



National Society of Black Engineers

The SEM National Society of Black Engineers math team – Eduardo Infante, Herschel Lewis, Jose Arroyo, Simon Myers, and Sidney Royal – was awarded 2nd place at the Fall Regional Conference 10 State Regional Math Competition on Saturday, November 1. The team qualifies to compete for the National Championship in March in Las Vegas. Congratulations to these very intelligent students, and good luck in Las Vegas! ~ Mr. J

SEM to Receive TBEC Honor Roll Award



Mrs. Jovan Wells will be in San Antonio on Monday, November 10. She will be attending the Texas Business & Education Coalition's 9th Annual Honor Roll Event, where SEM will receive **TBEC's Honor Roll Award**. Congratulations to all SEM students and teachers on this prestigious award.

Class of 2012 to Elect Class Officers

The Class of 2012 will be electing class officers on Monday and Tuesday, November 10-11. Voting will take place during the PreAP Biology classes. The students nominated more than 45 of their peers for the prospective offices. The top "four" candidates for the offices are:

President: Richard Bayless, Rogelio De La Garza, Paul Mota and Cristhian Ulloa

Vice-President: Joseph Castellano, Yogi Elphik, Felipe Flores, Darcy Martin, Kevin Ortiz, John Puetz and Abdul Wahab.

Secretary-Treasurer: Lucy Alvarez, Christopher Martinez, Ian Nord and Catalina Torres

Reporter-Historian: Lucy Alvarez, Cristian Gomez, Melanie Rivas, and Bontavy Vorng

"Eagles' Nest" Meeting

The next "Eagles' Nest" meeting is Thursday, November 13 at 8:30 a.m.

Directories

If you prepaid for a PTSA Directory or are a PTSA member, your child should have received a directory last Friday and brought it home. If you did not receive your directory, please contact Angela Perez-Michael at perezmichael@tx.rr.com. Also, we have a few extra copies of the **directory for sale for \$3**. You may purchase a directory from Mr. Peak in the SEM office. Please have exact change.

UIL Public Speaking Orientation

Mr. Hyman will be having an orientation meeting for interested student on Wednesday, November 12, after school.

Remember Veterans Day

Veterans Day is Tuesday, November 11. Please take this opportunity to thank military veterans you know or remember those that have passed. Veterans Day, originally Armistice Day, marks the anniversary of the cessation of fighting at the end of World War I ("the war to end all wars") – at the eleventh hour of the eleventh day or the eleventh month of 1918.

NCWIT Award for Aspirations in Computing

CALLING ALL TECH-SAVVY GIRLS, CODERS, GAMERS, & WEB DIVAS!

Applications are now open for the NCWIT Award for Aspirations in Computing. **Apply by December 1, 2008** to be recognized for your contributions to the digital world. Award-winners receive \$500, a new laptop computer, and a trip to the Bank of America Technology Showcase and Awards in Charlotte, NC. Complete application materials and details are available at www.ncwit.org/award. Online applications and all supporting documents must be received by December 1, 2008. The NCWIT Award for Aspirations in Computing is open to all high school girls and is sponsored by the National Center for Women & Information Technology (NCWIT) and Bank of America.

Shopping at Target?

Help SEM at the same time by using your Target REDcard! First, link your REDcard and this SEM ID number: 118447 Townview School of Science and Engineering, by calling the number on the back of the card or going to Customer Service at your Target. Then Target will contribute 1% of your purchase to SEM every time you use your REDcard. We appreciate every dollar of contribution. Thank you.

The Periodic Tabloid

Little Things Can Make a Big Difference

What with RIFs and DISD budget cuts, being a DISD teacher has never been more of a challenge. Even classroom essentials like dry erase markers and pencil sharpeners are in limited supply. Show our fabulous SEM teachers how much you appreciate them: Visit the [Classroom Wish List](#) on the SEM website and choose a wish or two to fulfill. Simply drop them off in the designated box in the SEM office. **Thank you!**

Mansfield UIL Meet - Saturday, November 15th

The UIL team will be attending a meet at Mansfield High School on Saturday, November 15. We will meet at Townview at 6 AM on Saturday morning and we plan to return around 6 PM on Saturday afternoon. We are looking for a few parents who can provide some snacks for our students while they are at the meet. If you would be able to provide individually wrapped snacks or drinks, please let me know. You can drop snacks off in the office, or bring them by Room 229 before or after school. Make sure to label them for UIL. Thank you for your support.

