

Parents/Guardians,

We hope everyone is in good shape after Irma passed through Chattanooga. There have certainly been tough times these past few weeks in places like Texas and Florida. I am sure that more than several of you have relatives who are going through tough experiences. For me, it's my parents, who live in Florida and hunkered down through Hurricane Irma, and who are part of the many folks working to re-build their communities. Our thoughts and prayers are with everyone impacted by these storms.

As for the STEM School, here are some upcoming items we wanted to share.

Parent Leadership Team (PLT) Meeting – Monday, September 18 from 6:30pm-7:30pm

The second Parent Leadership Team, or PLT, meeting will take place on Monday night. The PLT has established the following committees for work across this school year: National Honor Society, Silent Auction, Staff Appreciation, STEM Jubilee, Student Council, and Volunteer. Interested in becoming part of the STEM PLT? Come on out and participate with us on Monday night.

Open House – Tuesday, September 19 from 6:30pm-8:15pm

Reminder: Our STEM School Open House will start at 6:30pm on Tuesday, September 19th. Open House is an opportunity for parents to learn more about your student's teachers and opportunities. Students are also welcome to attend. Please note that the evening will last just over 1.5 hours and our student leaders in Student Council design, organize and run the schedule for the evening.

In order for you to plan appropriately, here is what you need to know. Student Council expects parents to be here by 6:30pm. Parents will then be part of a schedule created by the Student Council for the next hour and a half to learn more about their student's STEM daily experience.

Powerschool and GradeCraft - Grades

Both Powerschool and GradeCraft will be set up and operational by this upcoming Monday, September 18. Powerschool is used for reporting of all Learning Target and PBL grades in STEM classes except for science class. GradeCraft, in a partnership with the University of Michigan on gameful learning, is used for our science classes this year.

9th and 10th grade students will be given two letters regarding Powerschool access and logins on Monday. 11th and 12th grade students and parents should already have Powerschool access from last year. However, if you are an 11th or 12th grade parent and need your login information, please contact Mr. David, david_j@hcde.org, for the access information. An email with more information on GradeCraft access and a link to the video posted to the school website for using GradeCraft will be sent out by Monday next week.

Chattanooga State Construction

There are three major projects taking place this year in or adjacent to the CETAS building for Chattanooga State.

1. Greenhouse – The parking lot area that is fenced off is part of a construction project for a new state of the art greenhouse building. This project will last approximately six months and will impact our traffic pattern during that time.
2. CETAS Roofing – The entire CETAS building (which includes the STEM School) is getting a new roof. The roofing during the school year will take place on the portion of CETAS not over the STEM School. However, this will most likely cause the fire alarm to trigger at random times due to dust. There should be no safety issue, but we will have to evacuate the building when an alarm is triggered just in case. Long story short, if your student says we seem to have an increased number of fire drills this year, they will be correct. As for the roof over the STEM School portion, that work will take place starting in June.
3. Engineering Facility Bay Doors – There are a few engineering facility bay doors being added to the back of the engineering labs on the backside of CETAS. This work will have very little impact on our students. However, there will be some sound issues for students or classes that are using the outdoor classroom area.

Have a great rest of your week and thank you for your support!

Dr. Tony Donen
Principal