



SciTech Parent Newsletter

April 2015

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Quarter 4 Begins

Our fourth quarter of the year has begun and we are off to a great start. We hope that your child enjoys spring break and returns to school ready to finish the year strong. The last quarter of school can be very intense for our students, as they will be expected to take AP exams, PSSA exams and Keystone exams in addition to preparing for their end of year finals. Please help us to encourage your student(s) to arrive to school on time and maximize these last weeks of instruction before summer break.

PSSA Testing April 14th – 30th

Parents play a critical role in helping their children to be successful on all student assessments. As our middle school students approach the PSSA testing window this month, we urge you to help your child prepare for these assessments by encouraging them to get plenty of sleep the night before each test and to eat a healthy breakfast on the mornings of the assessments. It is also important that students arrive to school on time which minimizes some of the distractions that can occur during the mornings of the test. Finally, your child should know that these tests provide an opportunity to demonstrate their learning and attendance is mandatory on the testing days. Please encourage your student to do their very best on these important assessments!

Start of 2015-2016 School Year

Please be reminded that the first full day of school for students is Monday, August 31st. It is critical for students to be at school every day and especially at the start of the school year.



**Dream.
Discover.
Design.**

Junior/Senior Prom Attire

All female students attending SciTech's prom must have their dresses approved by Ms. Bowman-Porter in the office prior to May 15th



Invitation to Collaborative Meeting regarding School Dress Code for 2015-2016

The Pittsburgh Science & Technology Academy has a unique dress code exclusive to the school. As we are working diligently to create a culture of high expectations and academic excellence for all learners, it is our hope that the dress code helps foster a positive learning environment free of distractions and disruptions. Please join select members of our staff and community partners as we discuss our dress code policy for the 2015-2016 school year. Our goal is to continue to work on our standard of dress (business casual) so that all students understand these expectations. This collaborative meeting will help us to identify areas within the policy that may require additional clarification for students and families. This meeting will be held at SciTech Wednesday, April 8th from 5:30 to 6:30 p.m. We appreciate your support.

SciTech Concentrations Lottery

Over the coming weeks, we will be exposing Associate (9th grade) students to the four different science & technology concentrations offered at SciTech. Specifically, we will be doing the things below: Students will go over the concentrations admissions lottery process in their Big Ideas in Science Class. One high school science forum activity will be devoted to showing Associate students the various projects that students are currently working on in their science concentration classes.

This is an exciting time for our Associate students and we hope that you take the opportunity to talk with your child about the various concentrations and which concentration is most interesting to them. Students will sign up for their concentration area at the end of this school year and begin taking classes at the beginning of next school year. As a reminder our four concentration areas are: Body & Behavior, Computers & Connections, Environment & Energy and Form & Function. You can find more information on our website at www.pittsburghscitech.com/academics/

Senior End of Year Activities and Finals

Tuesday, May 26th - Final Exams (Full Day) (Exams in Periods 1 and 2)

Wednesday, May 27th - Final Exams (Full Day) (Exams in Periods 4 and 5)

Thursday, May 28th - Final Exams Make-up.

Thursday, May 28th – Prom, Fairmont Hotel

Friday, May 29th - Final Exams Make-up. Last Day of School for Seniors.

Wednesday, June 3rd Students will receive their commencement caps and gowns this day and will participate in our annual Senior Luncheon with the staff.

Friday, June 5th – Mandatory Commencement Practice – 9:15 a.m. at Petersen Events Center. Students are required to report to school by 9:15 a.m. and we will travel as a class to Petersen Events Center. Students will be dismissed from Petersen by 11:30 a.m.

Saturday, June 6th – Commencement 9:00 a.m., Petersen Events Center

3rd Annual Multi-Cultural Night & Potluck Dinner

Tuesday, April 14th

6-8pm at SciTech



Come to this fun-filled family event! We have many activities and performances planned, this will be fun for all ages! Students receive a free dress down for attending.

Please RSVP for this event at:

<http://tinyurl.com/culturalnight2015>

This event is sponsored by the SciTech PTO.

