



• Week 8 Director Notes • September 14, 2018 •

eStem Junior High Community,

We've had yet another great week at Downtown eStem Junior High School. I'd like to end the week by asking for your help in two areas.

First, we are well into the school year and have been practicing our safety drills: Fire, Tornado, as well as Shelter and Place. We've had several discussions with students about taking these drills seriously, learning the procedures, and moving quickly and quietly to their designated locations. These drills are going well, but we'd like to ask that you reinforce these expectations at home.

Second, please talk with your child about their morning routine. We have noticed a growing number of students that are gathering at 4th and Center in front of the Corner Store. All of the surrounding businesses have been given contact information for school representatives, and we have not received any complaints from our neighbors. However, in an attempt to be proactive, we are asking that you speak with your child to reinforce the expectations for reporting to school in the morning as well as the expectations for being exemplary representatives of eStem Public Charter Schools within the Downtown community.

For daily updates on some of the cool things that are happening in our hallways and classrooms, find us on Twitter and Instagram: [@eStemDTJHS](#)

For updates on eStem Athletics (*tryouts, pictures, scores, schedules, fundraisers, booster club, etc*), you can also follow [@estempcsathletics](#) on Instagram or Facebook. You can also find them on Twitter [@estempcsathlet1](#).

Picture day will be Monday, September 17. Students must be in dress code to have their picture taken, and parents can pre-order pictures online by searching "MyLifetouch" in any internet browser and entering the following ID Code: **RP018233Q0**. If you have any questions or need any assistance ordering pictures, please contact [Ms. Scales](#).

Our first Math & Literacy Night will be Tuesday, September 25. If you'd like to learn more about the day-to-day in your child's math & literacy classrooms, please mark your calendars for 5:30 – 6:30 on the aforementioned date. More information will be provided soon!

We will be performing our annual vision and hearing screenings for the 8th grade students September 18 – 20. These screenings are mandated by law and will be

performed by Nurse Miller. The purpose of the screenings is to identify those students who are likely to have vision and/or hearing problems. These screenings are not diagnostic. Students will be rescreened if they do not pass the initial screening. Once a student is identified as having a vision or hearing issue, a notification for referral to a specialist will be sent to parents. If you wish to opt out of these screenings, please contact [Nurse Miller](#).

Parent/Teacher Conferences will be held from 4:00 PM-6:30 PM on Thursday, September 27 and 7:30 AM – 12:00 PM on Friday, September

28. Thursday evening conferences must be prescheduled with individual teachers. Friday morning conferences will be drop-in conferences on a first-come-first-serve basis. More information will be sent soon.

9th grade students can try out for the High School baseball and softball teams!

Tryouts will be held at Burns Park on the following dates/times:

Baseball: September 25 – 26 from 6:00-7:45 (Arrival time no later than 5:30)

Softball: October 9 – 10 from 5:00 – 7:00 PM

All students planning to participate must attend both dates and bring documentation of a physical on the first day of tryouts. If your child wishes to participate, they can sign up in the main office. If you have any questions, please email [Mr. Dillon](#).

9th grade students can try out for the eStem High School soccer team!

Tryouts will be held on September 19th and 20th from 4:30-6:00 PM at Coleman Field. All participants must submit a recent medical clearance note from their physicians before tryouts. Sign up list is outside Ms. Benson's classroom. For more information, please contact [CAPT. Pursley](#).

Over Spring break, we will be hosting a trip to Washington D.C. through a program called Close Up!

This will be our 4th time collaborating with Close Up for this trip, and we need at least 10 students to make it work. You can learn more about the organization at [THIS LINK](#). The trip will take place from March 17 – March 20 of 2019 and costs roughly \$1,600. This price includes airfare, hotel accommodations, and food. eStem employees will be chaperoning the trip. Our third and final interest meeting will be from 5:00 – 5:30 in room 105 at our Downtown Junior High campus on Monday, September 24. If you are interested in learning more, please email [Mr. DuPriest](#).

- **Home Access Center (HAC) is a website through which you can monitor your child's grades and attendance.** The web address for HAC is: <http://hac40.esp.k12.ar.us>.
- **All students who purchase a lunch will need to have money on their lunch account.** Money can be loaded onto lunch accounts at www.myschoolbucks.com.
- **If your child will be absent,** please email JHSattendance@estemschools.org to let us know!
- **If you have an address, email, or phone number change,** please email those changes to Mrs. Peterson: allyson.peterson@estemschools.org.

Dates to Remember:

Picture Day: Monday, September 17

Vision/Hearing Screenings: September 18 – 20

Math/Literacy Night: Tuesday, September 25

Parent/Teacher Conferences Session 1: September 27 4:00 - 6:30

Parent/Teacher Conferences Session 2: September 28 7:30 - 12:00

No School for Students: *September 28*

Fall Break: *October 1 – 5*

1st Quarter Report Cards: *October 15*

The Hate You Give Book Club: *October 16*