

# THE METS PRESS

 Stem Downtown Junior High Weekly Newsletter

## CANNED FOOD DRIVE



### What's New?

- Canned Food Drive - 1
- Winter Break & Resolutions - 2
- Final Exams - 3
- Important Forms - 4
- Important Reminders - 5
- Upcoming Events - 6
- What's for Lunch? - 7

Student Council is collecting canned goods to donate over the holiday. Help us to help families in need. We will stop collecting December 19th.

# WINTER BREAK AND NEW YEAR'S RESOLUTIONS

**“WHAT ARE YOUR WINTER  
BREAK PLANS?”  
“DO YOU HAVE ANY NEW  
YEARS RESOLUTIONS?”**



**“My new year’s resolution is to have more self discipline and less procrastination.”  
-Jordan Owen**



**“I plan to stay home all day over winter break. My new year’s resolution is to be nicer to people.”  
-Zianne Franklin**



**“My resolutions are to work out and be nicer to people.”  
-Kaden Jones**



**“I’m going to see the Nutcracker and go to a bonfire. My new year’s resolution is to meet my NWEA goals, stay positive, and have good grades.”  
-Rayven Desmuke**



**“I’m going to be spending time with friends and family during Christmas.  
I want to be a man of my word.”  
-Jorden Slaughter**



**“I’m going thrifting and on a trip to Florida.”  
-Aiden Roberson**



**“I’m going to Ohio to see my family. My new year’s resolution is to be a better me.”  
-Londyn Bryles**

# FINAL EXAMS



## EVERYTHING STUDENTS NEED TO KNOW ABOUT FINALS WEEK...

### Exemption Policy

- Only courses that are taken for high school credit are eligible for exemption.
- Students with an "A" average and have 10 or less unexcused absences for the semester are exempt from taking the exam. **No AP classes or Civics classes are exempt.** Students with a "B" average and have 5 or less unexcused absences in a course are exempt from final exams.
- Semester exams exemptions will be communicated to students on Thursday, December 11th
- Students will earn an "M" if they fail to take the exam, which counts as a 0% if not taken.

### Exam Schedule

Exam 1: 8:00-9:44 am

Exam 2: 9:48-11:32 am

Make Ups & Review Times:

12:40 pm-1:57 pm & 2:01 pm-3:18 pm

**Dec 14:** Periods 1 & 2

**Dec 15:** Periods 3 & 4

**Dec 18:** Periods 6 & 7

**Dec 19:** Period 8 & Make Up Exams

**Dec 20:** Make Up Exams

### Make Up Exams

Make up exams should be scheduled with the teacher. Please meet with your teacher as soon as possible if you are unable to take your exams during your regularly scheduled periods.

### 7th and 8th Graders Will Take An Exam

7th and 8th grade courses are not exempt from semester exams. Semester exams are worth regular assessment grades. Lunch and breakfast will be served during normally scheduled times.

Breakfast: 7:20-7:45 am

1st Lunch: 11:36-12:04

2nd Lunch: 12:08-12:36

### Campus Access & Student Check In/Out

**Students need to attend school for the purpose of taking their final exams.** They may arrive late or leave early depending on exam exemptions. It is the student's responsibility to arrive on time for the exams they are required to take. If the student arrives for the exam period, they are required to stay in class for the duration of the period (whether or not they are exempt from the exam.) You may check out your child through our normal early check out procedure. If you would like to make your 9th grade child a walker during finals week, please contact Ms. Marquez or Mrs. Washington.

[Elizabeth.Marquez@estemschools.org](mailto:Elizabeth.Marquez@estemschools.org)

[ella.washington@estemschools.org](mailto:ella.washington@estemschools.org)

### What is 40-40-20?

Semester grades are calculated as the sum of 40% of the first quarter grade, 40% of the second quarter grade, and 20% of the final exam grade.

