September 9, 2022 Issue 4



STEM Academy Head of School Update

Mr. Art Campbell, Head of School

Ms. Kelly Stauffer, Admin. Asst. to the Head of School

Good Evening STEM Academy Families,

Our first two weeks together have been full of energy and positivity. Students are working hard, getting to know each other and their teachers, and are engaged in their work. Beginning September 20th, we will move to a lunch and learn model on days A,D,E,H,I,L which are days when students have all 7 periods. This means that from approximately 11:00 am -12:00 pm students will have one hour to meet teachers for help, work with partners on projects, engage in some sort of physical activity if they choose, make up assessments, enjoy some fresh air in the stadium, and eat lunch. We are all excited for our Lunch and Learn model to begin because all students will have access to all of their teachers 6 out of 12 days in a cycle during this time. There are just a few items that we need to remind our students of:

1: If we all try to eat lunch at the beginning of Lunch and Learn the lines will be long. Even though we have two additional serving spaces for a total of four it is important for students to manage their time to accomplish what they need to accomplish.

2: Students should check their teacher's availability and location on Schoology as each teacher will be assigned a 30 minutes period to be available for help. These 30 minute periods are labelled Learn 1 and Learn 2.

3: We will need students to continue the wonderful job they have been doing of cleaning up trash.

4: We are asking students to move from tables after 30 minutes in order to make tables available for others that are eating at a later time.

5: The first few times will be chaotic until students figure out when to eat and when to participate in other activities.

6: Students may go outside at any time during this our and may eat anywhere else in the building except the gymnasium and the auditorium. If after a few times your child is having difficulty finding a seat or a place to eat, please reach out to their counselor and we can assist.

7: Our counseling department will be available during this hour as well as our prevention specialist and our CAS and EE coordinator.

8: It is critically important to know that the Lunch and Learn hours, 6 times in 12 days, is sacred time for our staff to meet and be available for our students. We will not be holding any meetings with parents, other community members, or other district entities during this time. It is our commitment to be here for our students.

9: It is also important to know that teachers can require students to meet during the teachers learn period if the student needs to make up any work or is struggling.

10: Consequences for misbehavior during lunch and learn will be loss of the privilege and possibly additional student code of conduct consequences.

We are all very excited about this new venture and it is our belief that it is good for all students.

Art Campbell Head of School

DASD STEM Academy

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STEM Academy Back To School Night Thursday, September 15, 2022 @ <u>6:30 pm</u>

We are excited to be inviting families back into the building for an in person Back to School Night. Please ensure enough time to enter the campus, as DHS West will also be having Back to School Night. We are asking STEM Families that are entering from the West entrance on Manor Rd, to place a plaquard on your dashboard indicating travel to **STEM.** Security will direct you to the right side of the parking lot to make this a smooth process.

Please note that we will be following your students "A" Day schedule throughout the evening. Be sure to have a copy with you, as we will not have access to that during that evening.

The evening will start promptly at 6:30 pm, and the schedule will run as follows:

1st Period/HR	6:30-6:50 pm
2nd Period	6:55 –7:05 pm
3rd Period	7:10-7:20 pm
4th Period	7:25—7:35 pm
5th Period	7:40-7:50 pm
6th Period	7:55—8:05 pm
7th Period	8:10-8:20 pm



Upcoming Events

<u>September</u>

12 Academic Team Tryouts 2:45 pm 12 Financial Aid Night 6:00 pm 14 MEA Overcoming Obstacles (Freshmen) 14 Early Dismissal 12:40 pm 15 Senior Class Panoramic Portrait 12:35 pm Back to School Night 15 6:30 pm 19 Club Fair 20 Japan Iceland Info. Mtg 5:15pm Atrium 20 Eastern Europe Interest Mtg., Rm 111 6:30 pm 22 Costa Rica, Panama, Colombia Trip Mtg.

Rm 214 6:00 pm 23 Class Officer Elections

26 No School/Rosh Hashanah

<u>STEM Parent/Student</u> <u>Handbook 2022-2023</u>

<u>2022–2023 District Board</u> <u>Approved Calendar</u>

<u>22-23 Program of Study</u>



Creativity, Activity and Service (CAS) Updates

Senior CAS/Graduation Project Spotlight:

Grace Pothen, Alexis Montgomery, Meghaa Gobi, and Avneet Sidhu are cleaning, organizing, and rearranging the DHS West band room both over the summer and throughout their Senior year.

Class of 2023 [Seniors]:

Students should continue to upload photos and videos as evidence for the experiences. Update the written descriptions and timeline as needed, especially if summer activities are continuing into the school year.

If you have not yet submitted your proposal for a CAS or Graduation Project, please email it to Mrs. Sherlock TODAY!

