Like 0 Tweet 0 Share

Click to view this email in a browser

November 30, 2011

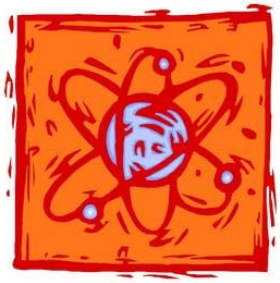
SCIENCE & ENGINEERING MAGNET - PTSA NEWSLETTER 2011-2012

It IS Rocket Science!

SEM Website

PTSA News

SEM PTSA Painless Fundraiser Has Begun!



We have kicked off the 3rd Annual SEM PTSA Painless Fundraiser and by now you should have received a letter in the mail. If not, you can get your copy here.

As state budget cuts have impacted school resources, your PTSA will be raising funds throughout the school year to ensure your students and their teachers have the resources they require to continue providing the educational experience they have become accustomed to and expect. This year our funds will be applied toward things such as:

- Classroom resources, ensuring teachers can continue to deliver innovative and challenging curricula
- Student travel to programs, conventions and competitions, particularly when they receive top honors in an organization
- Ongoing needs, as identified by SEM teachers and staff

Our goal is to raise $5,000 and the reason we call it painless is, as in the past, we are not asking you to sell items such as wrapping paper or cookie dough. We are just asking for a monetary donation. No donation is too small – and it is tax deductable!

Donations may be mailed to:

Jim Doederlein, Fundraising
4516 Lovers Lane, PMB 341
Dallas, TX 75225

Download a copy of the letter

This Saturday, December 3 is the 2011 Magnet Fair!

We still need help to distribute brochures, answer questions and share information about SEM with prospective students and their parents

Location: Skyline High School
7777 Forney Road
Dallas, TX 75227
Time: 9:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m.

If you can help, please respond to
semvolunteers@sbcglobal.net

Is Your Student Getting Their P.E. Credit?

Reminder... Check with your student and the counselor to make sure they have enough time to get their **Physical Education**, **Speech** and **Health** credits that they **must have** for graduation.

SEM students in the Fast & Super-Fast tracks can find it difficult to get these in if they wait until the last minute.

Solutions... take an on-line course concurrently with regular school or take the courses at a community college over the summer. We'll have more in-depth information coming soon!

Check Out The Volunteer Section Below!

Please don't forget to scroll down to volunteer opportunities and sign up for one of the several up-coming events. Many hands make light work!!

School News

Notes From Newton

Change in UIL Meet Registration Deadline

We have had to change the venue of our December 10th UIL Meet to **Athens High School**. The new registration deadline is noon on Monday, December 5th. If you have not already done so, please sign up by this time. There is a sign-up sheet posted on Mr. Newton's door in room 223.

Chaperones needed for February 4th UIL Meet

We are planning on attending a UIL Meet on Saturday, February 4th. This is also a

date when we will be testing our incoming freshmen so many of our UIL coaches will need to assist with testing and will not be available to attend the meet. It appears that **we will need 2-4 parents** to serve as chaperones in order to have enough chaperones for this trip. If you would be able to be a chaperone on our UIL team on February 4th, please send an email Mr. Newton at josnewton@dallasisd.org.

Sign Up Today For Discount On Junior Trip!

The Juniors are going to the BIG APPLE in June! You won't want to miss it AND receive your $99 discount for signing up today.

Follow this link to the SEM Website, where all the information you need can be found.

Questions? Ask Mr. Boykin at cboykin@dallasisd.org

Listen and Learn forums to continue throughout the year

The Listen and Learn events will provide the community an opportunity to offer insights and possible solutions to some of the biggest challenges facing the district and propose their own solutions to members of the Board of Trustees and senior administrators. Each forum is organized around a specific theme to guide each forum toward meaningful outcomes. A list of all the dates, times, and locations for the forums are on the flyers (English or Spanish), which can be found on the SEM Website Bulletin Board.

The next forum is on Tuesday, January 31st from 7 to 8:30 p.m., at Seagoville High School (15920 Seagoville Road) and will focus on Leadership and Empowerment.

This is an excellent opportunity to involve family, friends, and coworkers in the conversation around improving public education here in Dallas.

To read or download flyers (English or Spanish) with more information, click here

StudentCam Competition

A few weeks ago, the C-Span Campaign 2012 bus came to Townview. During their visit, they discussed a StudentCam Competition. The StudentCam is an annual **national video documentary competition** that encourages students to think seriously about issues that affect our communities and our nation. Students are asked to create a short (5-8 minute) video documentary on a topic related to the competition theme.