*(If a student is exempt from their final, the 20% will be an average of their first and second quarter grades.)*

**(First Quarter % x 0.4) + (Second Quarter % x 0.4) + (Final Exam % x 0.2) = Semester Grade**

### Example

My child has to take the chemistry exam. They received an 85% first quarter and a 75% second quarter. They made an 80% on the final exam. The 85% from the first quarter will count for 40% of the final grade and the 75% from the second quarter will count for 40% of the final grade. The 80% from the final exam will count for 20% of the final grade. The student's final grade will be an 80%.

$$(85 \times 0.4) + (75 \times 0.4) + (80 \times 0.2) = 80\%$$

**Final Exams will be from December 14-19.  
Make-up exams will be on December 20.**

**Please communicate with  
[Ella.Washington@estemschools.org](mailto:Ella.Washington@estemschools.org)  
AND/OR  
[Elizabeth.Marquez@estemschools.org](mailto:Elizabeth.Marquez@estemschools.org)  
for check-outs.**

	Thursday December 14	Friday December 15	Monday December 18	Tuesday December 19
8:00-9:44	1st Period Exam	3rd Period Exam	6th Period Exam	8th Period Exam
9:48-11:32	2nd Period Exam	4th Period Exam	7th Period Exam	Make-up Exams/ 1st Period
11:36-12:36	Lunch/Study Hall	Lunch/Study Hall	Lunch/Study Hall	Lunch/Study Hall
12:40-1:30	3rd Period	7th Period	2nd Period	6th Period
1:34-2:24	4th Period	8th Period	3rd Period	7th Period
2:28-3:18	6th Period	1st Period	4th Period	8th Period



# IMPORTANT FORMS

If you have not filled out either of the forms below, please do so.

For more links and/or documents, go to [www.estemschools.org](http://www.estemschools.org)

## 23-24 DTJH Dismissal Form

### 2023-2024 Downtown Jr. High Dismissal Form

Please read all information carefully before completing this form.

#### Student Dismissal Options:

Student Name  Student Grade \* ☐ 7th Grade ☐ 8th Grade ☐ 9th Grade

#### My child/children will get home by: \*

- ☐ Rock Region Metro (City Bus) \*These students dismiss with walkers
- ☐ Car - (Dismissal Lane Pick-Up Only) make sure all siblings, cousins, etc are listed that will be riding home together (this includes any K6 siblings)
- ☐ Walking (Alternate Pick-Up location, Parent workplace, Home, etc) - Complete "Walker Information" below- This includes any K6 siblings, cousins, etc. that will walk with your child.

#### Walker Information

Please fill out this information if your child will leave campus at dismissal and walk to a location determined by you. The following locations are NOT permissible: 3rd & Louisiana, 4th & Louisiana, and any business establishment as a hangout area. Appropriate walker location: Parent's home, Grandparent's home, etc.

## 23-24 Student Handbook Acknowledgement Form

### 2023-2024 DTJH Student Handbook Acknowledgement Form

This form must be filled out for each child.

Please review the specific rules and policies found in the 2023-2024 Student Handbook

After reading the handbook & manual, please acknowledge your agreement and understanding by completing the form below.

**Please note:** This form is for parents of students attending eStem Downtown Junior High

Click to read the [23-24 eDTJH Student Handbook](#)

#### Parent Information

Parent/Guardian \*

First  Last

Email \*

Phone \*

Student Information \*

First  Last

Grade \*

Student Handbook Parent Acknowledgement

## Dismissal Guidelines



#### Drop-Off/Pick-Up Zone Guidelines

- Drivers are to stay in the car. Staff & volunteers will assist students out of the cars.
- Be ready to load and unload quickly.
- Be mindful of which side the students should exit the car from:
  - Third Street: Right Side
- Do not use the streets immediately around eStem to get to the drop-off/pick-up points; you will need to start several blocks away to help ease traffic congestion.
- Do not block intersections or crosswalks.
- Be mindful of all pedestrians.
- Pull forward as far as possible.
- Do not park in the alley or the northbound lane of Louisiana.
- If you have multiple students attending eStem, Your car rider location is based on the youngest student's grade. **\*\*If the youngest sibling is in K-3 grade and listed as a car rider, any Jr. High siblings will be escorted to and dismissed from the Elementary building. If the youngest sibling is in 4-6 grade with a Jr. High sibling and is listed as a car rider, those students (4-6) will be escorted to and dismissed from the Jr. High building.**
- Any K6 students listed as walkers with Jr. High siblings will be escorted to the Jr. High building to wait for their Jr. High sibling before leaving together as walkers.**

