November 4, 2022 Issue 12



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,

As a reminder, there will be no school on Tuesday, November 8 as this is a Professional Development Day for staff.

We would also like to inform you that on Wednesday, November 9, there will be an Indian Heritage Event taking place during the school day for students. They will have the opportunity to experience the rich and diverse Indian culture while engaging in may different stations and activities throughout the course of the day.

Next Friday, November 11 is Veteran's Day. Students and staff are encouraged to wear Red, White and Blue and stop by the STEM Knowledge Commons to fill out a card to thank a Veteran. There will also be other activities taking place during Social Studies.

Friday evening, November 11, the STEM Player's Troupe, advised by Mr. Paul Setlock, and directed by STEM Junior Saanvi Chigurupati will present their first play of the year: <u>Frankenstein</u>. Tickets will \$5 and available during lunches and at the door. There will be a second performance on Sunday, November 13 at 2:00 pm.

Parent Teacher Conferences will be held on Tuesday, November 22 during the following times:

- 8:00 am -11:00 am
- 12:30 pm 3:30 pm
- 6:30 pm 8:30 pm

Conferences with your student's teachers will be held by appointment via Zoom. If you would like to request an in-person meeting please indicate this by including the words "In - Person" next to the student's name when you sign up.

As in past years, we will be using the PTC conference system to schedule individual sessions on this day.

<u>The link to schedule conferences will go LIVE on Monday, November 7th at 3pm, and will close on Thursday, November 17th at 3pm</u>.

Please log on after 3pm on the 7th to schedule an appointment with your student's teacher. Teachers will be sharing Zoom links with parents and guardians once sign ups are complete.

Please click the following link to schedule an appointment: PTCFast Conferences Site

If you are unable to schedule a time or have a question that may not require a conference, I encourage you to reach out to the teacher via email so they may assist you. Should you have any questions please contact Ms. Schell at <u>mschell@dasd.org</u>.

Art Campbell

Head of School

DASD STEM Academy

335 Manor Ave. Downingtown, PA 19335 Phone: 610-269-2420 Fax: 484-694-5590 Email: stinfo@dasd.org

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Veteran's Day is Friday, November 11!





Upcoming Events

<u>November</u>

- 8 No School/Prof. Dev. Day
- 9 Indian Heritage Event
- 11 Veterans Day
- 11 Fall Play 7:00 pm
- 13 Fall Play 2:00 pm
- 17 STEM Powderpuff Game
- 18 STEM Homecoming Dance @ DMS 7:00 pm
- 21 Early Dismissal 12: 40 pm
- 21 MEA Communication Styles—Sophomores
- 22 No School: Parent/Teacher Conferences
- 23 No School for Students:
- Work Collab. Day 24/25 Thanksgiving Recess
- 29 Key Club: American Red
- Cross Blood Drive
- 30 MEA Sophomore Speaker Series

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STEM Parent/Student Handbook 2022-2023

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

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

IB Updates

IB Research Specialist/CAS & EE Ms. Alyssa Sherlock

<u>Creativity, Activity</u> and Service (CAS) Updates

Senior CAS/Graduation Project Spotlight:

Lauren Largoza is volunteering at Bryn Mawr Rehab Hospital to help prepare for their Art Ability exhibition and sale. This is an annual event to create a community of awareness for people with disabilities, and encourage them to reach beyond their limitations and find fulfillment through art. To help prepare for this event, she is involved in a multitude of administrative tasks such as justifying artwork for the exhibit and graphic designs for social media posts.

Class of 2023 [Seniors]:

With two CAS Interviews done (#2 was due 10/31), the last required interview will take place one on one in the Spring to finalize each experience. Students are required to have all 3 for a complete portfolio.

<u>Class of 2024 [Juniors]:</u>

It is great to see so many Juniors getting started with CAS in ManageBac, and a few have submitted CAS Project Proposals already! Students only complete one CAS Project that spans at least one month, but may complete as many Creativity, Activity, or Service experiences as they like.