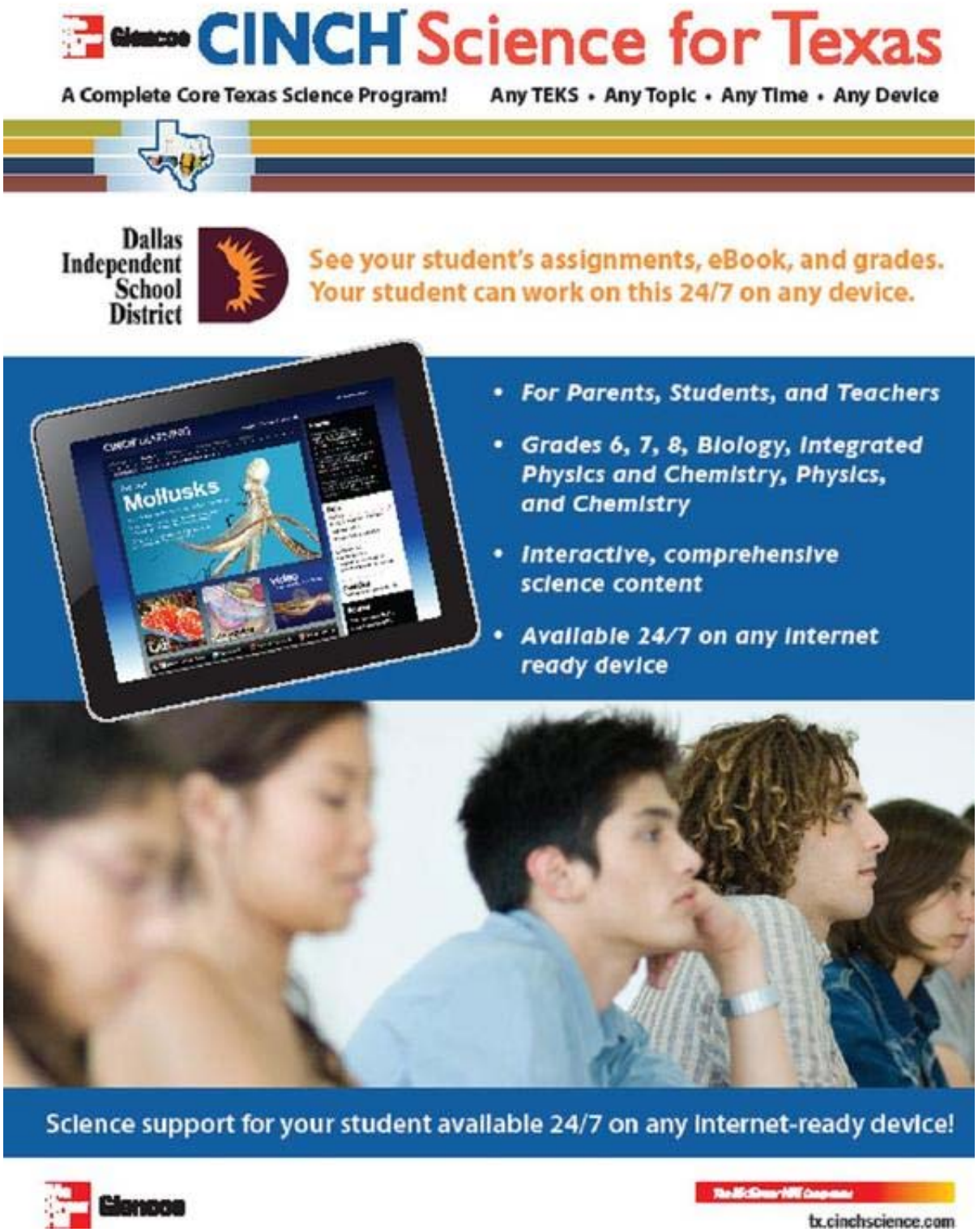
C-Span's Studentcam Competition submission page for entries is now LIVE! Interested students can submit entry forms and videos now at the StudentCam website. This website is very easy to navigate! For theme information, competition requirements and all other information about this competition, click on this link to take you to their home page.

They are giving away $50,000 in prizes for winning entries, including money towards equipment for schools in the top prize categories.

The deadline is **January 20, 2012**, so please pass this information along to your students and happy documentary-making!

Conya J. Kossie
Community Liaison

DISD Offers Science Support



Letters were sent home to all DISD families regarding Supplemental Science Materials. If you did not receive yours, you may access it on the SEM Website by clicking here.

