

# April 28, 2023 - STEM School Info 04/28

Parents/Guardians,

Hard to believe, but it's the last school day of April! Here are some reminders for everyone of key dates and activities as we finish the school year this May.

## Calendar Items

As we approach the final stages of the school year, here are some dates and times that are important for school attendance and finalization of classes this spring. Please note the different timelines depending on grade level (9-10, 11, and 12).

### Weekly Calendar

May 1-5: Regular Schedule (9-12) and State/National Testing

May 8-12: Extended Remediation Week (9-12)

May 15-19: Inertia/Dividend Days/Jubilee (9-10), Jubilee (11)

May 22-24: Inertia/Dividend Days (9-10)

### Specific Important Dates

May 12 – Last Day for Final Work Submissions (due by 4:30pm)

May 12 – Last Day of School for Grade 12

May 12 – Final House Competition

May 15 – Inertia and Dividend Day Begins for Grades 9, 10

May 16-17 – STEM Jubilee for Grades 9, 10, 11

May 17 – Last Day of School for Grade 11

May 18 – Graduation Ceremony

May 24 – Last Day of School for Grades 9, 10

June 5 – First Day of Summer School (Grades 9, 10 only)

June 29 – Last Day of Summer School

## **State and National Testing Remaining – May 1 through May 8**

Please make sure students are present starting at 9:30am on each of these testing dates as testing will take place in the morning.

May 3: EOC Biology Exam, Dual Credit US History Exam

May 5: AP US History Exam

May 8: AP Calculus Exam

## **ER (Extended Remediation) in Grades 9 through 12 – May 8 through May 12**

At the end of each quarter this year, students have an opportunity to improve all learning target grades during ER Week. The May 8 through May 12 week is the final ER Week where 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 semester.

***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 for the week – Fabrication Days. For this Fabrication Days experience, these students will be working in the Global Center for Digital Innovation (GCDI) on STEM design challenges developed by college instructors.

***For students in grades 11-12***, this ER Week also has additional differences. When the student no longer has any ER work left to remediate, the student is not required to attend school this week.

The student is completed with spring semester coursework (grade 11) or high school graduation requirements (grade 12)! An email will be sent to each student (and parent) 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).

----**GRADE 11 IMPORTANT:** If the student does not complete ALL learning targets to a satisfactory proficiency by the end of ER, the student will be assigned to RETAKE the entire course in grade 12. There is NO summer school opportunity for grade 11 students.

----**GRADE 12 IMPORTANT:** In order to participate in the graduation ceremony, ALL work for ALL courses must be satisfactorily completed by end of ER. Otherwise, the grade 12 student will NOT be participating in the graduation ceremony.

### **STEM Jubilee – May 16 and 17**

The STEM School will once again be hosting the STEM Jubilee this year for elementary schools in Hamilton County. The STEM Jubilee is a STEM-based activity that includes STEM activities, games and challenges at booths located throughout the event. The purpose of the STEM Jubilee is to engage Hamilton County elementary school students in a variety of STEM-related concepts through hands-on activities and to inspire STEM education. Over 3000 elementary students will participate over this two-day event.

Grade 9, 10 and 11 students will be participating in the STEM Jubilee. This is a required event for their participation. This opportunity models the vision for our school of positively impacting others outside the walls of our school. Our students will lead booths and activities for the 3000+ elementary students on these dates!

----**GRADE 11 IMPORTANT:** Students in grade 11 are required to participate in the Jubilee. If there is a conflict, students must connect with Mr. David. An alternate two-day community service requirement will be done in the summer at the STEM School for any grade 11 student who is not at

the Jubilee. Jubilee participation or summer STEM community service will be required for returning senior year.

----**ARRIVAL TIME IMPORTANT – 8:30AM**: Students are to report to HPF building (where gym is located at Chattanooga State) by 8:30am. Grade 9 or 10 students that absolutely cannot arrive early are to communicate this with Mr. David. We need our STEM students here early because elementary students will be arriving each day before 9:00am for the jubilee activities.

----**PARENT VOLUNTEERS**: The STEM Jubilee is mostly run by our students, faculty and our partners. However, there are two opportunities for parent participation. One is helping with the hospitality station during lunch and the other is cleanup at the end of the jubilee. Please see this [link for parent volunteering signup](#).