Extended Essay (EE)

Class of 2023 [Seniors]:

EE Rough Drafts were due to ManageBac and Turnitin by November 1, so students have a good basis for meeting with their Advisor and fine-tuning their work for their final paper.

RPPF #2 is due in ManageBac (Planning and Progress tab) by November 30.

<u>Class of 2024 [Juniors]:</u>

Students should have started thinking about EE topics, and we will be meeting during Advisory on 11/7 to go into more detail about the EE.

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

Please be reminded of the <u>IB Fees Letter for the Class of 2023</u> that was sent out May 10, 2022 and is also available on our <u>website</u>. If there are any questions or concerns please reach out to our office.

STEM Group SpotLight...FBLA



STEM FBLA recently traveled to Kalahari, in Mount Pocono, PA for the Pennsylvania FBLA Leadership Conference.

Pictured above are officer and members: Anish Bandapelli, Nivriti Chaudhari, Aditya Chavan, Twisha Dudgundi, Taj Freitas, Reagan Hyman, Ishaan Jha (Social Media Director), Aditya Kadiyala, Samshita Maram (Secretary), Pranav Menon, Nived Philip, Avaneesh Potti, Devanshi Sharma, Devvrat Singh (Secretary), Shreyas Singh (President), Agastya Sreedhar, Emma Tomlinson (VP Membership), Sachiel Varada (STATE Officer– Treasurer), Deepshika Varma (Historian).

STEM Academic Team...

Submitted by Co-Advisors Kristen Pugliese-Kash and Stephen Diromualdo

The Academic Team returned from Avon Grove Charter on Friday, October 28, with both JV and Varsity catching wins. After some shaky starts in the their respective first rounds, each team got hot and took leads in the second which they held through the rest of their matches.

Final Scores:

Varsity STEM: 150, Owen J Roberts – 80 , Avon Grove Charter 70. JV – STEM: 110, AGC -95, OJR -80



Pictured from Left to Right: Kashti, Ethan, Yaduraj (captain), and Kamal

Yaduraj Choudhary	Varsity
Soham Katdare	Varsity
Ryan Smith	Varsity
Saptak Das	Varsity
Lineesha Kamana	Varsity
Kashti Satish Umare	Varsity
Ethan Lemler	Varsity
Kamal Imaya	Varsity
Mihir Subramaniam	JV
Chris Wolf	JV
Ameya Bhalerao	JV
Reece Murray	JV
Rayna Pherwani	JV
Tejas Srivastava	JV
Abhinay Ravishankar	JV
Joe Lin	JV

STEM Academic Team Rosters



Pictured from Left to Right: Ryan, Saptak, Yaduraj (captain), and Soham (co-captain)

STEM's Academic Team will be hosting the November Competition at STEM on Thursday, November 10, at 10:00 am. They will be hosting Unionville High School and West Chester Henderson. Good luck to all!

<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

<u>Ms. Stephanie Rockowitz</u> Counseling Secretary/Registrar

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

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

College and University Visits

November

- 9 Cedar Crest College 11:00am
- 9 Immaculata University 11:35 am
- 15 Kutztown University 11:00 am
- 15 Rutgers University 11:35 am
- 16 Randolph-Macon College 11:00am
- 16 West Chester University 11:35 am
- 28 US Naval Academy 11:35 am

December

1 Cheyney University 11:00 am

Additional Resources

- <u>Financial Aid Powerpoint</u>
- <u>College Application</u> <u>Presentation</u>
- <u>Work Permits</u>

STEM Counseling Department

- The Princeton Review: Finding Best Fit Colleges Virtual Presentation: Wednesday, 11/9 6:30 pm
- <u>SAT-ACT-PSAT Prep Courses are available.</u> There are session dates available throughout the fall and winter. Please email <u>pschmidt@prepareforthesat.com</u>

• <u>PHEAA Webinars (Flyer on Page 8)</u>

<u>Covering the Gap: Pieces of the puzzle to help pay your education bill</u> 11/15 Tuesday 6:30pm and 11/22 Tuesday Noon

Understanding education balances can be confusing and whether you're trying to address the costs or beginning to plan for higher education, this review is for you. Join PHEAA representatives Linda Pacewicz and Daniel Wray for a 1 hour webinar that will emphasize best practices (such as seeking grants and scholarships first), remind families about additional resources (such as payment plans), and review private/ alternative loans as a last resort in the process of covering the Gap and keeping balances affordable. The discussion will also include the basics of credit, what factors impact a credit score, how can a credit score be improved and the effects on your borrowing capability.