Extended Essay (EE)

Class of 2023 [Seniors]:

EE Outlines with Bibliography are due to be submitted to **both ManageBac and TurnItIn TODAY!**

Students should now reach out to their EE Advisor to schedule a meeting to review their Outline and research, and make sure their EE is on track.

We will be meeting with the Seniors to check in regarding CAS, EE, and Graduation Projects on September 13 during Advisory.

IB Program Requirements

 Dean of Curriculum & Instruction/ Dean of 9th & 11th Grade Students
 Mr. Michael Sheehan

 Admin. Asst. to Dean of. Curr. & Instr. Ms. Meghan Schell
 Mr. Michael Sheehan

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 nondiploma 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.

Informational Meeting Notice from Seniora Snyder:

Are you ready for adventure?

Join us in R214 on Thursday, 9/22/22 for an informational meeting about next summer's tour to Costa Rica, Panama, and Colombia! From 6:00-6:30PM we'll discuss this exciting opportunity, review the tour itinerary, and share how to sign up. This trip is open to all DASD students and will run in mid-June 2023 (exact dates TBD). While enrollment in a Spanish course is highly recommended, we welcome all students who enjoy outdoor activities like ziplining and white-water rafting, and who are adventurous eaters! For additional information, please email ksnyder@dasd.org.

<u>STEM Academy Counselors</u> <u>Ms. Mary Wallin</u>: Grades 9-12: Last Names A-C

Mr. David Stratton

Grades 9-12: Last Names D-KL Ms. Kellie McGavin-Wiedlich

Grades 9-12: Last Names Ko-Ra

Ms. Leanne Glowik Grades 9-12: Re-Z

Ms. Stephanie Rockowitz Counseling Secretary/Registrar

> <u>Ms. Jennifer Stull</u> Prevention Specialist

<u>Guide to Districtwide Mental Health</u> <u>Resources</u>

College and University Visits

September

- 14 Washington College 11:00
- 14 Syracuse University 11:35 am
- 15 Univ. of Connecticut 11:00 am
- 15 Boston University 11:35 am
- 20 Widener University 11:00 am
- 20 Purdue University 11:35 am
- 21 Duquesne University 11:00 am
- 21 George Mason University 11:35 am
- 23 Univ. of Southern CA 8:00am
- 27 Bucknell 11:00am
- 27 Hofstra University 11:35 am
- 28 Temple Univ. 11:00am
- 28 Franklin & Marshall 12:00pm
- 29 Univ. of Pittsburgh 8:00 am October
- 3 Moravian Univ. 11:00 am
- 3 Ursinus College 11:35 am
- 4 Dartmouth College 11:00 am
- 4 Drexel University 11:35 am
- 10 Penn State Main 11:00 am
- 11 Utica University 8:00 am
- 11 University of Tampa 11:00am
- 11 Muhlenberg College 11:35 am
- 14 College of Charleston 11:00 am
- 14 Univ. of Scranton 11:35am
- 17 Fl. Institute of Tech. 11:00 am
- 17 Univ. of Miami 11:35 am
- 20 Washington & Jefferson 11:00am
- 20 Univ. of Pitt. Bradford 11:35am
- 21 Union College 11:00 a,
- 21 Shippensburg Univ. 11:35 am
- 27 Univ. of Richmond 11:00 am
- 27 Kean University 11:35 am
- 28 Lafayette College 11:00 am
- 28 St. Joe's University 11:35 am

STEM Counseling Department

Additional Resources from the STEM Counseling Department

- On Sept. 6th and 7th, our seniors were invited to attend a presentation by their counselors about the college application process during their revision class periods. This presentation covered the transcript and letter of recommendation request process. The presentation was posted on Schoology (Class of 2023 page) for students to reference, along with how-to videos. The transcript and letter of recommendation request forms are available to pick-up in the Counseling Office.
- Service Academy Admissions Night at Valley Forge Military College will be held on Monday, September 19th, from 6-8pm. Meet representatives from West Point, Annapolis, the Air Force Academy, the Coast Guard Academy, and the Merchant Marine Academy. Representatives will also cover the Army Early Commissioning Program and various regional ROTC programs.

RSVP at <u>thartley@vfmac.edu</u> or call 610-989-1450.