#### **Inertia Institute and Dividend Day Dates in Grades 9 and 10 – May 15 through May 24**

Two activities will take place starting May 15 for students in grades 9 and 10 – Inertia Institute and Dividend Days.

Inertia Institute is required for students with learning target items unsatisfactorily done. Inertia is defined as an object remaining at rest until a force acts upon it. Consequently, once we complete the final ER week, all learning target grades that remain as either missing (0) or below basic (50) after May 12 will turn into Edgenuity units for the student to complete starting May 15. These Edgenuity units are required for successful completion in order for the student to earn course credit. For students who continue to have Edgenuity work to complete after May 24, these students are REQUIRED to attend in person summer school (June 2023) in order to return to STEM in 2023-24.

Dividend Days are enrichment days for students in grade 9 and 10 with ALL learning targets at the basic, proficient and advanced status. Dividend days are unique each day. Different STEM teachers design each day, so depending on the teachers, the activities are wide-ranging. The activities are

intended for students to have fun while also having students connect with each other. Activities may be inside, may be outside, may be neat or may be messy.

### **Graduation – May 18**

Graduation is May 18, 5:30pm at Memorial Auditorium, with seniors arriving by 5:00pm. Hamilton County Schools has decided that they will use tickets for all HCS graduations this year. The good news is that we are still not limited on attendees. So, once we have tickets (sometime in the first week of May), graduates can get what they need for their families and friends.

Thank you for your support!

Dr. Tony Donen  
Executive Principal

## **April 21, 2023 - STEM School Info 04/21**

Parents/Guardians,

Hope you are having a fantastic Friday! Here are important items for you as we organize the end of the school year.

### **Calendar Items**

As we approach the final stages of the school year, here are some dates and times that are important for school attendance and finalization of classes this spring. Please note the different timelines depending on grade level (9-10, 11, and 12).

Weekly Calendar

April 24-28: Regular Schedule (9-12) and State Testing

May 1-5: Regular Schedule (9-12) and State/National Testing

May 8-12: Extended Remediation Week (9-12)

May 15-19: Inertia/Dividend Days/Jubilee (9-10), Jubilee (11)

May 22-24: Inertia/Dividend Days (9-10)

#### Specific Important Dates

May 12 – Last Day for Final Work Submissions (due by 4:30pm)

May 12 – Last Day of School for Grade 12

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May 16-17 – STEM Jubilee for Grades 9, 10, 11

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May 18 – Graduation Ceremony

May 24 – Last Day of School for Grades 9, 10

June 5 – First Day of Summer School (Grades 9, 10 only)

June 29 – Last Day of Summer School

#### **State Testing Remaining – April 24 through May 8**

Please make sure students are present starting at 9:30am on each of these testing dates as testing will take place in the morning.

Apr 26: EOC Algebra I, II, Geometry Exams – Subpart 1, 2

Apr 27: EOC Algebra I, II, Geometry Exams – Subpart 3

May 3: EOC Biology Exam, Dual Credit US History Exam

May 5: AP US History Exam

May 8: AP Calculus Exam

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*Important for STEM Jubilee – students are to report to HPF building (where gym is located at Chattanooga State) by 8:30am.*

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### **STEM Yearbook**

The STEM 2021-22 Yearbooks are on sale now for ONLY \$32.43! Yearbooks must be purchased through the TreeRing website, and please remember that we do NOT order extra books for sale at the school. ONLY the books purchased through TreeRing will be printed and delivered. Here are some other items about the yearbooks:

--Yearbooks can only be purchased online through your TreeRing account – [Click Link Here](#)

-- STEM School Passcode (for new accounts only): 1014450174953167 – [Click Link Here for New Account](#)

--Once purchased, students can create 2 personalized pages for FREE that will only print in their personal yearbook!

--Personal Ads (that will print in every yearbook) can be purchased and created through TreeRing as well. Cost for personal ads are as follows: 1/8 Page - \$25, 1/4 Page - \$50, Half Page - \$75, Full Page - \$100

--The DEADLINE for purchasing Yearbooks, purchasing/creating personal ads, and creating your personalized pages is May 5.

If you have trouble accessing your account or have any questions, please email Ms. Bolus at [bolus\\_lisa@hcde.org](mailto:bolus_lisa@hcde.org) for help.

Thank you for your support!

Dr. Tony Donen

Principal

## April 14, 2023 - STEM School Info 04/14

Parents/Guardians,

Happy Friday as we are already halfway through April. Here are some items of note for you with a major announcement at the top!