<u>Understanding the Offer Letter and Covering the Balances</u> 11/3/22 Thursday Noon and 11/17/22 Thursday 6:30pm

The Offer Letter, or Financing Plans, that you receive to provide an idea of the costs associated with attending post secondary education can be confusing as each school formats their information differently. PHEAA, represented by Linda Pacewicz and Daniel Wray of PA Forward, will assist you, in this 1 hour webinar, in understanding and navigating through the types of Aid that are listed, what you are being offered and identifying the balances and next steps needed so you can make knowledgeable and affordable decisions. Q&A interaction is encouraged.

• To schedule an appt. to visit your school counselor, please complete the following form: <u>Counseling Appointment Request Form</u>

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.
- Medication: 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 <u>Ms. Jennifer Mikulich</u> 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 stemattendance@dasd.org
- 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</u> <u>and Family Trips</u>, no less than 2 weeks prior to the request.

Ms. Dana Sokso: Attendance Secretary DASD STEM Academy

INTERNSHIPS & PARTNERSHIPS

Internships & Partnerships

Academy for the Career Exploration Program for 2023-2024?

Opportunity: Interested in Partnering with The STEM

Ms. Susan Boardman Internships & Partnerships Leader

Ms. Cory Butler Administrative Asst.

DECA Student Project: Voices to Voices Collaborates with Kinetic Physical Therapy

It started with a phone call. Sophomores Sid Iyer, Sahil Reddy and Vikram Davey are developing a program through DECA called "Voices To Voices", an idea aimed at teaching students in middle school presentation skills. Sheri Gardner, Director of Advancement at Kinetic Physical Therapy, received a phone call from Sid regarding company support of their project, and she was amazed at professionalism. So much so, that Kinetic Physical Therapy awarded the team \$100 donation to support this project. Says Ms. Gardner, "In working with thousands of students and schools in the tri-county area and Philadelphia, I see all students as gifted with many talents. Siddharth stands out. His initial phone call was so moving that I invited him to attend an Exton Chamber of Commerce meeting so he could experience being a part of a unique business atmosphere that supports students with a love for business and entrepreneurship. He will have the opportunity to introduce himself and share his mission with his DECA project." Thanks goes out to Dr. Staub, DECA Advisor.





From the Music Parents' Association:

We are having another fundraiser to help raise funds for students' DSF accounts which can be used for the Choir and Orchestra trip to Walt Disney World in February. Each wreath sold will earn between \$8-\$12 for the student's account. https://www.dhsmpa.org/wreaths/



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 East High School Athletics

Downingtown East High School Athletics Schedule

AND

Downingtown West High School Athletics

Downingtown West High School Athletics Schedule

STEM Student Life

<u>Ms. Katherine Cole</u>, Dean of Academics & Student Life <u>Ms. Cory Butler</u>, Admin. Asst.

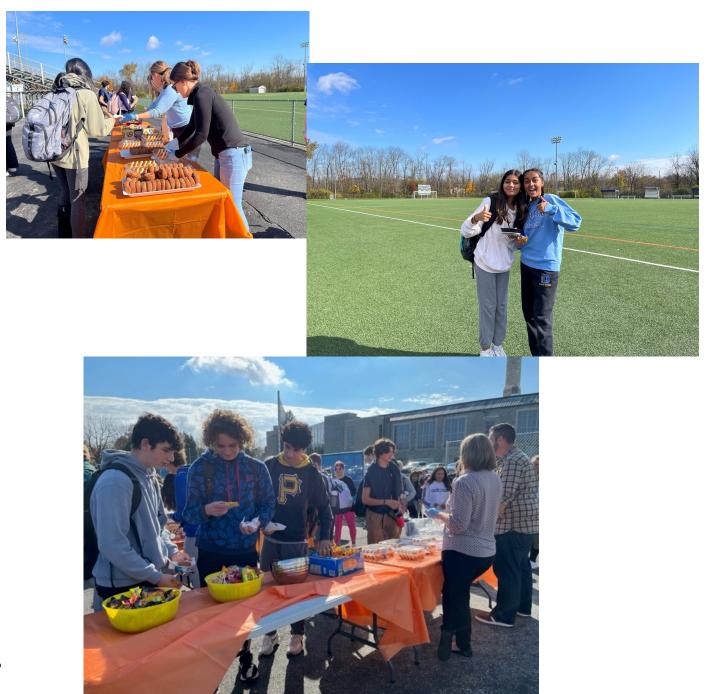
Rooted Club is collecting Halloween candy to send to deployed troops!

