

Downingtown STEM Academy

Head of School Update

335 Manor Ave. Downingtown, PA 19335 Phone: 610-269-2420
 General Inquiries: stinfo@dasd.org Attendance: stemattendance@dasd.org
 Website: <https://st.dasd.org/>

August 26, 2022, Issue 2



Welcome Back! It is with great enthusiasm that we welcome you to the 2022-2023 school year! Our first student day, Monday August 29th has arrived! We will see everyone bright and early Monday morning. As a reminder, the school day begins at 7:40 am and ends at 2:40 pm. Please allow enough time for travel as the traffic here on campus can become quite busy. Please review the [Traffic pattern for pick up and drop off](#), and the [STEM Academy Daily Schedule](#). As a reminder, parking permits can only be picked up in the main office, with proper documentation, after school between 2:30-3:00 pm in the main office. Our teachers, staff and administration have been hard at work this summer preparing for the new school year and we are so excited to see everyone very soon.

Student Schedules: [Infinite Campus](#) houses all of the tools that you will need to find your student schedule, transportation, report cards, etc. If there are any changes that need to be made beginning Monday, August 29th, your student should see their assigned counselor for assistance. **Please be sure to review your schedule over the weekend, as there have been some room changes.**

STEM Academy Administration

[Mr. Art Campbell](#), Head of School

[Ms. Katherine Cole](#), Dean of Student Life & Academics (Gr 9-11)

[Mr. Mike Sheehan](#), Dean of Curriculum & Instruction (Gr 10-12)

[Ms. Susan Boardman](#), Internships & Partnerships Leader

[Ms. Alyssa Sherlock](#), IB/CAS Coordinator

Main Office Staff

[Ms. Kelly Stauffer](#), Admin. Asst. to the Head of School

[Ms. Meghan Schell](#), Admin. Asst. to Dean of Curriculum & Instruction

[Ms. Cory Butler](#), Admin. Asst. to Dean of Student Life & Academics

[Ms. Dana Sokso](#), Attendance Secretary

[Ms. Paulette Miller](#), Teacher and Office Support

School Nurse

[Ms. Jennifer Mikulich](#)

[Guide to School Nurse and Health Services](#)



Attendance: As a reminder all attendance inquiries, excuse notes for absences, etc. should be directed to stemattendance@dasd.org. Please review the **attendance policy** in the [Student Code of Conduct](#): Upon 3 unlawful offenses a written notification will be sent to parent; upon 6 unlawful absences, a 2nd notification will be sent, and a School Attendance improvement plan meeting will be required. **If you are planning a family trip, please be sure to turn in the Request Form for Educational and Family Trips, no less than 2 weeks prior to the request.**

DASD Food Services: Over the course of the past two years, the DASD Food Service Dept. has provided free meals to all students under Federal waivers to the School Nutrition Program, however on June 9, 2022, these waivers have expired. ****Effective Monday, August 29th, the Food Services Dept. will resume charging for student meals. For more information on how to make a deposit to your student's lunch account, or to complete an application for Free/Reduced meals, please visit our Food Services Dept.**

School Safety: Safety and Discipline are an essential component to any school. Students and parents are required to read the [Student Code of Conduct Policy](#) and [Student Rights and Responsibility](#) prior to the start of school. You will be held responsible for following school and district policies.

Community Volunteer Requirements: To maintain a safe and health environment for staff and students, background clearances are required and should be turned into the main office. The annual [volunteer disclosure form](#) should also be completed yearly and returned to the main office. Thank you for helping us keep our schools safe!

Technology Fees: The DASD School Board of Directors has established a technology fee for all high school students. Please review the [District 11 Fast Facts for Families-DASD](#) for details on technology fees, and all other device specific information. Please visit [PaySchools Central](#) in order to satisfy payment requirements.

Important Dates to Remember

[STEM Academy Calendar - DASD Website](#)

8/29 First Student Day

9/5 No School: Labor Day

9/8 [Lifetouch Picture Day](#)

9/7-9/9 Senior Portrait Make-Up 3:00-9:00 pm

9/12 Financial Aid Night 6:00 pm

9/12 HSA Meeting 7:00 pm

9/14 Early Dismissal - Prof. Development

9/15 Senior Class Panoramic Photo

9/15 Back to School Night 6:30 pm

9/19 Club Fair Day

9/19 DASD DEI Presents "The Importance of Hispanic Heritage" 6:00 pm ([Preregistration Req.](#))

9/23 Class Officer Elections

9/26 No School - Rosh Hashanah

9/27 8th Gr. Parent/Student Info Night 6:30 pm

10/1 Class of 2027 Application Opens (8th Gr.)
 **The application to apply will close 10/23

[2022-2023 District Board Approved Calendar](#)

[2022-2023 Student Code of Conduct/Program of Study](#)

Important Links for Parents & Students

Infinite Campus: Student schedules, report cards, and access to updating the annual registration verification can be accessed here.