- The STEM Counseling Department will be hosting a Financial Aid Workshop on Monday, September 12, 2022, beginning at 6:00 pm in the STEM Academy Auditorium. We are pleased to welcome a representative from PA Higher Education Assistance Agency (PHEAA), who will review with our families the complete financial aid process. Students and parents are strongly encouraged to attend this informative event. If you have any questions about the Financial Aid Workshop you may contact Mrs. McGavin-Wiedlich, School Counselor, via email at kmcgavin-wiedlich@dasd.org.
- <u>Work Permits</u>: 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 <u>STEM Academy Website Calendar.</u> (These are updated daily and subject to change.)
- To schedule an appt. to visit your school counselor, please complete the following form: <u>Counseling Appointment Request Form</u>

UPDATES FROM THE NURSE

- Online Registration: Please remember to complete the Online Registration for your child(ren). This will provide me with updated health information as well as give permission for over the counter medication this school year. Go to Infinite Campus Parent Portal to complete the process.
- <u>Medication</u>: Students are only permitted to carry emergency medication (Epinephrine, Asthma inhalers, and diabetes medication). Any medication to be administered during the school day, should follow our current medication policy (attach board policy) and complete the authorization for medication administration
- Please contact Ms. Jennifer Mikulich with any questions or concerns.

ATTENDANCE MATTERS!

Please help us in reminding your student of the following:

- Whether your student is arriving late to school, has Senior Privileges, or has a parent note to leave early, they must sign in/out of the main office for attendance.
- All attendance inquiries throughout the school year can be directed to <u>stemattendance@dasd.org</u>
- Students should scan the QR Codes located outside the main office, and then upload their notes for Early Dismissal, Absence, Tardiness, and Trips.
- Please review the **attendance policy** in the <u>Student Code of Conduct</u>: 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 <u>Request Form for Educational and Family Trips</u>, no less than 2 weeks prior to the request.

STEM STUDENT LIFE and DASD Activities

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. Ms. Katie Cole

Dean of Academics & Student Life

Ms. Cory Butler

Administrative Asst.



Thank you to our STEM HSA for generously sponsoring an Ice Cream Social for our 9th & 10th graders!





INTERNSHIPS & PARTNERSHIPS

<u>Ms. Susan Boardman</u> Internships & Partnerships Leader

Ms. Cory Butler Administrative Asst.

Attention Class of 2026: Coming next week: Your first MEA Session! Wednesday, September 14th, 2022 in the Knowledge Commons

MEA--Overcoming Obstacles-"A Successful Strategy"

When you get knocked down, how easy is it to pick yourself up? Successful people know that failure is a must. It is an important part of accomplishment.

In this session we will explore what it takes to build a mindset that helps you succeed in all that you do. You will have a chance to learn strategies that will equip you for when things go wrong as well as to when things go right. This session will not only help you now in school, but it will provide you with skills to support you later in your work life when you pursue your career.

There will be (3) sessions; your session times will be posted on Monday, 9/12. Questions? email <u>cbutler@dasd.org</u>

DASD MPA

From the Music Parents' Association:

For decades, we've heard how music is linked to greater academic success and we definitely see this play out at STEM. Our music program covers nearly 1/3 of the student body. We have 120 students in choir, 103 in orchestra and students in both East and West Marching Bands.

Our first board meeting will be held online on Tuesday, September 13th at 7:30pm. Meet our music directors, listen to what's coming up for students for all music programs and how you can get more involved.

To join the video meeting, click this link:

https://meet.google.com/yvk-royx-mwk

Otherwise, to join by phone, dial +1 216-930-8901 and enter this PIN: 299 229 038#

As always, we can use the support of parents and students working in our concessions stand during football games and during our home shows on September 24th and October 22nd. To volunteer, please sign up at <u>mpa.ivolunteer.com</u>. These hours count as volunteer hours, please reach out to Michelle Smith (<u>thoughtmaster@gmail.com</u>) if you need hours recorded.

DASD Athletics

Monda

During Advisory

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

An activity bus is available for students 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



<u>Reminder for those with Senior</u> <u>Privileges:</u>

- You MUST sign in at the main office when you arrive to school, and out prior to leaving for the day.
- You should enter through the main office.

• You must have completed the <u>Early Dismissal/Late Arrival Permission form</u> <u>for Seniors</u> and obtained appropriate approval.

Save the Date!

12 Financial Aid Night 6:00 pm

> 15 Senior Class Panoramic Photo 12:35 pm

15-20 <u>CVC Safe and</u> <u>Healthy Relationships</u> <u>Presentations</u>

23 College Application Drop-In Session:Advisory (First Floor Mezzanine)

30 College Application Drop-In Session:Advisory (First Floor Mezzanine)

..Important Links for Seniors...