Parent All-STAAR Week - December 5 - 8, 2011

All-STAAR Week provides important information for student success

Parents of children from prekindergarten through 12th grade are invited to learn important information about the new State of Texas Assessments of Academic Readiness (STAAR), the new supplemental science materials, and bullying.

The *Parent All-STAAR* Week meetings will provide information about the upcomingSTAAR state exam, which will replace the TAKS. Parents also will be able to view demonstrations of the new supplemental science materials, which students will have access to at school and at home through technology such as computers, XBox, Wii, Guitar Hero, and smart phones. Representatives from the district and schools also will share with parents information about college readiness, other services and programs offered in Dallas ISD, and the dangers of bullying.

Meetings will take place from 5 to 7:30 p.m.:

- **Monday, December 5**
  Thomas Jefferson High School, 4001 Walnut Hill Lane
  Lincoln High School, 2826 Hatcher St.
- **Tuesday, December 6**
  Moisés E. Molina High School, 2355 Duncanville Road
  Bryan Adams High School, 2101 Millmar Drive
- **Wednesday, December 7**
  Emmett J. Conrad High School, 7502 Fair Oaks Ave.
  Wilmer-Hutchins High School, 5520 Langdon Road
  Woodrow Wilson High School, 100 S. Glasgow Drive
- **Thursday, December 8**
  David W. Carter High School, 1819 W. Wheatland Road
  Nolan Estes Plaza, 3313 S. Beckley Ave. for more information about the Parent All-STAAR Week, contact (972) 925-3968.

To download this in pdf format, click here.

Counselor's Corner - from Ms. Kashyap

Class of 2012... Request your Principal to nominate you. You deserve this scholarship!

Exceptional student leaders are invited to apply for the 2012 GE-Reagan Foundation Scholarship Program. In honor of the legacy and character of President Ronald Reagan, this program annually rewards up to 20 college-bound students who demonstrate exemplary leadership, drive, integrity, and citizenship with $10,000 renewable scholarships (up to $40,000 per recipient).
Like President Reagan, candidates use the formative experiences of their youth to lead, serve, and pursue a life of progress, both individually and for their communities. Help put promising young leaders in the running for this prestigious award by:

- Sharing this news with scholars who exemplify, inside and outside the classroom, President Reagan's vision and destiny to lead and serve, and encouraging them to apply. Download a program flyer.
- Nominating an exemplary candidate for this award. During the application process, applicants must be nominated by a community leader, such as a high school principal, elected official or nonprofit executive, and each leader may nominate only one applicant.
- Recommending a candidate for this award. During the application process, applicants must be recommended by an authority figure who has observed them in a leadership role, such as a student activity advisor, community service coordinator, coach, employer, teacher, counselor or religious leader.

Applications for the GE-Reagan Foundation Scholarship Program will be accepted online until February 17, 2012. Additional information, eligibility requirements, and a link to the application are available online. You may also follow us on Facebook.
We look forward to honoring these young leaders next spring.
Erin Korsvall
Program Officer, GE-Reagan Foundation Scholarship Program

Dell Scholars Program (Deadline: January 15, 2012)

We are excited to announce the opening of the 2011-2012 Dell Scholars Program scholarship application. This marks the ninth class of Dell Scholars to be selected since the program's inception in 2004. With this cohort we will select 300 of the top students across the nation that exemplify what it means to be a Dell Scholar. These are students that have overcome great personal adversity in their family and personal lives while demonstrating their desire to be college ready by taking a rigorous course load in high school. The Dell Scholars program looks beyond the "numbers" in terms of GPA and does not include standardized test scores in the selection process.

We understand the challenges many low income students face and look to evaluate how these students have overcome personal challenges while staying focused on their goal to be prepared to enroll in college and attain a four year college degree. The Dell Scholars application is designed so students can share with us their desire to complete a bachelor's degree and tell us who they are and how they have managed to stay focused in school while managing life's challenges.

In its essence the Dell Scholars Program is a college persistence program that includes a significant financial award, but we are more than a check. The program empowers students develop their problem solving skills to cope with challenges and identify the right choices for action.

Please visit us at www.dellscholars.org for a complete overview of the program and application process. Be sure to check out the 'Meet the Dell Scholars' section for a video overview and hear directly from our Dell Scholars. If you have questions please visit the contact us page. In addition to contacting us you can also look through the Frequently Asked Questions link to find answers to the most common inquiries. We look forward to working with you and your students.

Dell Scholars Team

apply@dellscholars.org
1-800-294-2039

To see the full letter with links and date information, click here.

Parents of Seniors, this is crunch time and your help is needed to keep your Senior organized with regard to transcript requests!