Payschools: All Activity, Technology and Food services fees can be paid quickly and easily in this portal. (All parking permit fees should now be showing in student accounts.)

Schoology: Many courses and classes are updated daily. This is a very important tool for communicating! **Service Desk:** Technology support can be accessed here.

Prevention Specialist

Ms. Jennifer Stull: Ms. Stull works closely with students and families by connecting them with behavioral and mental health resources in the community, in addition to providing support within the school building.

[District Wide Guide to Mental Health Resources](#)

Counseling Department

New for the 22-23 school year, our counseling department will be servicing all students in grades 9-12, with last names listed below:

Ms. Mary Wallin: Last Names A-C

Mr. David Stratton: Last Names D-Ki

Ms. Kellie McGavin-Wiedlich: Last Names Ko-Ra

Ms. Leanne Glowik: Last Names Re-Z

Ms. Stephanie Rockowitz: Counseling Secretary/Registrar

To schedule an appt. to visit your school counselor, please complete the following form:

[Counseling Appointment Request Form](#)

Additional Resources from the STEM Counseling Department

Parking Permits: The Application for both the Junior and Senior class is now open. The application must be completed by the student using their DASD student email account.

Work Permits: During the school year, work permits are only available during the hours of 7:15 am-3:00 pm, Monday through Friday. Work permits are issued through Ms. Rockowitz in the Counseling Office.

University and College Visits: Throughout the course of the year, the counseling department has coordinated many college visits for our Senior Class. All scheduled visits are now listed on the [STEM Academy Website Calendar](#).

Internships and Partnerships

The goal of the STEM Academy is for students to be career aware prior to graduation. This summer, the Class of 2023 completed their career exploration with 27 STEM partners, and a few chosen student experiences. These programs were a blend of virtual and in-person experiences, including everything from learning about the energy sector with Constellation, visiting the Conowingo Dam and Limerick Power Plant; experiencing the health and medicine sector with Johnson & Johnson, DSM Biomedical, Labcorp, and varied physical therapy partners; exploring engineering with Southco, Bentley Systems and Lockheed Martin; and the world of IIT with Boomi, Unisys and iPipeline.

Please be sure to review the portion of our website, [STEM in Our Community](#) for a complete overview of our Pathways and Practicum Program.

You can also find all of the [Downingtown STEM Academy Career Exploration Partners for 2021-2022](#) listed there.

Student Life

The Downingtown STEM Academy offers opportunities for all students to nurture their relational health and wellness needs. We embrace our diverse, collaborative culture, and invite all students, families, and staff to get involved. With over 40 student-led clubs/organizations running annually, celebrated special events, HSA-sponsored activities, well attended Homecoming dances, Powder Puff game and proms, we have a good time! Below is an overview of what to expect during the fall.



STEM Academy Student Life

Student Organizations & Clubs @ STEM

IB Program Requirements

22-23 Program of Study

IB Internal Assessments: As part of the IB Course Requirements, all juniors and seniors will be completing the internal assessments required throughout the two-year program. Mr. Sheehan, IB Coordinator, will be sending home a communication regarding the IB Internal Assessment requirements and due dates. Class of 2023 and 2024, please know that we are currently working with your teachers to establish dates and times for completing IA's. More information will be coming your way in the near future.

IB Assessment and Curriculum Fees: Every senior, both diploma and non-diploma candidates, will take the culminating IB exams in May. Mr. Sheehan, will be sending a letter very soon explaining the process for payment which includes a pay schedule and method for payment.

Senior Pathways

Similar to previous years, senior pathways will take place during the second and third marking periods. Seniors will be required to report to their assigned classroom for the first marking period as this is time designated to working on CAS, EE, Practicum portfolio, college applications, and some special presentations.

Act 10 Military

Act 10 Military Exemption: Students in 11th and 12th grade that wish to be excluded from communications from recruiters, should complete this request no later than October 10, 2022.

Creativity, Activity and Service/Extended Essay

Our IB Diploma Candidate Seniors have been hard at work over the summer uploading evidence from their CAS experiences and projects to ManageBac, and working on writing and research for their EE's. EE Outlines are due to Turnitin by September 9, and all due dates are posted to [Schoology](#).

Our IB Course Candidate Seniors have also been working hard on Graduation Projects, and gathering evidence for final presentations.

Juniors will learn more about all of this early on this the school year, as they are now starting their two-year IB Program. They are welcome to visit the Class of 2024 CAS/EE course on Schoology since they previously joined in the Spring.