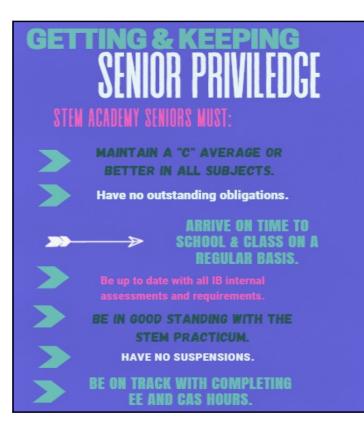
Early Dismissal/Late Arrival Permission form for Seniors

SENIOR REMINDERS—CLASS OF 2023

 \Rightarrow You should have received an email containing information to begin the process of ordering the CAP/GOWN/STOLE required for the Class of 2023 Commencement Ceremony, which will be held this year, on Thursday, June 8. The deadline for ordering will be November 1, so that we can assure a timely delivery of all of the necessary items. For more information, please refer to

STEM Senior Class of 2023 Letter from Herff Jones

 \Rightarrow Seniors...be on the look out next week for the Diploma Name Verification Survey. This must be completed by you, with your DASD Email address.



2022-2023 STEM HSA Board <u>Michelle Smith, President</u> <u>Mary Gasser, Vice-President</u> <u>Kristen Wheeler, Secretary</u> <u>Darah Fildore, Treasurer</u>



<u>Upcoming</u> <u>HSA Sponsored Events</u>

<u>September</u>

12 Home & School Meeting 7:00 pm Knowledge Commons

Save the date!

Monday, April 24, 2023: FORE the Kids Golf Outing STEM HOME & SCHOOL ASSOCIATION



Our first HSA meeting will be in person on Monday, September 12th at 7pm in the STEM Academy KnowCo. We will have two special guests:

- Dean of Student Life & Academics: Katherine Cole to discuss Student Life
- Internships & Partnerships Leader Ms. Susan Boardman.
- During this meeting, we will also be electing our 9th and 10th Grade At Large Parents. If you are interested in becoming an At Large Parent or have questions, please email Michelle Smith (<u>thoughtmaster@gmail.com</u>)

Thank you to our volunteers!

Our first Student Life Event was a great success. Our 9th and 10th grade students were able to enjoy an ice cream sundae during their lunch this past Wednesday. By volunteering at these events, you get to watch students grow over the years and also learn the "preferred" order to add whipped cream, sprinkles and syrups to the ice cream. To become more involved, join one of our committees or keep an eye on our Facebook group.

Also, thank you to all of those parents that were able to assist with Picture Day and Health Screenings.

Student Life Donations

We can't make these events possible without your generous donations. Please go to <u>https://dtownstemacademy.squarespace.com/stem-donation</u>

to make your donation today!

HSA meetings will be held throughout the year on the second Monday, of each month, beginning at 7:00 pm unless otherwise noted. The First meeting of the year will be in- person.



ONE YEAR. ONE BOOK. YOUR CHANCE TO PRESERVE IT ALL.

Downingtown S.T.E.M. Academy



2 WAYS TO ORDER

- 1. Online at www.yearbookordercenter.com Order #13813
- 2. Call Herff Jones Yearbooks M-F 8am-5pm CST 1-866-287-3096 Order # 13813



Attention Downingtown Families!

Bring your family and celebrate the diversity in our community on Friday, September 16 from 5-7 p.m. at March Creek Sixth Grade Center.

Sponsored by DCEF in partnership with the DASD Diversity, Equity and Inclusion initiative, this event will feature local musicians and performers, games and activities for students of all ages, and food trucks featuring cuisine from around the world.

Registration required: <u>https://www.eventbrite.com/e/narwhal-culture-fest-tickets-399192313957?</u> fbclid=IwAR29EEfJ1IceIRFdlg0jesrSi4xFrW0awoXYdhLE0icP5AfXqf2OLjTBnFY

Justin L. Brown, M.A.

Director of Diversity, Equity and Inclusion



"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 <u>registration</u> 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 Boulevardez 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.

What Parents Should Know About Cannabis

The cannabis that we might have known in our youth no longer exists. This presentation will provide updated, researched based insight into today's cannabis and its risk to a developing brain. Join us for an eye opening, engaging presentation.

Featured Presenter:

Gretchen Hagenbuch, M.Ed., CPS, Student Assistance Program Coordinator, Caron Treatment Centers



October 11, 2022

Tuesday,

7:00PM Virtual Zoom

Register HERE

This presentation is part of the DASD Parent Speaker Series in partnership with Communities that Care of Greater Downingtown. FILL UP YOUR MEALS A((OUNT

DON'T GET STUCK ON EMPTY

FILL UP ON

DELI(IOVS FOOD

Fall Menus Now Available!

Available!

Or go to: https://www.dasd.org/departments/food-services Free & Reduced pricing to those who qualify mozzage resultion works all grass featured. This instruction can be added and the second of the instruction of the second o



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 fufilling 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)