Parents/Guardians:

Hope everyone enjoyed Presidents Day weekend! Here are several items we wanted to share, including the addition of FirstView, the new bus app for First Students bus transportation.

**College Fair and 11th Grade Financial Aid Night – Feb 26**

Our annual STEM School College Fair will take place during the afternoon of February 26 from 2:00pm to 4:00pm in our Commons. Over 30 college and community partners will share information with students regarding college admission processes, financial aid opportunities, campus culture, and more. The finalized list of colleges will be posted in Google Classroom the week of the fair.

On that same night an 11th grade financial aid information session for parents and students will take place at 6:00pm in our Commons. Wondering how to pay for college? Wondering what scholarships are available for students? Wondering what the financial aid process looks like? Then come and learn at this session. The information is aimed at 11th grade students and parents, but all grades are welcome to attend.

**Student Led Conferences – Feb 26 and 27**

Student Led Conferences will take place on February 26 and 27. Student Led Conferences in the spring are optional and parents can opt in to participate. However, for some students, the student led conference is required and teachers are reaching out to the parents of these students to arrange a conference time. The conference schedule and information for sign up is below.

**9th and 10th Grade Parents**

The student led conference will include your son/daughter, you, and a STEM faculty member at a designated time. Each conference will last approximately 20 minutes. Please contact Glenda Pearson, Pearson_g@hcde.org, to schedule an appointment time. The appointment times are as follows for 9th and 10th grades:
---Wednesday, February 26 – 8:00am, 8:20am, 8:40am, 9:00am
---Thursday, February 27 – 5:00pm, 5:20pm, 5:40pm, 6:00pm, 6:20pm, 6:40pm, 7:00pm, 7:20pm, 7:40pm

**11th and 12th Grade Parents**

The student led conference will include your son/daughter and you, and your son/daughter will take you from class to class. You can come anytime during the conference hours below. Teachers will be in each
room as you move from one room to the next with the student leading the activity. No signup beforehand is needed.

---Wednesday, February 26 – 8:00am to 9:20am
---Thursday, February 27 – 5:00pm to 8:00pm

**Rising 11th Grade Parent (and Student) Night – Mar 3**

Parents of our current 10th grade students, mark your calendars! It is time to learn about the next phase of your student’s experience at STEM School Chattanooga. We will have an informational meeting for rising 11th graders on Tuesday, March 3, at 6:30pm in room HSC 1087 (Health Science Center) on the Chattanooga State campus. Please plan to attend with your student. We plan to answer your questions about 11th and 12th grades (we call Phase II) and get everyone excited about the next steps in your students’ STEM journey. The meeting will include an opportunity to meet the Phase II teacher team, learn about a day in the life of an 11th and 12th grade student, and begin the process of enrolling in Early College classes at Chattanooga State. You’ll definitely want to hear from Ms. Millard, our school counselor, and a representative from Chattanooga State about the dual enrollment and registration procedures. We look forward to seeing you that evening!

**4K Microscope Impact**

Our student experts and Ms. Seigle continue to grow their science impact with the 4K-microscope implementation. Take a few minutes to read what is happening and how their work is leading change across the region. @STEMCha #impact [https://www.the74million.org/article/remote-controlled-high-tech-microscope-brings-cutting-edge-science-to-tennessee-hs-and-now-more-underserved-schools-are-getting-in-on-it/](https://www.the74million.org/article/remote-controlled-high-tech-microscope-brings-cutting-edge-science-to-tennessee-hs-and-now-more-underserved-schools-are-getting-in-on-it/)

**Superintendent’s Teacher Cabinet – Ms. Brockelbank**

Congratulations to Ms. Brockelbank as she has been invited to serve on the Superintendent’s Teacher Cabinet! The cabinet will meet with the superintendent to brainstorm initiatives to continue to move our county system forward. Ms. Brockelbank is a fantastic selection for this initiative and we are excited about her inclusion in this endeavor!

**Yearbook**

STEM School yearbooks are currently on sale through TreeRing, our online yearbook company, through March 14th. Yearbooks can only be purchased through the TreeRing website. We will not be selling extras. Students can also personalize two pages in their purchased yearbook for free! Yearbooks are on
sale for $29.65. The link to purchase is www.treering.com/signin. If you have trouble, please connect with Ms. Bolus at bolus_lisa@hcde.org.

**School Climate Survey**

STEM School Chattanooga is conducting a survey about school climate and learning in school. The survey will help us create a safe and supportive school environment that promotes academic success. Schools have used this information to drive positive changes for student and staff culture. The survey is voluntary and anonymous. It includes questions about student relationships with teachers, school principals, and other students; school safety, bullying, and substance use; and school rules and the school environment.

This survey is sponsored by the Tennessee Department of Education. You can view the survey at (https://www.hcde.org/climatesurvey). The survey is being administered to students online between February 14th and March 13th.

Parents are also encouraged to take part in this school climate survey as well. Parents have a different link to use that is https://parentsurvey2020.questionpro.com.

**Bus App Pilot Begins – First Student App**

The First Student App to provide you with bus information on your phone is now available for you to download and use. Our school has been selected as a pilot school for the use of the app for the rest of the year. As a pilot school, please also feel free to share information regarding how the app is working for you and your family with First Student (support@firstviewapp.com).

You may begin using the app by downloading the app in the App Store. The app is titled FirstView. Please select Tennessee and Hamilton County Schools in the dropdown box options when you first open the app. Use the following code to connect to buses for STEM School Chattanooga: HT9J. Type in your student’s name to connect to a bus and then select your stop location from options given in the app. You are now ready to use the app.

A list of frequently asked questions for the app use can be found at www.hcde.org/firstview. Attached is also information regarding the app.

**Dates to Note**

-Monday, March 9 thru Friday, March 13: Chattanooga State Spring Break (STEM School classes are in session for 9th and 10th grades, assigned remediation time for select students in 11th and 12th grades; No classes for Chattanooga State college classes)
- Monday, March 16: Teacher Professional Development Day (No classes at STEM School; Chattanooga State classes are in session)
- Friday, April 3 thru Friday, April 10: STEM School Spring Break (Chattanooga State classes are in session)
- Wednesday and Thursday, May 13 and 14: STEM Jubilee
- Friday, May 15: Graduation Practice (9am at Tivoli)
- Saturday, May 16: Graduation Ceremony (11:30am at Tivoli)

Thank you for your support!

Dr. Tony Donen
Principal