Parents and Guardians,

As you are aware, Hamilton County Schools has closed schools for the next two weeks. In order to provide some clarification on what that means for students, we wanted to share some items with you.

**Events and School Access**

All STEM School events are cancelled during this time. This includes classes, STEM III kickoffs, clubs, and any other events that bring students together in groups. The STEM School (and Chattanooga State) buildings are closed to students.

**STEM Classes**

As for classwork, students will not be assigned any additional work items during the next two weeks. However, students should use this time to complete work that is still incomplete or needs improvement. Students will still be able to access their Google accounts (mail, drive, classroom, etc.) and should use this time to submit work items to their teachers for review, feedback and grading. Students in 9th and 10th grade who have been assigned Edgenuity items can also still complete Edgenuity during this time. These two weeks are a perfect opportunity for students to catch up and/or improve graded items.

**College Classes**

For students with college classes at Chattanooga State, Chattanooga State has moved to online work beginning March 23 through March 31. Students should check their TigerWeb and eLearn. These are the online student management programs used with the college students and all students with college classes already know how to check these programs.

**Long Term Plan**

No one is quite sure what will continue to happen with the COVID-19 situation over the next two weeks. It is quite possible that educational institutions (both K-12 and higher ed) will cancel school for a longer period of time. If that is the case, Hamilton County Schools will send out more information regarding school closures. At the school level, we are already beginning to plan in case that takes place and will implement a virtual school model for our STEM students. The great news about our school is we are way ahead of the curve and have several
items in place to begin a virtual experience. All of our classes are in Google Classroom, every student has a Chromebook and is highly knowledgeable in using Google Drive, email, and Google Classroom, we have the ability to implement virtual meet ups, and our staff is comfortable in posting, checking and grading online submissions. Hopefully, we will be able to reconvene normal schooling on March 30th as planned. But, if not, we will adapt, innovate, and lead the way for Hamilton County Schools.

As always, we appreciate your patience and flexibility during this time. We will be doing our best to navigate this unknown situation as different variables and constraints are introduced.

Thank you for your support!

Dr. Tony Donen

Principal