### STEM Leadership Update

We have an excellent news to share with our STEM families today. Our amazing, high-energy, STEM focused, multi-talented **Mr. Jim David has been selected as the next principal** of STEM School Chattanooga!!! We are so excited to have him move into this leadership role as we continue to lead a new paradigm for world-class education. This is absolutely wonderful news for our students, parents, staff and community as we keep leadership continuity for our school.

As previously communicated, Dr. Donen will not be too far away. He will be moving into a role where he will oversee Workforce Development and College Schools in Hamilton County. Here is a list (with his favorite at the top!).

College Schools

-STEM School Chattanooga

-University High at the University of Tennessee-Chattanooga

- Collegiate High at Chattanooga State
- Early Technical College at Sequoyah

#### Workforce Development

- Mechatronics Academy at Volkswagen
- Polytech Academy at Chattanooga State
- Construction Career Center
- Harrison Bay Future Ready Center
- Gestamp Work Based Learning Program
- Legacy Box Work Based Learning Program

#### **STEM Gala – Apr 15**

Gala is tomorrow night! We are so excited for our Junior/Senior Gala, STEM's version of prom. This year's Gala will be held at The Granfalloon. The theme is Casino: Are You Feeling Lucky? We will have an awesome DJ, casino games (non-monetary games), food and drink, & tons of dancing!

#### **State Testing – April 18 through May 8**

State End-of-Course (EOC), Dual Credit and AP testing will begin next week. Students will take exams online in the following EOC courses: English I, English II, Algebra I, Geometry, Algebra II, and Biology. Each of these EOC exams will count as 15% of the student final grade for their course. The Dual Credit Exam for US History will also take place, as well as AP testing in US History and Calculus AB. However, these dual credit and AP exams do not impact course grade.

Please make sure students are present starting at 9:30am on each of these testing dates as testing will take place in the morning.

Apr 18: EOC English I, II Exams – Subpart 1

Apr 19: EOC English I, II Exams – Subpart 2

Apr 20: EOC English I, II Exams – Subpart 3

Apr 26: EOC Algebra I, II, Geometry Exams – Subpart 1, 2

Apr 27: EOC Algebra I, II, Geometry Exams – Subpart 3

May 3: EOC Biology Exam, Dual Credit US History Exam

May 5: AP US History Exam

May 8: AP Calculus Exam

### **Graduation Reminders for Seniors**

Graduation is May 18, 5:30pm at Memorial Auditorium, with seniors arriving by 5:00pm. Hamilton County Schools has decided this week that they will use tickets for all HCS graduations this year.

The good news is that we are still not limited on attendees. So, once we have tickets, graduates can get what they need for their families and friends.

### **Information from Hamilton County Schools about School Violence Threats**

Unfortunately, across the county there have been situations that have arisen in which students have made comments or posts about threatening violence. I would like to remind everyone that threats of violence in schools are a serious matter. Often times this also includes law enforcement in the threat investigation and subsequent actions. Threats of violence also have serious consequences for a student, up through school expulsion. Please keep in mind that students are responsible for their words and actions, and even joking about school violence in person or online may result in very severe consequences for the student.

I have strong faith in each and all of our students in making good decisions and choices in their actions and words.

Here are videos that Hamilton County Schools are sharing. Take some time to watch these videos, as they emphasize the expectation for each student in HCS.

HCS Real Talk for Families - <https://youtu.be/j1LH5MLwU4o>

HCS Real Talk for Students - <https://youtu.be/YUGICDifZY0>

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If you have trouble accessing your account or have any questions, please email Ms. Bolus at [bolus\\_lisa@hcde.org](mailto:bolus_lisa@hcde.org) for help.

## **Upcoming Dates**

Apr 15: STEM Gala

Apr 18: EOC English I, II Exams – Subpart 1

Apr 19: EOC English I, II Exams – Subpart 2

Apr 20: EOC English I, II Exams – Subpart 3

Apr 26: EOC Algebra I, II, Geometry Exams – Subpart 1, 2

Apr 27: EOC Algebra I, II, Geometry Exams – Subpart 3

May 3: EOC Biology Exam, Dual Credit US History Exam

May 5: AP US History Exam

May 8: AP Calculus Exam

May 16-17: STEM Jubilee

May 18: Graduation

Thank you for your support!

Dr. Tony Donen

Principal