DTJH Dismissal Times

3:18	K6CR & Bus Riders
3:21	K6W
3:24	W
3:27	CR
3:28	CR/W

- All K6CR and Bus Riders will have a **BLUE** pass.
- All K6W will have a **YELLOW** pass.
- All W will have a **PINK** pass.
- All CR will have an **ORANGE** pass.
- All CR/W will have a **GREEN** pass.
- ALL STUDENTS must show their dismissal pass to their 8th period teacher upon exiting the classroom for dismissal.

## Bus Pass Request



Rock Region  
METRO

eStem Students Ride  
Fare-Free on Rock  
Region METRO Transit!

Welcome to Dropping the Caregiver  
Taxi and Teaching Your Student  
Global Citizen Skills!

#### How It Works

- Get Your Student's eStem Schools ID at the School Front Office and Make Sure It Has the Fall 2022 Semester Red Security Sticker Affixed to the Front of the ID Before Aug. 31, 2022
- Have Your Student Present the ID to the METRO Bus Operator or METRO Connect Driver Upon Boarding
- Mark Your Calendar for Getting Your Student's Security Sticker Updated at the School Front Office in January 2023 to the Winter/Spring/Summer Semester Sticker Color (update the sticker by Jan. 31, 2023)

#### Important Notes For Trip-Planning

METRO is still operating reduced service as part of its COVID-19 pandemic response. Several routes that existed before the pandemic are no longer in operation, permanently, including routes to Jacksonville, Sherwood and Maumelle. **Service alerts may be found at the top of [rrmetro.org](http://rrmetro.org) or within the Service Alerts submenu of the free METROtrack app. Check for active service alerts before each trip to see the latest transit service information.**

#### Additional Key Information



The federal mask mandate for public transportation is no longer in place as of this flyer publication. Students are encouraged to wear face masks to the CDC while riding during periods of increased community COVID-19 caseloads.



Students are expected to follow METRO's Code of Conduct, which can be found under the Rider Info/Rider Information section of [rrmetro.org](http://rrmetro.org). Failure to follow the Code of Conduct could result in suspension from the transit system.



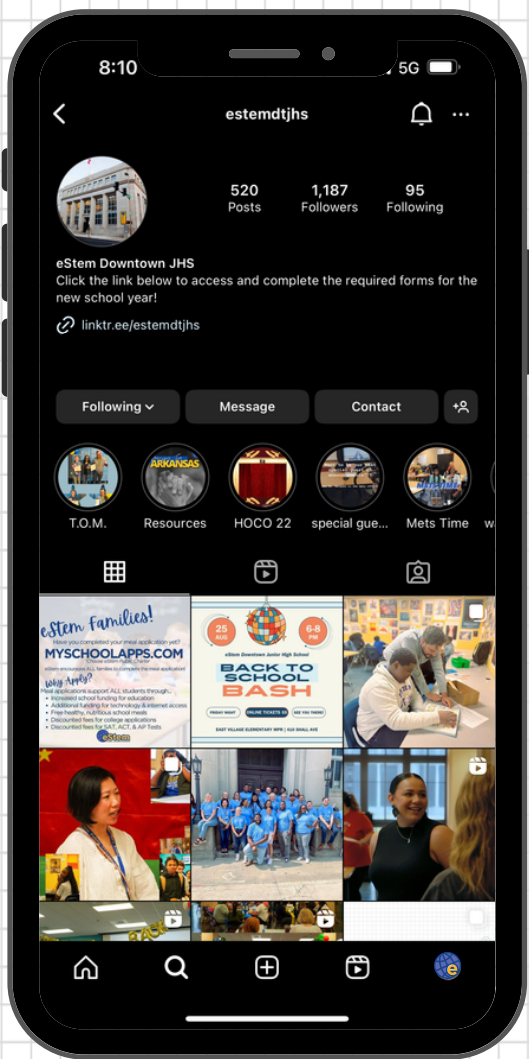
Please visit [rrmetro.org/metro-transit-101/](http://rrmetro.org/metro-transit-101/) for more information on planning trips and using real-time arrival technology to learn exactly when your student's bus will arrive at a specific stop.



