



SciTech Parent Newsletter

November 2015

Inside this issue:

Important	2
Attendance Reminders	
Contacting Students During the Day	2

Fall Science and Technology Festival

We would like to thank our PTO for sponsoring our annual SciTech Fall Festival last month. The National Consortium of Secondary STEM Schools (NCSS) Board has established a definition of a STEM school as those schools that prepare students to be leaders in global innovation by engaging them in rigorous, relevant, and integrated learning experiences, with a science, technology, engineering, and mathematics focus and specialization that include authentic research schoolwide. One of the four primary goals for our district is to promote student innovation and events such as this serve to support our schoolwide and district efforts to advance student invention and learning. We believe SciTech students are not just being prepared to be leaders of innovation in the future, but stand out among their peers as innovators inside and outside of the classroom today.

SciTech Food Drive– October 26-November 16

Some of our SciTech 9th grade students are completing service projects through the Middle School Interact Club. They are hosting a food drive to benefit the Greater Pittsburgh Community Food Bank. Items can be brought in through November 16th. Any student who brings in 5 or more items will receive a free dress down day. Items can be brought to Mrs. Theuret's room, 218 during 3rd period. Thank you for your support!

SciTech Weekly Emails

Every Monday we send an email that helps inform our families about what is going on at SciTech. There is a great deal of information communicated each week. If you don't already get these weekly emails, please sign-up today!

<http://tinyurl.com/scitechemailist>



REMINDER

The main office is open from 6:30a.m. – 3:30p.m. each day except for holidays.

ASVAB Administered at SciTech

The ASVAB, a Military Career Interest Inventory Exam will be administered to any Junior or Senior interested in sitting for the exam on Friday, November 13, 2015 at 7:35am. The exam will be administered in the PD room, Room 225 and will take about 2 ½ hours. Any student that is interested in taking the ASVAB can see Mrs. Ashcom.

Important Attendance Information

If your student is absent from school, please be sure to write an excuse. You must write an excuse **each time** your student is absent. Instruct your student to turn the excuse in to the **Main Office** when they arrive to school after their absence. Absence excuses must be turned in within **3 days** of the absence. After 3 days, the absence is unexcused. You may only send in excuses for 10 school days for the entire year. Be sure to include an absence reason on every excuse. Below are reasons for excused absences:

- Illness (absences beyond 10 total days for the year require an excuse from a physician.)
- Health care (doctor's note needed)
- Bereavement—students are temporarily excused for bereavement and/or to attend the funeral of a family member
- Religious holidays and religious instruction recognized by the Board of Education
- Weather emergency and/or impassable roadways
- Involuntary exclusions (suspensions, court summons.)
- Principal approved excusals—all requests for educational vacations, college visits, counseling, mentoring, etc...must be approved by Mr. McNeil.

It is the responsibility of the student to make up all school work missed during his/her excused absence.

If you have any questions about attendance, please contact Mrs. Eiding at 412-529-7626.

Please see the template below for writing absence notes.

Please excuse my student _____, from school on the following date(s): _____.		
The absence was due to: _____		

Parent /Guardian Signature	Date	Daytime Phone Number

Contacting Students During the School Day

We continue to receive requests for students to be called to the office to speak with family members over the phone for various non-emergencies. Additionally, request by phone for the office staff to relay messages to students is a practice that will not continue. Please keep in mind that any critical message that needs to be given to your student must be emailed or faxed to our office staff or it will not be provided to the student. We aim to keep students in class as much as possible, as we all know the impact of student attendance on achievement. Please keep this in mind whenever you contact the school. Thank you for your support.