Collection bin will be located in the main office, and the collection will run through next week.

Email Madison Shumate- <u>24mshumate@student.dasd.org</u> with any questions!

HSA volunteers generously provided fresh donuts, snacks and other sweet treats on November 1st at both lunches for our annual Fall Fest!

A big thank you to all our HSA parents who provided treats and came with smiles to serve the kids! You are greatly appreciated.





SENIOR REMINDERS—CLASS OF 2023

⇒ ORDERS ARE DUE!!

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. <u>The deadline for ordering will be November 1</u>, 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, and here is the direct link to the items you will need to order: <u>Cap/Gown/Stole Package</u>

Save the Date!

⇒ <u>How do you choose the senior portrait for the yearbook?</u> "Log into your Prestige photo account and choose which photo to put in the yearbook. It will need to be one of the drape/tux photos.

November Deadlines

Reminder:

Cap and Gown orders are past due ! Please order asap or reach out to me if there are any problems completing the order.

Please reach out to <u>kstauffer@dasd.org</u> with any questions.

<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</u> <u>Permission form for Seniors</u>

and obtained appropriate approval.

SPACE IS LIMITED

Don't Delay Order Your Senior Tribute Ad

The yearbook staff has reserved a limited number of pages for Senior Tribute Ads.

There are many options using the online HJ Ad creator.

For more information and to order go to www.yearbookordercenter.com Job #13813





Online order center closes Nov 30th @ 11:59pm

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>November</u>

- 8 Magerks Post Prom Fundraiser
- 14 HSA Meeting 7:00 pm Zoom
- 15 Post Prom Committee Mtg.

Save the date!

Monday, April 24, 2023: FORE the Kids Golf Outing

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.

STEM HOME & SCHOOL ASSOCIATION



The next meeting of the STEM Academy Home and School will take place Monday, November 14 at 7:00 pm. The meeting will take place via <u>ZOOM</u>.

Post Prom

Our next Post Prom meeting will take place on Tuesday, November 15th @ 7pm.

The meeting will be held at Kristi O'Donnell's house

2003 Milta Hill Road

Romansville, PA 19320

Grab a friend and come on out to learn more about what Post Prom is and how to get I nvolved.

If you have any questions please email Mary Gasser, <u>marygasser@gmail.com</u>

Faculty Appreciation Event

On Thursday, November 17th, we will show our appreciation of our great faculty and staff with a little pre-Thanksgiving Cheer. Please sign up below to bring pies, cider and other goodies to let everyone know how thankful we are for all they do for our kids.

https://www.signupgenius.com/go/10c0b49a5ab22a0fc1-2022

STEM Homecoming Dance

Student Council plans the Homecoming Dance and is asking for parent help with the snacks, set up and clean up. Student Council has provided a Sign Up genius with specific snacks snacks needed for donation. Please drop off your donation at the school office either Thursday 11/17/22 during school hours or Friday 11/18/22 before noon.
Please label your item with HOCO.

