

Parents/Guardians:

I hope everyone is keeping warm during this cold, brisk winter weather. Below are some items we wanted to share from the STEM School.

### **STEM Jubilee**

The STEM Jubilee is set for Sunday, April 17, 2016. The STEM Jubilee is a Chattanooga event sponsored by the STEM School to provide fun, engaging, and interesting STEM activities for local area children. The event is held at Finley Stadium and takes place at the same time as the 4 Bridges Arts Festival located at the Tennessee Pavilion.

The STEM Jubilee is organized and run by the STEM School Parent Leadership Team. Cameille Vlietstra, the STEM Jubilee Chairperson, has an amazing team of parents that are working to develop and implement this great event. The STEM Jubilee is not only a great way for us to share STEM with kids across this region, but it also acts as the main fundraiser for our school. This year the STEM Jubilee will also be partnered with all the HCDE elementary schools as a fundraiser for them as well. For every ticket bought, 50% of that ticket will go back to that elementary school. What a great way to spread STEM, fundraise for our school, and help every HCDE elementary school in our county.

In order to make the STEM Jubilee work, please be on the look out for a separate email from Shaneka McDowell, the Volunteer Chairperson for the Parent Leadership Team. It will be vital for you to participate and volunteer in this event. Last year, we had a great time and I cannot wait for this year's activities!

### **Creative Discovery Museum Partnership Lessons**

In the fall our 10th grade students worked in partnership with the Creative Discovery Museum to create elementary STEM lessons. For lessons that were high quality and approved by the CDM staff, these lessons were sent to the local elementary schools and schools were able to request for a 10th grade team to come and deliver a particular lesson to students. Lesson plans and teams selected are visiting schools throughout January through March to implement their original STEM lessons.

In our first year of this partnership (three years ago), 10th grade student teams taught just over 400 elementary students. Last year, around 900. This year... the total will be close to 1500 elementary students!!! What a great way for our 10th grade students to learn service, provide quality STEM experiences for our area elementary students, and be incredible community leaders. We are so proud of them!

### **National Center for Women & Information Technology Winner**

Congratulations to Ellie Betts, 11th grade student, for winning the Regional NCWIT Award and being the National Runner-Up! The NCWIT Award for Aspirations in Computing honors high school women who are active and interested in computing and technology, and encourages them to pursue their passions. Aspirations Award recipients are chosen for their outstanding aptitude and interest in computing, proven leadership ability, academic performance, and plans for post-secondary education.

### **Einstein Mural**

Over the next few months, a mural of Albert Einstein will be going up on the exterior of our building. The mural will be located on the side wall near the solar panels. A team of STEM students will be working with a former Lead Imagineer at Walt Disney World in this endeavor. We are excited about this huge mural piece going up and, even more so, excited that it will be through the hard work and dedication of a STEM student team.

Thank you for your support!

Dr. Donen