Parents and Guardians,

As we head into May, we have several items to share with you this week as the school year begins to come to a close.

Grading

This section will provide you with the most up-to-date information on grading. Please note that this Friday, May 1 at 4:30pm, is the deadline for proficient and/or advanced work submission.

Reminder that based on the Tennessee State Board of Education meeting on Thursday, April 9 and Hamilton County central office decisions, all Hamilton County high schools will implement a grade cutoff date of March 13. What that means for STEM students:

- All learning targets and PBLs that were assessed and due by March 13 will be included in the student grade. Any learning targets introduced and assessed after March 13 will be a bonus that can only help a student grade.
- Teachers have put in Powerschool the word BONUS in front of any learning target or PBL in the gradebook for items that are after March 13. Students who submit work for these BONUS items can use these to boost their overall grade. Students who do not submit items or do not submit items done well, will be exempt for this BONUS item (will not count against the student).
- Reminder, all learning targets up to March 13 MUST BE at the level of basic (70), proficient (85) or advanced (100) for a student to earn course credit.
- Students have until May 1 at 4:30pm to submit any items to improve learning target grades to proficient (85) or advanced (100).
- After May 1 for learning targets due by March 13 that are still missing (0) or below basic (50):
  - 9th and 10th Grade: Students must complete Edgenuity. When the Edgenuity is successfully finished, the learning target grade will become a basic (70). Students will have until May 15 to get support from teachers on these Edgenuity items. Edgenuity that is still incomplete after May 15 will turn into Summer School work for the student.
  - 11th Grade: Students must complete assigned ER (Emergency Remediation). Successfully completed ER assignments will earn a grade of basic (70) and MUST be completed by May 15. Students unsuccessful will not earn course credit and must repeat the full course in 12th grade.
  - 12th Grade: Students must complete assigned ER (Emergency Remediation). Successfully completed ER assignments will earn a grade of basic (70) and MUST be completed by May 11. Students unsuccessful will not earn credit for the course. If the course is required for graduation, the senior will not earn a high school diploma.
- Honors courses will still receive three points added to the student final course grade.
- Final course grades will be placed on student high school transcripts and used for both GPA and class ranking.
• Chattanooga State college course grades will be added on to the high school transcript such that the grade higher between the mid-term and final grade will be recorded. However, the college transcript will only use the final grade and used to determine the student college GPA.
• We continue to keep in mind that several students and families have been impacted by the tornado such that re-establishing routines for schoolwork are still challenging. Teachers are working with students on a case-by-case basis in this situation. Parents and/or students should communicate with each teacher in this situation so the teacher can work with the student on an individual plan if needed.

Testing

All state testing has been cancelled for this spring. No tests will need to be administered later except for the national ACT test. In terms of the plan for the ACT testing, Hamilton County Schools is continuing to monitor the COVID-19 situation and is discussing how to best handle the ACT administration. As we know more about the Hamilton County ACT plan, we will let you know.

End of School Dates

May 1 – Students who have proficiently completed all learning targets in all courses are completed for the academic school year. These students will have no additional coursework assigned and can begin their summer.

May 4 – Students who still have a missing (0) or below basic (50) for any learning target required by March 13 will continue to work in either Edgenuity (9th and 10th graders) or ER (11th and 12th graders). Teachers will continue to support these students in their learning efforts.

May 15 – Last day for all teacher virtual support. 9th and 10th grade students who are still not finished will be assigned Summer School. Students and parents will be notified if a student is assigned Summer School.

June 1 – Summer School will be virtual this year and the virtual learning support begins on June 1. Please note that 9th and 10th grade students who are assigned Summer School can still work on their Edgenuity items between May 15 and June 1. Any 9th and 10th grade student who finishes during that timeframe will be checked off on June 1 as completed.

School Pick Up and Drop Off Days

Students will be invited to come to the school to pick up and drop off items from this school year in May. The exact dates and times have yet to be determined but we do know the process will take place sometime between May 11 and May 22. Mr. David is currently in the planning
stages of the school pick up/drop off procedures. Our goal, if possible, will be for students and families to drive up and exchange any items without anyone having to get out of their car. Students should be thinking about items they may need (locker, left in a particular classroom, driver permit request form, etc). We will communicate items for the student to bring and drop at the school (Chromebook, calculator, other).

Again, the dates, times and specific procedure are still being planned. We also must coordinate this process with Chattanooga State officials as the campus is still closed to students, teachers and non-essential personnel. Once we have the plan finalized, we will communicate the procedures to you.

**Senior Recognition**

Hamilton County Schools is continuing to work out dates and times for potential graduation ceremonies. The below are dates and times we are asking you to hold in case we are able to congregate for graduation ceremonies. No final decision has been made on either date.

- Option 1 – 11:30am on Saturday, June 27 at Tivoli
- Option 2 – 5:00pm on Wednesday, July 29 at Memorial Auditorium

In the meantime, we are excited to share senior spotlights on Twitter and Facebook each day. Beginning last Thursday, we have celebrated seniors each day on social media. We will continue to do so through May 15. Our school Twitter account is @STEMCha and we encourage you to follow along as every senior is recognized!

**Important Upcoming Dates**

May 1 – Last day to submit work for proficient or advanced (due by 4:30pm)
May 4 – First day of teacher support days for 9th and 10th grades in Edgenuity and 11th and 12th grades in ER
May 8 – Last day of Chattanooga State college class sessions (finals take place the week afterwards)
May 11 – Last day for 12th grade in ER
May 15 – Last day for 11th grade in ER
May 15 – Last day for teacher support for all grade levels
May 18-22 – Teacher administrative week (no student virtual learning support)
June 1 – Summer School begins virtually for 9th and 10th grade

Thank you for your support!

Dr. Tony Donen
Principal