Please contact [Ms. Alyssa Sherlock](#), IB Research Specialist/CAS& EE Coordinator with additional questions.

Home and School

The first meeting will be held, Monday, September 12th at 7:00 pm in the KnowCo. We look forward to meeting you!

Athletics

All students at STEM are encouraged to participate in athletic programs offered at their home schools.

An activity bus is available for student heading to East to participate daily, and is located in the bus loop at dismissal.

To find more information about what sports are offered at your students homeschool, please choose one of the following that links directly to the correct Athletics page:



[Downingtown West High School Athletics](#)

[Downingtown West High School Athletics Schedule](#)



[Downingtown East High School Athletics](#)

[Downingtown East High School Athletics Schedule](#)



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Thursday, September 08, 2022
Downingtown S.T.E.M. Academy



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Downingtown S.T.E.M. Academy

Early Bird Sale!

Purchase your book for
the special price of \$60
until **Picture Day:
Sep. 8th 2022**

Price increases after this date.



**Save \$20 off
delivery day price!**

3 WAYS TO ORDER

1. Online at www.yearbookordercenter.com Order #13813

Early Bird Price of \$60 available until 11:59pm Sep. 8th, 2022. Please note there is a \$4.99 transaction fee if ordered online. Use code EARLYBIRD to waive this transaction fee during this promotional early bird period.

2. Bring a check payable to "STEM Yearbook" to school on **Picture Day, 9/8/22**. Yearbook staff will be collecting checks only on picture day. Please write student's name on memo line.

3. Call Herff Jones Yearbooks M-F 8am-5pm CST 1-866-287-3096 Order # 13813

DOWNINGTOWN AREA SCHOOL DISTRICT PRESENTS

THE IMPORTANCE OF HISPANIC HERITAGE

////////// FEATURING

ALISA REYES

ACTRESS, PRODUCER, RECORDING ARTIST, ENTREPRENEUR



SEPT 19
MONDAY

**REGISTRATION
REQUIRED**

6PM
VIRTUAL (ZOOM)

"The Importance of Hispanic Culture" featuring Alisa Reyes will take place on Zoom at 6 p.m. on Monday, September 19. This event is free and open to the public, but [registration](#) is required.

DOWNINGTOWN, PA — On September 19, Downingtown Area School District (DASD) students, staff and community members are invited to virtually attend a one-of-a-kind event. Actress and motivational speaker Alisa Reyes, best known for being an original cast member on the Nickelodeon sketch comedy show All That, will present an interactive zoom session entitled, "The Importance of Hispanic Culture." The conversation, which will focus on the impact of Hispanic culture and how individuals can do their part to be inclusive of all people, is sure to leave attendees inspired and motivated.

Reyes starred on the first three seasons All That from 1994-1997 and returned as a guest star on the show's 2020 revival. She is the voice of LeCienega Boulevard on Disney Channel's The Proud Family and Disney+'s The Proud Family: Louder and Prouder. Other credits include a starring role on the NBC network series One World and guest appearances on ER, Without A Trace, Six Feet Under, Strong Medicine, The American Family, NYPD Blue, and Boston Public. When she's not acting, Reyes is producing movies, such as the documentary The Orange Year: The Nickelodeon Story, or writing. Reyes dedicates her off time to various charities such as The American Cancer Society, Peace Beads, Kids with a Cause, Para Los Ninos, Green Means Go, Ronald McDonald House, Make a Wish, Hope for Firefighters and United Nations, Children's Hospital, National Wildlife Federation, and The Hollywood Knights celebrity charity basketball league.

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<https://www.dasd.org/departments/food-services>

Free & Reduced pricing to those who qualify

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Downingtown Area School District

NOW HIRING!

Aramark with Downingtown Area School District is hiring! We are searching for employees that have little to extensive food service experience that are willing to learn and grow with Aramark. If you enjoy working with students and are looking for a fulfilling job with development opportunities this job is for you. Our positions range from Food Service Worker, Food Service Cooks, Supply Runners with opportunity to grow to lead positions. Please reach out to the DASD Food Service Department (610-269-4400 x11756) for details. Interviews will be held in the cafeteria at Downingtown West High School. Signs will be provided to direct potential employees to the loading dock door.



**NOW
HIRING!!!!**

**Food Service
Worker, Cooks,
Supply Runner**

Part Time, Full Time

**NO NIGHTS OR
WEEKENDS –
Seasonal position**

**Contact: Food
Service (610) 269 –
4400 x11756**

**DASD WEST HIGH
SCHOOL**

445 Manor Ave,
Downingtown, PA 19335

Door 4-1 (Kitchen loading
dock – Parking lot near
tennis courts)