



• Week 16 Director Notes • November 29, 2018 •

eStem Junior High Community,

Some of our EAST students are working with our 9th grade ambassadors to organize a used toy drive for the Holiday season. If you have some old, gently-used toys sitting around the house that you'd like to donate, please consider sending them to school with your child. We are NOT asking parents to purchase new toys, but we think we can make a big difference with your old ones. The used toy drive will last through December 14.

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](#).

Due to continued reports of disrespect and inappropriate behavior, our students will no longer be allowed in Subway. Those of you who have a student who waits there after school should speak with your child about a different spot for dismissal.

Finals week will be December 17 – December 21. Please review the attachment titled “Final Exam Schedule.” We will be sending more communication in the coming weeks. In the meantime, please let us know if you have any questions.

Our eTeam’s annual Coin Wars event has officially ended, and we raised \$915! We want to give a special shout-out to our top-earning homerooms: Ms. Johnson, Mr. Butler, and Ms. Fosler.

As we gear up for the cold winter months, we want to make sure everyone is aware of our new eStem winter merchandise available for purchase on MySchoolBucks or in the main office. We had many inquiries and requests for hoodies and new long sleeve shirts. We heard you, and they are here!!! Some of our very own students even created one of the designs. You can see all of our new merchandise in the attached pictures. Please feel free to come by the office or visit MySchoolBucks to get yours now! Sizes S-2X are available for all items. Long sleeve shirts are \$15, and the hoodies are \$35- these could also make great holiday gifts! If you have any questions about the merchandise or MySchoolBucks, please email [Ms. Stafford](#).

We have partnered with the Arkansas Blood Institute to host a blood drive for parents and staff.

The drive will take place right outside the school in the Institute's "Blood Mobile" from 10:00 AM – 1:30 PM on Monday, December 10. If you would like to learn more, please email [Nurse Miller](#). If you already know you'd like to participate, you can schedule your appointment at [THIS LINK](#). We have set a goal for 16 successful donations, and we hope that you will consider helping us reach our goal!

Will your child be taking the Driver's Permit test over Winter Break? If so, you will need to request the [eJHS Drivers Permit Request Form](#) before Friday, December 14th. Students must be 14 years old and have a GPA of 2.0 at the time of the form request. Mrs. Peterson will contact the student when the form is available for pick up in her office, room 205. Please allow 48 hours for form completion.

As we wrap up the first semester, we are finding that our students are running low on writing utensils and paper.

We will continue to stock our classrooms with the appropriate materials to foster academic success; however, we'd like to also ask that you please consider talking to your child about whether or not they may need any specific school supplies. Also, if you'd like to donate a few boxes of Kleenex, we would gladly distribute those to teachers!

You and your child have been invited you to the UALR campus for Community Night of Coding.

The CSforAR Team has partnered with the multiple STEM departments at UA Little Rock to offer our students this amazing opportunity. The event will take place from 5:00-8:00 PM next Tuesday, December 4th in the EIT Building on the UALR campus. You can register using the following link: [Night of Coding](#).

Are you looking for an after school program? If so, please check out the attached flyers!

The first opportunity is the 21st Century Community Learning Center Afterschool Programming. The West Central Sports Complex and Community Center provides after school programming in the areas of reading, math, and science. The program is free and is from 4:00-6:00 PM on weekdays, Monday – Friday. A meal is provided, and transportation is available.

The second opportunity is Adolescent Center Inc.'s Afterschool College and Career Readiness Program. This program focuses on ACT Prep, STEM-based enrichment programs, and real-world college readiness that includes visits to multiple in-state campuses. This program is also free, occurs every weekday, and provides transportation to and from sessions.

- **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:

Staff and Parent Blood Drive: December 10

Final Exams Week: December 17 – 21

Winter Break: December 22 – January 7