

SciTech Parent Newsletter

February 2015

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Dress Code Reminder

As we begin the second half of the school year, it is necessary to remind our students of certain expectations related to our school program at SciTech. Given the change in the weather, 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 boots are not permitted and students are expected to continue to wear business casual dress shoes during this season. Please see the school dress code that is included in this newsletter for any questions you may have.

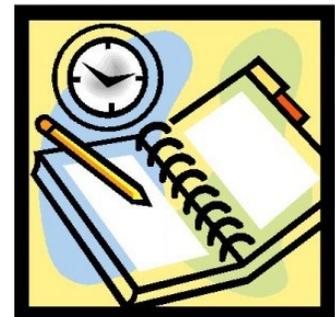


School Closures and Delays

Unfortunately it is that time of year when the weather may affect school operations. All school closures and delays are posted on the Pittsburgh Public Schools website (www.pghboe.net), Facebook, Twitter and are announced on the local news channels and websites. Please do not call the school. In the case of a delay, school will begin two hours later than normal and we will follow an adjusted schedule in the building and we will still dismiss at 1:46 PM on Wednesday's. Athletic contests between schools are only cancelled when schools are closed for the day or if the students have been dismissed early due to bad weather. If the weather becomes problematic during the school day, we will determine if it is appropriate to cancel our after school activities and then send a Blackboard voice message out to families.

Scheduling for Next School Year

Over the coming weeks, high school students will receive information regarding the scheduling process for next school year. We do ask that all parents/guardians look through this information with students so that everyone is aware of the course offerings that are available. Course descriptions are available on our school website, www.pittsburghscitech.com.



Check Out the New SciTech Facebook Page

Check out the SciTech Facebook page at www.facebook.com/pittsburghscitech. Use this site to stay even more up to date with all things SciTech!



NEW SciTech Website

In case you haven't seen it yet, check out the new SciTech website at www.pittsburghscitech.com. This website has updates and happenings of SciTech, course descriptions, school information and much more.



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.



Family 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.



SciTech Interact Club Collects Shoes for Children in Nicaragua

Do you have shoes that are in good condition that you no longer wear? If so, please consider donating them to Interact Club's Shoes for Nicaragua project. Shoes will be sent to Nicaragua and given to children to wear because students are not permitted to attend school unless they have shoes. Shoes can be dropped off in room 237, or given to the Interact Club members outside of the cafeteria during lunch. We are also accepting donations of school supplies. Students who donate 2 or more pairs of shoes or school supplies will be given a free dress down day pass. Collection ends Friday, February 13th. Contact Mrs. Lazzaro at jlazzaro1@pghboe.net with any questions. .



SciTech Ski Trip

SciTech's annual ski trip to Hidden Valley Resort is scheduled for Friday, February 13th. Students will be dismissed from class during 5th period to get changed and load the bus. Ski and snowboard rentals are available through Hidden Valley. Students will return to SciTech at 10:30 Friday night.

All students attending will need to pay \$36 for the lift ticket and bus to Hidden Valley. Skis can be rented for an additional \$15 and snowboards for \$18. Lessons are available through Hidden Valley and will cost an additional \$14. Helmets can be rented for \$10.

Copies of the permission slip are available outside of the cafeteria. Please contact Mr. Rose at brose1@pghboe.net with any additional questions.



Parent Resource Area at SciTech

Have you had a chance to check out the Parent Resource Area at SciTech? It's located right next to the entrance of the main office. There are shelves of booklets and books that our students and parents can use. There are many different topics such as:

- Helping your student with homework
- Raising a teenager of character
- Parents and stress
- Financing a college education
- Understanding standardized tests
- Parenting teen girls
- And much more!

Stop in today to check it out!



Excellence for All (EFA) Parent Steering Committee

The Excellence for All Parent Steering Committee is comprised of up to four parent or family representatives from each Pittsburgh Public School. These representatives are committed to working directly with the Superintendent as a sounding board for ideas, suggestions, issues, concerns, new initiatives and discussions. Members also serve on District-wide subcommittees such as Focus Groups, Charter School Review Teams, Text Book Selections, Parent and Family Policy Reviews, Gifted Education Task Force, Right to Education Task Force, etc. The Superintendent meets with the EFA on a bi-monthly basis to encourage dialogue around the District's major initiatives. The committee itself meets on the 1st Thursday of each month at SciTech beginning at 6pm. The purpose of the group is to inform the District of key parent concerns and to act as individual ambassadors for Excellence for All in their own neighborhoods, communicating key initiatives and helping parents, especially our hardest-to-reach parents, understand how to navigate the school system and how they can support their children in achieving high standards. If you are interested in attending the next EFA meeting, please join us February 5th at 6pm at SciTech.

February PSCC Meeting

Thursday, February 12th 6-7pm

**Topic: Equity &
Courageous
Conversations**

Join us for an interactive workshop facilitated by Mr. McNeil around equity and courageous conversations. Whether you came to the December PSCC meeting around the same topic or not, join us to continue this work here at SciTech. Just a reminder that dinner and child care will be provided.

