

Parents/Guardians,

I hope you are enjoying the fall as much as we are. It's a great time to be in Chattanooga. As we approach Thanksgiving, we wanted to share some upcoming items and information with you.

Thanksgiving Break – Nov 22-24

Thanksgiving break is next week from Wednesday thru Friday. We wish your family a happy Thanksgiving! Of course, that also means there is school on Monday and Tuesday at both the STEM School and Chattanooga State. Both are full days of school, so students should be ready to come and work as normal on those days.

STEM Showcase - Dec 5

On Tuesday, December 5 we will be hosting our first annual STEM Showcase. **The STEM Showcase will be an evening event from 6:30pm to 8:00pm in the STEM School and CETAS building.** All students, 9th grade thru 12th grade, will be showcasing a STEM workpiece for public display. The STEM Showcase will also include two other events. The first will be a silent auction fundraiser by the STEM Parent Leadership Team. The second will be promotional and informational booths for Chattanooga State Engineering and Information Technologies Division programs as well as University of Tennessee-Chattanooga programs.

All STEM students are expected to attend and will act as docents for their work during a 45 minute time slot that evening (either from 6:30pm-7:15pm or 7:15pm-8:00pm). Additionally, the STEM Showcase will be an interactive experience as parents and guests will be provided the opportunity to give brief written feedback on student work.

The STEM Showcase will be a large event and take over the entire CETAS building. 9th grade projects and the silent auction will be in Phase I of the STEM School, 10th grade projects will be in Phase II of the STEM School, 11th grade STEM III projects will be in the Wacker building, 12th grade entrepreneurial STEM IV businesses will be in the CETAS engineering hall, and Chattanooga State and UTC will be throughout the CETAS and Wacker building. We look forward to seeing everyone that evening and enjoying the showcase experience!

Facebook by Parent Leadership Team

Shaneka McDowell (nekam28@gmail.com), the Facebook volunteer administrator for the STEM Parent Leadership Team, is ready for parents to join a closed Facebook page. The link to the page is <https://m.facebook.com/groups/292269504589055>. If you have questions about the page or problems joining, please connect with Shaneka.

From Shaneka: This Facebook group is for parents of STEM School Chattanooga students. This page is not administered by the school. It is intended to be a social resource for busy parents. Politics, religion or sales are prohibited. However, parents are welcome to post items about uniform items and iPad accessories that they may want to trade, sell or purchase from each other.

Houses

As you may or may not be aware, our school has its own “Harry Potter” style of houses for students. Our houses are based on the four temperaments of the MBTI (Myers Briggs Type Indicator) – artisans, guardians, idealists and rationalists. Each house has a famous STEM figure as the house name which also correlate to one of the four letters in STEM – Staupers (guardians), Tesla (rationalists), Einstein (idealists) and Mirzakhani (artisans). Students are “sorted” into a house their freshman year and stay in their house through 12th grade. The goal is to build camaraderie across grade levels while also understanding how one’s temperament can impact his/her views and interactions with others.

This year we have completed several house competitions and the next competition will take place in December. Points are won during each competition and the winning house each year is awarded the House Cup (currently being designed by a group of students). In this year’s competition, the standings are as such: Staupers 2675 points, Einstein 2625 points, Mirzakhani 2250 points, and Tesla 1775 points. A lot can happen before the end of the year though. Tesla led the way for most of 2016-2017 only to be passed by the Staupers in a quiz bowl playoff in the last week of school.

We encourage everyone, including parents, to figure out their MBTI (google free MBTI test). Knowing your MBTI and your students can certainly help in communication. It helps us every day.

Thank you for your support!

Dr. Tony Donen
Principal