Joshua Newton, UIL Coordinator

Science TAKS Benchmark Test - November 18, 2008

On Tuesday, November 18, 2008, the Science Department will be administering a released Science TAKS Benchmark Test to all of our 10th and 11th grade students from 4:05 p.m. – 5:05 p.m. We have already given a short bus survey to the students to determine whether or not they need to ride the activity bus on that day. It is important that your child be present that afternoon so we can assess his/her strengths and weaknesses pertaining to science. If your child does not ride the activity bus that afternoon, pick-up arrangements will need to be made. Thank you for your cooperation in this very important matter.

Dr. Charles Tuttle, Science Department Chair

Research Fellowship at Mount Desert Island Biological Laboratory

10th, 11th & 12th graders! The Mount Desert Island Biological Laboratory (MDIBL) High School Research Fellowship program is a hands-on and mentored laboratory experience for H. S. students interested in biology, medicine, or research. Up to 12 six to eight week (summer) research fellowships are available. The Laboratory is located in Salsbury Cove, Maine. More information is available at: <http://www.mdibl.org/edu/highschool.shtm> Students must have completed chemistry, biology, and mathematics.

Faculty nomination deadline is January 2, 2009. (form available online) *Nominated students will receive by email an application packet.* **Application deadline: February 2, 2009**

Support Our SEM Seniors

The SEM Seniors are asking for food donations for Senior sales from November 3 to 14 after school. Proceeds go the Senior Activity Fund.

The Seniors would appreciate:

Taquitos (boxes)
Nacho chips, cans of nacho cheese, chilies and jalapenos

Salsa
Styrofoam cups
Boxes of chocolate powder
Paper bowls / nacho trays
Napkins
Paper or Styrofoam plates
Mini marshmallows

If you have questions, contact Ms. Rita Hines at (214) 728-8422, Brooke Packheiser at (214) 909-6274 or Lam Phan at (469) 212-6772.

Please bring all donations to Room 229 (Ms. Hines' room).

Thank you for your help!

Volunteers Needed

Volunteers are needed to prepare and serve Holiday Luncheon for the SEM staff on Thursday, December 11, 11:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. in Room 211. Contact Dianna Krueger to volunteer: rainbows_01@msn.com or (972) 233-4189.

TAGT Open House

The **Texas Association for the Gifted and Talented** will open the exhibit hall of the 2008 Annual Conference: Awakening the Gifts Within to the general public on **Wednesday, November 12**, from 4:00 pm to 7:00 pm at the Sheraton Dallas Hotel. TAGT will also host free half-hour presentations for parents. Details at www.txgifted.org.

The Periodic Tabloid

Upcoming Events

| Date | | Event | Time |
|-------------|---------------------------|--|------------------|
| Sa | November 8 | AP English Prep Sessions @ Townview | 9:00 – 2:30 |
| M-Tu | November 10 and 11 | Class of 2012 - Class Officer Elections | |
| Tu | November 11 | Veterans Day | |
| W | November 12 | Texas Association for the Gifted and Talented Open House Dallas Sheraton Hotel (formerly Adam's Mark, downtown) | 4:00 – 7:00 p.m. |
| Th | November 13 | Eagles' Nest Meeting | 8:30 a.m. |
| F | November 14 | Aerospace Scholars Program Application Deadline | |
| F | November 14 | End of Second Six Weeks | |
| Sa | November 15 | UIL Meet at Mansfield High School | |
| Tu | November 18 | Science TAKS Benchmark Test - November 18, 2008 | 4:05 p.m. |
| | November 24-28 | Thanksgiving Break – No School | |
| Tu | December 2 | SEM Town Hall Meeting for Prospective Parents | 6:30 – 8:00 p.m. |

New and changed events are in bold.

Events are subject to change. Check the SEM [calendar](#) for updates. www.semagnetschool.org

Technology & Science News

(From [LatinTech](#) Wire)

[Dogs can read emotion in human faces](#)

Research by Kun Guo and colleagues at the University of Lincoln, UK, reveals that pet dogs may be able to gauge the emotion in human faces.