From Ms. Kashyap:

Please adhere strictly to the following procedure when you request the Transcript/Recommendation letter/fee waiver to go to any institution.

This procedure has been discussed in the Junior Meeting, during the Senior Review and in the last two Senior meetings as well.

As discussed in previous information sessions, transcript requests made by email will **NOT** be honored. **UNLESS** it is requested by the institution to which a student is applying.

Before you request a transcript, please check with college representative to see if the college has an option to receive the Transcripts and the other documents by SendEdu or Comm app. This procedure is fast and cost-free.

If a student wants to request a transcript, he/she needs to follow the procedure below:

1) Prior to requesting transcripts, prepare a list of colleges to which you are applying so the request can be completed at one time for all colleges.

2) Please come to room #337 and pick up the white 3-ring binder. (Placed in the box)

3) Write the names of the colleges you are requesting transcripts for (be sure to include **ALL colleges** to ensure the transcripts are received prior to the application deadline).

4) Pick up the yellow Transcript Request slips from the box in the room.

5) Fill out one slip for each college.

6) **For each college**, complete a yellow transcript request slip (fill in ALL the blanks) and place in a stamped and addressed envelope so I know who is requesting the transcript and where it is being sent. **Do not seal the envelope**.

Please remember, universities will not hold the documents if you have not submitted your application. Only request transcripts if you have submitted your application.

Finally, as a reminder, any requests made to write recommendations for regular decision will no longer be honored as of November 15th if the deadline is December 1st. All transcript requests for regular action should be turned in by November 19th because of the Thanksgiving Holidays. I am happy to mail the transcripts for schools who honor the applications without recommendations.

Please feel free to contact me if you have any questions and/or concerns regarding the above.

Naveen Kashyap
Guidance Counselor
NKashyap@dallasisd.org
Ph: (972) 925-5962
Fax: (972) 925-6038

Seniors! Seniors! Seniors! Seniors!

Deadlines Loom Large!

COLLEGE APPLICATION DEADLINES

Attention Seniors..... College Application deadlines are approaching quickly. Please check the list below for college application deadlines:

TEXAS SCHOOLS
Prairie View A&M University – June 1st
Rice University – Jan. 1st
SMU – Jan. 15th
Texas A&M – Dec. 1st
Texas Southern University – July 15th
Texas Tech. – Mar. 1st
UNT – Mar. 1st
UT at Arlington – June 1st
UT at Austin - Dec. 1st
UT at Dallas – July 1st

OUT OF STATE SCHOOLS
Boston University –Jan. 1st
Cal Tech. – Jan. 3rd
Columbia University – Jan. 1st
Dartmouth – Jan. 1st
Harvard – Jan. 1st
Harvey Mudd College – Feb. 1st
MIT – Feb. 15th
NYU – Jan. 1st
Princeton – Jan. 1st
Purdue – Mar. 1st
Stanford – Jan. 1st
UC Berkeley – Nov. 30th
UCLA – Nov. 30th
University of Pittsburgh – Mar. 1st
University of Washington – Dec. 1st
USC – Jan. 10th
Yale – Dec. 31st

If your colleges of choice are not listed above, please check the college website(s) for application deadline dates. Put these deadline dates on your calendars and be sure to submit all necessary documentation (recommendations, transcripts, test scores, etc.) **before** the deadline dates.

Some colleges have early submittal dates for college scholarships and Honors programs. Please be aware of these dates too. Something else... for some schools with rolling admissions, the earlier the student gets accepted and places their deposit, the earlier they can apply for priority dorm room and those are assigned on first come-first served basis.

IN ADDITION, THERE ARE SCHOLARSHIP OPPORTUNITIES ON THE SEM WEBSITE. PLEASE TAKE SOME TIME TO LOOK THROUGH THE LIST OF SCHOLARSHIPS ON THE SEM WEBSITE, BULLETIN BOARD SECTION (AT THE BOTTOM OF THE HOME PAGE).

Seniors, Don't Forget...

Townview Senior Prom is April 20th at the Sheraton Hotel ~ Downtown

For those who wish to purchase prom tickets, the cost is $75 per person and payments are due December 16th. After December 16th, the cost will be $85 per person. The last day to purchase prom tickets is February 24th and money will not be collected thereafter. Fees can be turned into Mr. Garcia in the SEM office. Checks should be made payable to **Science & Engineering Magnet.**

Please note, the prom takes a lot of planning and deposits must be put in place for this event to take place!!!

On The Bulletin Board...

