



SciTech Parent Newsletter

December 2014

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Message from Principal McNeil

On behalf of the staff at SciTech, I wish you and your family well in the coming holiday season. This is a busy and exciting time for everyone, but we never want to lose sight of the importance of school each and every day! We recently recognized more than 140 students for having perfect attendance during the first quarter of the school year and we hope to recognize even more students at the end of the second quarter. Regular attendance at school has a significant impact on student resiliency in college in addition to its immediate impact on coursework at SciTech. We are very proud of the fact that so many of our students are consistently coming to school and we appreciate the support of our families as we increase our emphasis on attendance among our students.



3rd Annual Polar Express Night at SciTech

Mark your calendars for the Interact Club's 3rd Annual Polar Express Family Fun Night! The event will be held on **Friday, December 19 from 6-8pm** at SciTech. There will be fun for the whole family (especially for younger siblings), such as cookies to decorate, holiday cards to make, and a holiday movie to watch. Tickets can be purchased from Mrs. Lazzaro and the Interact Club after Thanksgiving break. The cost for advanced purchase is \$2 per person or \$7 per family, and at the door, prices are \$3 per person and \$10 per family. Any SciTech student who attends receives a free dress down day. Please email Mrs. Lazzaro (jlazzaro1@pghboe.net) with any questions.



SciTech Dress Code Reminder

As the weather begins to change, please be sure that your student is coming to school in appropriate attire. Students are welcome to wear sweaters, vests etc. to stay warm, but sweatshirts and anything with a hood is prohibited. Please also note that students are expected to continue to wear business casual dress shoes during this season. Please refer to the dress code that we sent home at the beginning of the year for any additional questions that you may have, in addition this is posted on the SciTech website www.pittsburghscitech.com. We are very fortunate at SciTech in that so many of our students clearly understand the expectations that we have for them both academically and behaviorally. We also know that it is important for us to continue to reteach our expectations throughout the school year. Thank you for your support.



SciTech Students Recognized for Perfect Attendance

On Friday November 7th, we recognized 142 students from grades 6-12 for achieving Perfect Attendance! In an effort to establish a Culture of Attendance, we wanted to do something special to honor these students who make the effort to be here every day. As a reward to all students who met the criteria for Perfect Attendance, Mr. McNeil and Mr. McCoy granted a dress down day that took place on Monday November 10th! As a special reward for a few lucky students, the school distributed two AMC Loews Theater Gift Cards to two students in each grade (14 total Gift Cards). Finally, the Pittsburgh SciTech Parent Teacher Organizations (PTO) gifted three lucky students with \$10 Amazon Gift Cards. As we progress through the rest of the school year, we will continue to recognize excellence in the form of rewards for those students who meet the criteria for Perfect Attendance.



SciTech Office Hours

The office hours during the school year are Monday through Friday 6:30 AM – 3:30 PM (except for holidays). If you call outside of these hours, please make sure to leave a message and we will return your call the next school day.



Parent Addresses & Phone Numbers

Families are reminded that if their address, phone number or email address changes during the school year, it is very important to call and notify the main office. The addresses we have on file are used for mailings and the phone numbers are used for our automatic calling system as well as for emergency purposes. At the start of the school year, all families are asked to complete and return Student Emergency Forms.



Parent Involvement Policy

The SciTech Parent Involvement Policy has been updated for the 2014-2015 with input from our parents and guardians at the last PSCC Meeting. Please find this on the website at www.pittsburghscitech.com under the "Parents" tab. If you would like a hard copy please contact Mrs. Theuret at 412-529-7652 or stheuret1@pghboe.net.

SciTech Student Blood Drive

The SciTech Family donated 38 pints of blood at the NHS led blood drive on Thursday, November 13th. That's 38 lives affected by the generosity of staff and students which surpassed their goal of 30 pints!



National Honor Society Induction

On November 10th, another group of students were formally inducted into SciTech's chapter of the National Honor Society. At SciTech, students become eligible for NHS at the end of their sophomore year. Students must have a minimum GPA of 3.3, exhibit excellence in character, exercise strong leadership skills inside and outside the classroom and demonstrate a commitment to service. After a welcome from Principal Shawn McNeil, senior members spoke on the four pillars of NHS: Character, Leadership, Scholarship and Service. New members were inducted in a candle-lighting ceremony by Advisor Wendi Obritz and Director James McCoy. The officers for the 2014-2015 school year were also installed.

