

December 18, 2023 - STEM School Info 12/18

Parents/Guardians,

A half week and then winter holiday break!

Please see below on some items of note as we conclude the first semester. This will also be our last informational email until we return from the holiday break. Have a fantastic holiday with your family!

Social Media:

If you haven't spent time looking at our Facebook or Instagram pages, then over break, I would encourage you to review some of the wonderful things our students have accomplished this semester.

Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/STEMSchoolChattanooga/>

Instagram account: (Please

Follow): <https://www.instagram.com/stemschoolchattanooga/>

End Dates and Start Dates for Fall and Spring Semester

Dec 20: Last Day Prior to Winter Break (Full Day)

Jan 8: First Day of Spring Semester (Full Day)

--Grade 9 and 10 students start spring semester schedule and classes

--Grade 11 and 12 students report back for full day (930am-430pm). These students will participate in UP Day activities from Jan 8 through Jan 12 each

day. These activities range from college readying lessons, enrichment activities, and STEM academic coursework.

Jan 16: First Day of Upperclassmen Academic Schedule

--Grade 11 and 12 students begin their academic hybrid STEM and college course calendar. This is the first day of college classes for Chattanooga State.

Upcoming Dates

Dec 20: Last Day of Fall Semester (Full Day)

Dec 21-Jan 7: Winter Break (No STEM School Classes)

Jan 8: First Day of Spring Semester

Jan 15: MLK- (No classes for students)

Thank you for your support and happy holidays,

Jim David

Principal

December 8, 2023 - STEM School Info 12/08

Parents/Guardians,

We are getting close to the end of the semester. Below are some items to keep in mind and be aware of as we wrap up quarter two.

District 9-12 Teacher of the Year:

We are pleased to announce that Ms. Kane, our 10th-grade Chemistry teacher, was selected out of all of the high schools in the district as Hamilton County Schools' teacher of the year for grades 9-12!

Benchmark Testing:

Students in English I, English II, Algebra I, Geometry, and Algebra II will take benchmark testing next week on Wednesday and Thursday.

End of semester and beginning of next semester:

Dec 14-20: ER Week

--Grade 9 and 10 students participate in ER (extended remediation time) or Dividend Day (enrichment activities)

--Grade 11 and 12 students report to school that only need ER (extended remediation time)

Dec 20: Last Day Prior to Winter Break (Full Day)

Jan 8: First Day of Spring Semester (Full Day)

--Grade 9 and 10 students start spring semester schedule and classes

--Grade 11 and 12 students report back for full day. These students will participate in UP Day activities each day from Jan 8 through Jan 12, 930am-430pm. These include college readying lessons, enrichment activities, and STEM academic coursework.

Jan 16: First Day of Upperclassmen Academic Schedule

--Grade 11 and 12 students begin their academic hybrid STEM and college course calendar. This is the first day of college classes for Chattanooga State.

Inventanooga – Dec 13

On December 13, selected teams will participate in the Inventanooga Showcase event at the University of Tennessee-Chattanooga. STEM School Chattanooga and UTC have partnered together to engage schools throughout the area in this competition.

General information about Inventanooga, including previous competitions, are included on our school's website under the Framework > Programs > Inventanooga tab. Here is also a link straight to the Inventanooga [website](#).

PBL Culminating Events in Grades 9 and 10

Grade 9 students are completing their cross-curricular PBL project on robotics on Dec 13. The teams will be competing in a culminating robotics tournament, and we are excited to see each team in action as all grade 9 students participate in this robotics event!

Grade 10 teams are finalizing their Creative Discovery Museum math or science lessons for elementary students. Dec 14, 15, 18, 19, we have 11 different elementary schools coming to the STEM School to participate in the lessons created by students in grade 10. We are excited to see our students implement and lead these awesome experiences with the elementary students!

ER Week – Dec 14 through Dec 20

At the end of each quarter this year, students have an opportunity to improve all learning target grades during ER (Extended Remediation) Week. ER Week is a time that students can re-submit graded projects for higher levels of proficiency. Students can also re-take assessments to earn a higher level of proficiency. Higher levels of proficiency include grades of proficient (80) or advanced (100). For students who are

struggling with reaching proficient (80), students will have an opportunity to work with teachers in focus groups to earn basic (60).

During ER Week, three items take place: student independent work time, workshops run by teachers where students choose to attend to get assistance or re-assess, and focus groups where students are assigned and required to work with a teacher. New work and assignments are not posted during this week. This week is set up as an opportunity for students to improve any learning target grade for the quarter. For students in grades 9-10 (underclassmen) who have no missing and/or below basic learning targets, these students may continue to work in ER to improve their grades to advanced (100). Students will also have an enrichment opportunity during ER week called Fabrication Days. These students will be working in the Global Center for Digital Innovation (GCDI) on design challenges. These design challenges provide students with opportunities to complete STEM III type projects in an abbreviated format and build upon their STEM digital fabrication and microcredentialing portfolio.

For students in grades 11-12 (upperclassmen), ER Week also has an additional difference. When an upperclassman no longer has any ER work left to remediate, the upperclassman is not required to attend school for the remainder of ER. An email will be sent to each grade 11 and 12 student (and parent copied) that is assigned mandatory ER. Please note that even if the student is not assigned mandatory ER, the student is still welcome to come in and participate to improve their learning target grade to advanced (100).

Upcoming Dates

Dec 13: Culminating Grade 9 PBL Event

Dec 13: Inventanooga Finalist Competition at UTC

Dec 13, 14: Benchmark Testing

Dec 14, 15, 18, 19: Grade 10 CDM Lessons with Elementary Schools

Dec 14, 15, 18, 19, 20: ER Week

Dec 20: Last Day of Fall Semester (Full Day)

Dec 21-Jan 7: Winter Break (No STEM School Classes)

Jan 8: First Day of Spring Semester

I appreciate your support!

Jim David

Principal

December 1, 2023 - STEM School Info 12/01

Parents/Guardians,

The semester is quickly winding down and we are getting close to the end of the fall semester. Here are several items of note as we finish strong this semester!

End of semester and beginning of next semester:

Dec 14-20: ER Week

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Jan 16: First Day of Upperclassmen Academic Schedule

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Inventanooga – Dec 8 and Dec 13

On December 8, seniors will be pitching their innovative entrepreneurship businesses on the Chattanooga State campus. The students have been using design thinking to identify and network with a target audience, analyze their expressed needs, invent a solution, and pitch their invention. After identifying their real-world problem, they sought out expert knowledge to help ideate, invent, and test a solution with their prospective customers. Students then built a business plan to produce their product. We are excited to watch as all teams present their final pitches on this Friday!

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PLT Lunch-

We want to say thank you to all the parents who help provide food for our monthly PTL lunch. The staff truly appreciates your generosity.

PLT Meeting-

Our next Parent Leadership Team meeting will be Dec 4, at 6:30pm at the STEM School.

Upcoming Dates

Dec 8: STEM IV Inventanooga Presentations

Dec 13: Culminating Grade 9 PBL Event

Dec 13: Inventanooga Finalist Competition at UTC

Dec 13, 14: Benchmark Testing

Dec 14, 15, 18, 19: Grade 10 CDM Lessons with Elementary Schools

Dec 14, 15, 18, 19, 20: ER Week

Dec 20: Last Day of Fall Semester (Full Day)

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Thank you for being so supportive!

Jim David

Principal