Parents/Guardians,

The first quarter of the year is rapidly coming to an end and fall break is almost upon us! Below are some items we wanted to share.

**End of Quarter PBL Dates**

10th Grade Docent Night at the Hunter Museum – Oct 3
All families are welcome to attend the 10th Grade Docent Night at the Hunter Museum of Art on Thursday, October 3rd. 10th grade students will be showcasing their original digitally fabricated works of art from 6:00pm to 7:30pm that evening. This is a required night for all 10th grade students. As for museum fee to enter the Hunter Museum of Art that evening, it is free to everyone for the entire evening. Come and be blown away by these 10th grade projects!

11th Grade PBL Final Presentations – Oct 3 & 4
The STEM III 1st quarter PBL final presentations are set for Thursday, October 3rd and Friday, October 4th. Attached is a schedule with all of the final presentations, locations and times. Parents, guardians, and students are responsible for transportation. This information is posted each quarter on the STEM School website under the FabLab – STEM III link (https://stemschool.hcde.org/fablab). You will always be able to find information regarding STEM III projects and partnerships at this link throughout the year.

9th Grade Pinball Exhibition – Oct 17
The first large cross-curricular PBL for 9th grade students comes to an end on Thursday, October 17th. Teams will participate in a culminating event where students present their pinball games and explain their design choices using the Arcade Information Sheet. Groups will also play each other’s pinball machines and vote on the best designs.

STEM 101 – Oct 17 at 6pm

STEM 101 is a night designed to help parents learn about Google Classroom, Powerschool Grading, and Tech Safety. The night is organized such that parents work through different tasks to learn about each of these items. STEM staff will be there that night to help facilitate the activities. We also have all the activities posted on our website under the STEM 101 link under the For Parents tab. We will meet in the STEM School Commons starting at 6pm on Thursday, October 17th.

Website Highlight – Learning Targets, Google Classroom and Powerschool Grades

Each month I will highlight a portion of the school website for you in these emails. We have a lot of information about our school that can be found at the link stemschool.hcde.org and this will provide the opportunity to emphasize a particular item for you.
This highlight is for information about our content standards, assignments and grading. Information on our content standards (which we call learning targets) can be found on the website by clicking the “About Us” tab and the link for “Learning Targets and Grades”. This will provide you with a list of content items for learning throughout our school as well as the levels of mastery we use to assign grades. You can dive further into learning about the grading and assignments by clicking the “About Us” tab and the link for “Grading, Google Classroom and Powerschool”. Our upperclassmen are very familiar with the expectations and system we use, and can talk knowledgeably about the processes in place. As for 9th grade students, they are becoming much more familiar with the process at this time and should be able to communicate with you about what different terms and grades mean for their work. In our upcoming STEM 101 night for parents, we also have parents go through a process to begin learning the vernacular and processes as well.

**Fall Break**

Please note the Fall Break schedule below.
--STEM School: No school from October 5 through October 14. School will be closed during this time. First day back of classes is Tuesday, October 15.
--Chattanooga State: No school on October 14 and October 15. All other days the college classes are in session and STEM students are expected to attend their college classes.
--11th and 12th Grade Students Only: No school (STEM or Chattanooga State) on October 14 and 15. However, if a student is behind, the student may be assigned ER (Emergency Remediation) and must report all day on October 15. An email from the Phase II teachers will be sent in those situations.

**Graduation Ceremony – May 16**

Graduation date, time and location are set for this spring. Graduation will take place 11:30am on Saturday, May 16th at the Tivoli Theater in Downtown Chattanooga. Class of 2020 here we come!

Thank you for your support!

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