Writing Labs --Each Wednesday and Thursday morning from 8:15am to 9:15am in an English classroom (Kubisak and Britt). Math Labs -- Each Tuesday and Wednesday morning from 8:15am to 9:15am in a math classroom (Williamson and Gibbons).

STEM 101 and Math Night – Oct 3:

STEM 101 and Math Night is designed for new parents to our school, especially grade 9 parents. This night will include activities to learn about our grading system and procedures, understanding Powerschool, and learning about Canvas. The night will also include a focus on learning about Delta Math (used for math homework) and becoming acquainted with math homework processes. Parents should come with their STEM student to this evening event. The event will start at 6:30pm.

ER Week – Oct 2 through Oct 6:

At the end of each quarter this year, students will have an opportunity to improve all learning target grades during ER (Extended Remediation) Week. ER Week is a time that students can re-submit graded projects for higher levels of proficiency. Students can also retake assessments to earn a higher level of proficiency. Higher levels of proficiency include grades of proficient (80) or advanced (100). For students who are struggling with reaching proficient (80), students will have an opportunity to work with teachers in focus groups to earn basic (60).

During ER Week, three items take place: student independent work time, workshops run by teachers where students choose to attend to get assistance or re-assess, and focus groups where students are assigned and required to work with a teacher. New work and assignments are not posted during this week. This week is set up as an opportunity for students to improve any learning target grade for the first quarter.

For students in grades 9-10 (underclassmen) who have no missing and/or below basic learning targets, these students may continue to work in ER to improve their grades to advanced (100). Students will also have an enrichment opportunity for the week – Fabrication Days. These students will be working in the Global Center for Digital Innovation (GCDI) on design challenges. These design challenges provide students with opportunities

to complete STEM III type projects in an abbreviated format and build upon their STEM digital fabrication and micro-credentialing portfolio.

For students in grades 11-12 (upperclassmen), ER Week also has an additional difference. When an upperclassman no longer has any ER work left to remediate, the upperclassman is not required to attend school for the remainder of ER (he/she still must attend college classes). An email has been sent to each grade 11 and 12 student (and parent copied) that is assigned mandatory ER. Please note that even if the student is not assigned mandatory ER, the student is still welcome to come in and participate to improve their learning target grade to advanced (100).

Fall Break Information:

Fall Break for Hamilton County Schools takes place from October 9 through October 16. Fall Break for Chattanooga State takes place from October 2 through October 6. These breaks impact our students as follows. STEM School Classes: There are no STEM School classes during the Hamilton County Schools Fall Break. The STEM School will be closed during this time. The last STEM School class day for the first quarter will be Friday, October 6. STEM School classes will resume on Tuesday, October 17. Chattanooga State Classes: There are no Chattanooga State college classes during the Chattanooga State Fall Break. The last Chattanooga State class day for the first term is Friday, September 29. Chattanooga State college classes will resume on Monday, October 9. Students with college classes should make sure they know and understand the above break schedules. For example, if a STEM student has a Chattanooga State college course that meets on Tuesday each week, the student is expected to attend the college class on Tuesday, October 10 (even though the STEM School is closed on this date).

Upcoming Dates:

Sept 29-Oct 2: Benchmark Testing (Alg I, Geom, Alg II, Eng I, Eng II)

Oct 3: STEM 101 and Math Night

Oct 2-6: ER (Extended Remediation)

Oct 5: Grade 10 Docent Night at the Hunter Museum

Week of Oct 2-6: Chattanooga State Fall Break

Oct 9-16: STEM School Fall Break

Nov 6 and 9: Student-Led Conferences – more info to come

Nov 8: Half Day at STEM (9:30am-1:00pm)

Nov 22-24: Thanksgiving Break

Jim David

Principal

September 22, 2023 - STEM School Info 09/22

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PLT Tuesday, Sept 26, 6:30pm-7:30pm:

Our Parent Leadership Team will meet next at the school on Tuesday, September 26, 6:30pm-7:30pm.

STEM 101 and Math Night – Oct 3:

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Jim David

Principal

September 15, 2023 - STEM School Info 09/15

Parents/Guardians,

It was terrific seeing so many of you at the Teacher Meet and Greet on Thursday night. We truly appreciate your support and engagement.

Half Day, Wednesday, September 20:

Wednesday, September 20, is a half day for students in Hamilton County Schools. The STEM School will run classes from 9:30am to 1:00pm. Buses will run at the regular time in the morning and leave from STEM at 1:00pm for afternoon routes. **IMPORTANT NOTE:** Chattanooga State classes are on a normal schedule.

Students with Chattanooga State classes are to report to their college classes as usual on Wednesday.

STEM 101 and Math Night:

Tuesday, Oct 3, STEM 101 and Math Night is designed for new parents to our school, especially grade 9 parents. This night will include activities to learn about our grading system and procedures, understanding Powerschool, and learning about Canvas. The night will also include a focus on learning about Delta Math (used for math homework) and becoming acquainted with math homework processes. The event will start at 6:30pm. Parents should come with their STEM student to this evening event. In addition, please make sure to bring the student Chromebook and headphones.

Thank you,

Jim David

Principal

September 8, 2023 - STEM School Info 09/08

Parents/Guardians,

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. The Teacher Meet and Greet is open to all grade levels.

Clubs:

Today, we hosted club time during the school day, where students visited three different club activities. All clubs and extracurricular activities are posted on our school website in the Info > Students section ([Clubs, Athletics, and Extracurricular Organizations](#)). Information on each activity and how to participate is included. Students can also check with our school counselor, Ms. Millard, and our grade 9-10 lead teacher, Ms. Kirby, if they have questions. We encourage all students to participate in extracurricular activities! If there is a club you would not like your student to participate in, please complete the following [Opt-Out form](#).

House Competition:

Today, we hosted our first House Competition. Scores will be released on Monday. Students competed in Houses in the following games: Kickball, Cornhole, Chalk Design, and Volleyball.

Thank you,

Jim David
Principal

September 1, 2023 - STEM School Info 09/01

Parents and Guardians,

Believe it or not, September is here.

Labor Day, September 4:

There will be no school either at the STEM School or at Chatt State on Labor Day, September 4. We will return to our regular schedule on Tuesday, September 5.

Chromebooks:

The new 9th-grade Chromebooks have arrived and have been handed out today. The district now covers all district student devices in the case of accidental damage. If a student has a broken or damaged school device, they must return it to the school to receive a replacement device. The district does offer Chromebook insurance for loss and theft protection. If you are interested in the available insurance, at a cost of \$15, please see the following link: [Click here](#)

House Shirts:

House shirts are available for purchase online. House shirts are available twice per year, once in the Fall and once in the Spring. They are selling the beloved gray zip-up jackets and new house t-shirts. Online sales start now until September 13th. Click [here](#) to order.

Teacher Meet and Greet (Open House):

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PLT:

The first Parent Leadership Team (PLT) meeting occurred on Monday, August 28, at 6:30 p.m. at the STEM School in the Commons. Our next meeting will occur on Tuesday, September 26, at 6:30 pm. On behalf of the school, PLT has asked if parents would be willing to send in Kleenex and Clorox wipes. If you want to donate those items to the school, please have your student drop them off at the front office.

Thank you,

Jim David
Principal