https://www.signupgenius.com/go/409044aaea92aa57-stem

Student Life Donations

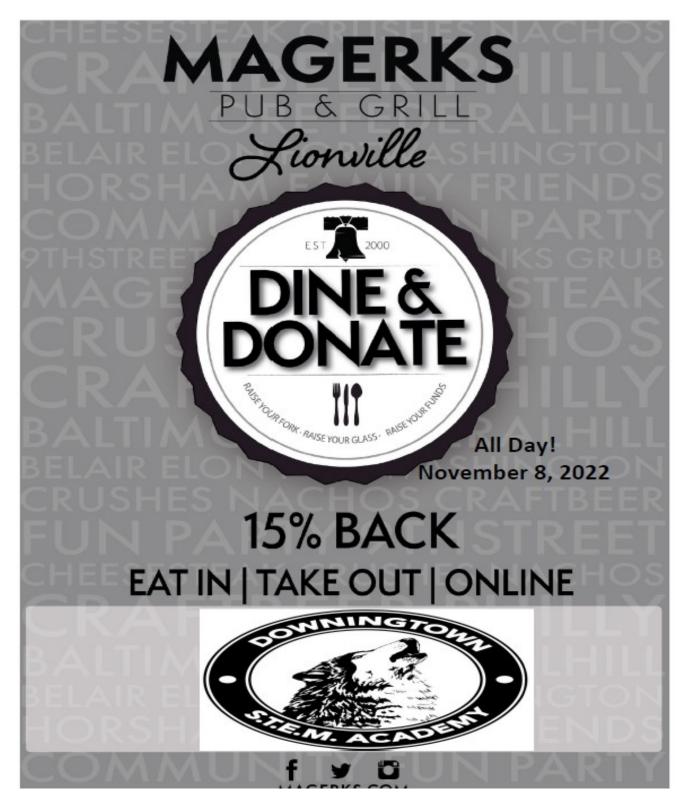
We can't make these events possible without your generous donations.

Please go to

https://dtownstemacademy.squarespace.com/stem-donation

to make your donation today!







STEM Player's Troupe Presents... R.N. Sandberg's adaptation of Mary Shelley's novel

Friday, November 11 7PM

Sunday, November 13 2PM

Directed by Saanvi Chigurupati Tickets: \$5 • Available at door and during lunches Downingtown STEM Academy Auditorium

> Set in the icy polar regions where scientist Victor Frankenstein has chased the creature he brought to life, this highly theatrical and emotional play traces Frankenstein's path to the final confrontation with his intelligent, articulate, sensitive, and powerfully violent child.

From the Yearbook Advisors Ms. Long and Ms. Romano:

Many have been asking how to get my club, class, students, etc in the yearbook. The easiest way for students, parents and teacher to share pictures with our yearbook team is submit them via eshare. Here you can upload pictures, write the captions and tag students, making it MUCH easier for our staff to get them in the yearbook. Please share the following link with your clubs leaders and use it yourself to submit pictures and stories. We cannot guarantee we will be able to use them all but we will do our very best!

Link to eshare: <u>https://www.hjeshare.com/eShare/?code=13813</u>

Need to know our school code? School Code: 13813

The yearbook staff greatly appreciates your help in collecting pictures and stories for this year's book.



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



Finding Best-Fit Colleges

Rob Franek, The Princeton Review's Editor-in-Chief and the author of "The Best 388 Colleges" and "College Admission 101", will present a seminar for college-bound students and their families. Rob will share expert advice on the college admissions process, including:

- Student and parent worries when paying for college
- Deciding factors when selecting a college or university
- The true costs of attending college
- What colleges are really looking for in applicants
- Test-optional admissions and the new digital SAT*
- The rise of AP Testing... and more



Scan the QR Code to Register! Wednesday, November 9th

6:30pm - 7:30pm EST

This is a virtual session - registrants will receive a Zoom link the day prior to the event



As The Princeton Review's chief expert on higher education issues, Rob Franek directs the annual surveys of college students upon which the well-known Princeton Review rankings are based. As lead author of the annual "Best Colleges" guide, Rob visits more than 50 colleges a year and has been a lecturer and panelist on college admissions for audiences of educators, parents, and students. Rob has been sourced on college, graduate school, and career topics by a wide range of media, including Time, The Chronicle of Higher Education, USA TODAY, and the Wall Street Journal. He has appeared on ABC's "Good Morning America," CBS's "This Morning," and NBC's "Today" as well as several CNN and FOX programs, National

Public Radio, and network radio

shows.