[TIME's Best Inventions of 2008](#)

From a genetic testing service to an invisibility cloak to an ingenious public bike system to the world's first moving skyscraper — here are TIME's picks for the top innovations of 2008.

[Stephen Hawking Will Retire From Cambridge University](#)

Cosmologist Stephen Hawking, author of the popular science bestseller *A Brief History of Time* and Lucasian Professor of Mathematics at Cambridge University, plans to retire at the end of the academic year.

[Prehistoric-age reptile found in New Zealand](#)

A rare reptile with lineage dating back to the dinosaur age has been found nesting on the New Zealand mainland for the first time in about 200 years.

Día de los Muertos (Day of the Dead)

The **Ice House Cultural Center** exhibition features altars and artwork commemorating those that have passed on. According to ancient Mexican traditions, every year the spirits of the dead come back to visit with their families. This happens on All Saints Day (Nov 1) and on the Day of the Dead (Nov 2). This tradition sustains the conviction that life and death are inseparable. October 21 through November 14, 2008; Reception with the artists: November 1, 2008 (6-8 p.m.) Free and open to the public. www.dallasculture.org/iceHouseCulturalCenter.cfm 1004 W. Page Street in Oak Cliff, just a few minutes from Townview. HT: *Toni Lewis*

College Elements

SMART Scholarship (NEW!)

The Science, Mathematics and Research for Transformation (SMART) Scholarship for Service Program has been established by the Department of Defense (DoD) to support undergraduate and graduate students pursuing degrees in Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics (STEM) disciplines. The program aims to increase the number of civilian scientists and engineers working at DoD laboratories. The **deadline for application is December 15, 2008.**

www.asee.org/smart

SMART Scholars Receive:

- Cash award paid at a rate of \$25,000 - \$41,000 per year depending on prior educational experience
- Full tuition and related education expenses
- Health Insurance
- Book allowance
- Summer Internships (multi-year participants)
- Post-Graduation Career Opportunities

The Air Force Academy is Looking for Tomorrow's Leaders

This is a formula for success — a four-year scholarship with paid tuition, fees, room and board, plus a monthly salary. The Air Force Academy prepares young men and women to become officers in the United States Air Force. Cadets (students) finish college without student debt and are guaranteed jobs as commissioned officers upon graduation.

Experience the optional summer aviation program and learn soaring and parachuting.

Stay fit. All cadets participate in either intramural or intercollegiate athletics.

Every lesson, every activity, every day, the Academy builds leaders.

Cadets can study overseas, intern at the Pentagon and more.

The U.S. Air Force Academy is one of the most selective colleges in the country. Students willing to commit to excellence should apply online as early as March 1 of their junior year in high school. [Click here](#) now to find out more. *HT: Toni Lewis*

Financial Aid & Scholarship Resources

Be sure to check the [Counselor's Corner](#) on the SEM website at least **every week** for updated college planning, financial aid and scholarship information. Ms. Kashyap and Mr. Flores are continuously adding new information.

Also, do not forget the [Scholarship ebook](#), a wealth of valuable information and sound advice gathered by SEM parent Randy Hazlett.

UT Arlington to grant free tuition to students from households making \$65,000 or less

For the 2009-2010 academic year, UT Arlington will provide grant assistance to cover all fall and spring in-state tuition and fees for undergraduate Texas residents who have a family income of \$65,000 or less, receive a Federal Pell Grant, and who are admitted and complete the financial aid application process including all required forms by April 1, 2009. Details [here](#). *HT: Toni Lewis*

Are you Cruising?

Portfolios have been uploaded for all students. Please follow these steps to access your portfolio.

1. Log on to www.careercruising.com;
Username: townview
Password: eagles
2. Click on the Portfolio tab at the top of the page. Use your ID number as your password and your birth date as your password. The password must be 8 numbers with no hyphens or spaces e.g. 07091992)
3. Save the assessment results, career information or college information to your portfolio. You may also begin creating your resume.

Dubitando ad veritatem venimus.

We arrive at the truth by being skeptical.
(Pierre Abélard, *Sic et non?*)

Ut ager quamvis fertilis sine cultura fructuosus esse non potest, sic sine doctrina animus.

As a field, however fertile, is not able to be productive without cultivation, so is the mind without education.
(Cicero)

Hat Tip: Mr. Hyman