The following articles & notices can be found on the Bulletin Board on the SEM Website, **at the bottom** of the Home page. You can find scholarship & other student opportunity information there and download pdf's where possible. To go DIRECTLY to any specific article, click on the name in the following link list:

From Ms. Kashyap -
Transcript Request Guidelines (revised as of 11-16-11)

From DISD/Townview -
Townview Security Request for Volunteers 2011-12
DISD Volunteer Application
DISD Informative emails (called @Dallas ISD)

Scholarships (Deadlines in parenthesis) -
SMU Senate (Full Ride) (Jan. 2, 2012) (link to application now available)
Davey O'Brien Foundation Scholarship (Nov. 30, 2011)
Texas Engineering Scholarship (Deadline: Jan. 13, 2012)
Dell Scholars Program (Jan. 15, 2012)
GE/Reagan Scholarship (Feb. 17, 2012)

Summer Programs -
HAS Aerospace Scholars Program (Deadline: Dec. 9, 2011)
Summer Experiences at Washington Univ. St. Louis
Summer Leadership Opportunity in Austin (Deadline: Jan. 31, 2012)
Freshmen! Colorado Summer Program for Minorities (No apparent Deadline)

Competitions -
C-SPAN StudentCam 2012 (Jan. 20, 2012)

General Info for 2011-12 -
Magnet Application Timeline
AP Prep Dates 2011-12
ACT/SAT Registration Deadlines 2011-12
Comcast Reduced Price Internet
Staar Testing Info
Tutoring Schedule 2011-12

Freebies -
Minority Engineer Magazine
Women In Engineering Magazine

Volunteer Opportunities

And Another One Bytes The Dust!

Mr. Carter's computers are slowly dying and he would like to replace them before they are completely kaput! He is submitting another grant for them using the now familiar website, DonorsChoose.org, where you can go to his specific project and donate money directly to it. The name of the project is "And Another One Bytes The Dust".

The class needs 3 more 10.1" Laptops... let's put him over the top before the Holiday Break!

Take me to Mr. Carter's Page on DonorsChoose Website!

NEEDED...

Parents to provide breakfast items for the morning SEM Teacher Staff Breakfast meetings for the following dates:

February 23rd (need two parents)
March 29th (need three parents)
April 19th (need three parents)
May 24th (need three parents)

Contact Nora Mercado at nora.mercado@sbcglobal.net with your date preference.

We Still Need Volunteers For the Following Events:

Saturday December 3, 2011 - **Magnet Fair**
Location: Skyline High School
7777 Forney Road
Dallas, TX 75227
Time: 9:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m.
Help needed: distribute brochures, answer questions and share information about SEM with prospective students and parents.

Thursday December 8, 2011 - **SEM/Townview Open House**
Location: In front of the SEM office
Time: 6:30 p.m. - 8:00 p.m.
Help needed: distribute brochures, answer questions and share information about SEM with prospective students and parents.

ALL THOSE INTERESTED IN HELPING THE SCHOOL during all or any of these events please respond via email to: semvolunteers@sbcglobal.net

Reminders

Snack Request On-going...

Don't forget to stop by the SEM office and drop some snacks off for the Teachers and Staff Snack Basket. Our teachers & staff rarely have time for breaks, so we're asking for weekly donations to the basket so they can grab a quick snack. Feel free to send it with your student. Anything individually packaged like granola bars, peanut butter crackers, cheese crackers, small Gatorade bottles, mints, gum, chocolate, trail mix or mini popcorn bags would be welcome.

"Friend" us on Facebook!

Search for Sem Townview and get upcoming event news and other info from Facebook. We also have an information page on Facebook, called SEM Townview PTSA

Find the SEM Townview Page by Clicking HERE

Upcoming Events:

Saturday, December 3 - Magnet Fair (9 am - 12 pm) Skyline High School
Thursday, December 8 - SEM Open House (6:30 - 8 pm) In front of SEM Office
Saturday, December 10 - Science AP Prep Session at Townview (Time TBA)
Monday, December 19 - Holiday Break Begins
Friday, December 30 - Registration Deadline for January 28 SAT Test

2012
Tuesday, January 3 - Students Return to school
Saturday, January 7 - Math AP Prep Session at Townview (Time TBA)
Friday, January 13 - Registration Deadline for the February 11 ACT Test
January 16 & 17 - Martin Luther King Holiday - No School

SEM Website Calendar

If you no longer wish to receive these emails, please reply to this message with "Unsubscribe" in the subject line or simply click on the following link: Unsubscribe

Science & Engineering Magnet PTSA

1201 E. 8th Street
Dallas, TX 75203
US

Read the VerticalResponse marketing policy.