Space is Limited; Registration is Required!

To register please scan the QR Code or click the link below: https://www.princetonreview.com/product/offerings/514544

The Princeton Review is not affiliated with Princeton University.

Financial Aid Assistance Webinars — November 2022



Presented by PHEAA: Covering the Gap: Pieces of the puzzle to help pay your education bill

Understanding education balances can be confusing and whether you're trying to address the costs or beginning to plan for higher education, this review is for you. Join PHEAA representatives Linda Pacewicz and Daniel Wray for a 1 hour webinar that will emphasize best practices (such as seeking grants and scholarships first), remind families about additional resources (such as payment plans), and review private/alternative loans as a last resort in the process of covering the Gap and keeping balances affordable. The discussion will also include the basics of credit, what factors impact a credit score, how can a credit score be improved and the effects on your borrowing capability.

Event Dates

- Tuesday, November 15th 6:30 PM (ET)
- Tuesday, November 22nd 12:00 PM (ET)

Presented by PHEAA: Understanding the Offer Letter and Balances

The Offer Letter, or Financing Plans, that you receive to provide an idea of the costs associated with attending post secondary education can be confusing as each school formats their information differently. PHEAA, represented by Linda Pacewicz and Daniel Wray of PA Forward, will assist you, in this 1 hour webinar, in understanding and navigating through the types of Aid that are listed, what you are being offered and identifying the balances and next steps needed so you can make knowledgeable and affordable decisions. Q&A interaction is encouraged.

Event Dates

- Thursday, November 3rd 12:00 PM (ET)
- Tuesday, November 17th 6:30 PM (ET)

Register Today!



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absolutely wonderful, and

I think every hardworking.

motivated high school student

should experience everything

PTEW has to offer.

(Pope John Paul II HS)

- Erica Peifer

PFEW

PFEW

2023 Dates

Week 1 | July 2 - 7 Week 2 | July 9 - 14 Week 3 | July 23 - 28

Week 4 | July 30 - Aug. 4

Take a **giant Step** toward your **future!** At PFEW, you'll:

- Develop Critical Leadership, Communication, and Teamwork Skills
- Boost Your Resume and College Applications
- Explore Career Options
- Build Self-Esteem and Confidence
- Gain Exposure to College Life and Independence
- Network and Make Many New Friends
- Have Fun!

APPLY TODAY! www.pfew.org

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The **DASD High School Counseling Departments** are excited to announce this year's **College & Beyond Night** will be held on <u>Wednesday, November 30th, 6:30 – 8:30</u> <u>pm</u> at **Downingtown EAST High School**. Families of 9th-12th graders at East, West and STEM are invited to attend the event. Attendees will have the opportunity to learn more about post-secondary planning from a variety of presenters including, DASD school counselors, College Admissions Representatives, Military Representatives, and others in the higher education field. Details on how to sign up for the event to follow! We hope to see you there!



As a reminder, the new Lunch and Learn Schedule for the 2022-2023 school year went into effect on Tuesday, September 20th. The updated STEM Academy Bell Schedule can be found on our Website and are also listed below:

BELL SCHEDULES

STEM ACADEMY 2022-2023 DAILY SCHEDULE

Regular School Day Bell Schedule 7:40 AM - 2:40 PM

EARLY DISMISSAL/2 HOUR DELAY

SCHEDULE

Two-Hour Early Dismissal 7:40 AM - 12:40 PM





Register Now for the 21st Annual Chester County Turkey Trot!

Registration is now OPEN ~ come TROT with us on Thanksgiving Morning! T-shirts guaranteed for first 1500 registered.

When: Thanksgiving morning, November 24, 2022 Where: Downingtown West High School

The event is a 5k race, 2k walk, kids fun run and virtual race options. In addition to supporting the Downingtown West Cross Country team, proceeds of the race will benefit the Cure4Cam Childhood Cancer Foundation. See <u>https://runsignup.com/ccturkeytrot</u> for all details!