Did you know? Monday, June 20, 2022 METRO launched expanded and new METRO Connect microtransit zones. Find zone maps, schedules, points of interest and connecting route information under the Services tab at [rrmetro.org](http://rrmetro.org), then select METRO Connect. Scroll down the landing page for "how to" information.

#### Still Need Help?

Contact METRO Customer Service Monday-Friday, 7:30 a.m.-4:30 p.m. at 501-375-6717 Menu Option No. 2.



Stay informed on all school activities by following us on Instagram!

 @estemdtjhs

# IMPORTANT REMINDERS

- [Bell Schedule](#)
- [Dress code](#)
- [23-24 School Calendar](#)
- [23-24 DTJH Dismissal Form](#)
- To update your contact information, i.e. home address, phone number, email address, please email [allyson.peterson@estemschools.org](mailto:allyson.peterson@estemschools.org)
- To report your child's absence, please email [jhsattendance@estemschools.org](mailto:jhsattendance@estemschools.org)
- If you are needing your HAC (Home Access Center) information, please complete the [Parent HAC Password Reset](#)

## Hall Sweeps

Students have four minutes to transition to each class, and we want to help our students understand the importance of punctuality. When we conduct hall sweeps, students are made aware well in advance to make sure to be on time to avoid an automatic detention. **Should your student experience an issue during a certain transition, please email [Asher.Henry@estemschools.org](mailto:Asher.Henry@estemschools.org) or [Brandon.Love@estemschools.org](mailto:Brandon.Love@estemschools.org) about that particular transition time.**

# UPCOMING EVENTS

## December

5 & 6: NWEA Testing

14-20: Final Exams

21: Teacher Work Day (No Students)

Dec. 22: Jan. 2: Winter Break

Jan. 3: Teacher Work Day

Jan. 4: Students Return

## Christmas Spirit Days

monday 12/18

wear a christmas  
sweater



tuesday 12/19

wear your favorite  
holiday accessories



wednesday 12/20

wear some holiday  
socks



## Canned Food Drive

DOWNTOWN JUNIOR HIGH STUDENT COUNCIL

December 4-19



Bring donated canned goods to the main office by  
December 19th

## Winter BREAK

STUDENTS WILL BE OUT OF SCHOOL FROM  
**DECEMBER 21-JANUARY 3**  
AND WILL RETURN TO SCHOOL ON JANUARY 4



# WHAT'S FOR LUNCH?

**The Week of: December 18-22**

## Monday

Chicken Tenders

OR

Vegetarian Chef Salad  
Roll

Sweet Potato Waffle Fries

Green Beans

Cucumber Slices

Fruit

Milk

## Tuesday

Tachos

OR

Southwest Chicken Salad

Refried Beans

Salsa

Fruit

Milk

## Wednesday

Cheese Pizza

OR

Beef Taco Salad

Seasoned Corn

Herbed Tomatoes

Fruit

Milk

## Thursday

Teacher Work Day

No School for Students

## Friday

WINTER

BREAK

# NOTES FROM THE NURSE

**If your child has any cold or flu-like symptoms, please keep them home.**

- **Our district-wide policy states:**
  - Any student who has 2 or more symptoms of illness including headache, sore throat, runny/stuffy nose, cough, diarrhea, fatigue, body aches, shortness of breath, chest pain, fever, etc. will be sent home. A fever does not have to be present in order to send a student home.
  - Any student that has these cold/flu symptoms must be picked up from school. Students should remain home until symptom and/or fever free for 48 hours without fever-reducing medication or as directed by their physician. The parent should consider contacting their physician for further instructions and notify the Director of any test results they may receive.
  - We encourage all students and family members, medically able, who are 12 years old or older to get their Covid vaccination.

**Please call or email with any concerns or questions.**

**[Natalee.Miller@estemschools.org](mailto:Natalee.Miller@estemschools.org)**