



## 23-24 ORIENTATION PACKET

### Welcome to Aurora Science & Tech High School!

Dear Future Families and Students,

Welcome! We are extremely excited to have you join our community here at AST, and hope that our school allows you opportunities to learn and grow in your high school years. We are committed to developing your student into independent change makers who are ready to take on any future they desire to have for themselves when they graduate from AST HS.

We hope that the information in this packet is helpful as you and your student transition into AST HS. With that said, there will be questions that arise. Please never hesitate to reach out to the school or to me directly - we are always happy to answer them.

We are looking forward to a wonderful year together!

With Pride,  
Mrs. Gorrell  
School Director

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### Vision

**At Aurora Science and Tech HS we are preparing our students for a world that doesn't exist yet, where our future well-being will depend on innovation in the STEM field.**

We are going to do this through grounding into our mission and vision:

**DSST Mission Statement:** DSST Public Schools transforms urban public education by eliminating educational inequity and preparing all students for success in college and the 21st century.

**AST HS's Organizational Legacy:** AST HS students are innovative and independent change makers who push the status quo in the STEM field while developing a deep connection to Aurora in order to create generational change in their community.

**AST HS's Vision Statement:** We will navigate, question, and impact the world around us.

#### We will navigate.

- **Anschutz Partnership:** We sit on the CU Anschutz Medical Campus. This unique partnership will allow us to expose students to careers, develop deep relationships with scientists and doctors, and participate in real science research.
- **Inquiry Driven Mindsets:** Students will actively engage in their own learning, and *all* staff will ground practice in the Next Generation Science Standards Practices.
- **Interdisciplinary Courses:** In the 21st century, learning content and skills in isolation no longer sets students up to navigate our world. We will collaborate across contents to create connections for students. We will also integrate the Anschutz experiences within all classes so students have a deep and authentic learning experience.

#### We will question.

- **Building critical thinking skills:** Students need to understand an increasingly complicated world. We will engage in difficult conversations with students to understand their identity and bias. In order to do that, we need to understand our own identity and bias to bring our full selves in front of students.
- **Building confidence to enter the STEM field:** We know that STEM is not an inclusive field, and even if underrepresented groups have the academic skill and knowledge - they do not have the tools to navigate the field. We need to develop strong values and a sense of self in students to stand in this world, while being the change makers in the STEM field. We will also leverage Anschutz to create meaningful relationships with scientists and doctors in order to change mindsets of professionals in the field while they spend time with our students.

#### We will impact.

- **Develop relationships in the Aurora community:** Creating generational change is what is going to impact the Aurora community. It is important that students feel connected and proud of coming from Aurora.
- **Bridge the gap between Aurora and Anschutz:** It is imperative that our Aurora community feel connected to the Anschutz campus to elevate the changing landscape in Aurora.



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### Why STEM?

- STEM mindsets foster critical thinking, problem solving, curiosity, and grit that can translate to any field of study
  - Even if you decide to not pursue a STEM field, having this mindset will ensure success in every field
- STEM careers are the careers of the future. Innovation and change in our world is happening, and there are jobs that no longer exist with the rise of technology. These technological advancements are made by innovators in the STEM field.
- The STEM field is so vast that there are so many jobs to pursue. Science labs and hospitals are like small cities, and we need all sorts of professionals to allow them to run.
  - Having the STEM knowledge allows for more opportunities in non-STEM fields or careers.

### Core Beliefs

Kids	Staff
Kids do well if they can	We are all in to create this school that has never been created before
All kids deserve the opportunity to engage in real life STEM experiences	We are all learners, always seeking opportunities to grow and get better
	We are the utmost professionals, meeting all deadlines and are on time
	We collaborate to get better
	We will lean into discomfort to unpack our identity and understand how our different layers intersect, so that we can bring our full selves to our community.

Instruction	Culture
Teaching skills like reading, writing, problem solving is the most important thing to develop students' ability to <b>transfer</b> skills to unknown tasks.	Students come to school for all the extra things, and we need to make their experience memorable and joyful
Interdisciplinary work is key for our students to make connections between content.	Students need room to be able to figure out who they are and what their values are
Students need to be an active participant in their learning in order to truly learn.	The Anschutz Partnership will create a truly unique experience for students



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### Aurora Science and Tech Graduate Profile

AST HS students are innovative and independent change makers who push the status quo in the STEM field while developing a deep connection to Aurora in order to create generational change in their community by:

- Possessing skills needed for 21st century success
  - Graduates will be prepared to contribute to an increasing complex society
  - Graduates will be able to communicate, advocate for themselves and will be critical thinkers
  - Graduates will be able to apply skills learned to new situations and challenges
  - Graduates will be equity literate and appropriately reflect on diverse thoughts, ideas, religions, cultures and experience and recognize the value of diversity
  - Graduates will be collaborative team members and recognize how others can improve and expand ideas, achieve shared goals on a team, and adapt communication styles to different audiences.
  - Graduates will understand all dimensions of their well-being and be able to understand how to seek out support in mental, emotional, and physical wellness
- Understanding their identity
  - Graduates will not only be self-aware but will also develop an awareness of others
  - Graduates will unpack the different layers of their identity and how they intersect as they develop
  - Graduates will be confident to have uncomfortable conversations that challenge their biases so that they gain understanding and respect within lines of difference
  - Graduates will understand how their identity fits in the STEM world, and how to navigate tension if they do not see themselves in the field or how to advocate for inclusivity if they do see themselves in the field.
- Leading values driven lives
  - Graduates will understand how to live the DSST core values beyond a rote understanding. They will understand how living values-driven lives can lead them toward their personal goals.
  - Graduates will develop and live by their own values
  - Graduates will apply their values in challenging situations to ensure their actions align with their beliefs
- Being prepared for, and accepted into, four year colleges or their most appropriate inclusive path
  - Graduates will develop habits of success that will enable them to complete college
  - Graduates will possess the academic content knowledge necessary to succeed in college
  - Students will develop the skills necessary to succeed academically
  - Graduates will understand the importance of STEM and take skills learned in their STEM experiences to apply in their college level courses.
  - Students will understand the importance and usage of technology and have a strong sense of technology literacy upon graduation.
- Having a deep connection to the Aurora Community
  - Graduates will understand the importance of having a strong community
  - Graduates will be involved in the community to create change
  - Graduates will bridge the gap between Aurora and Anschutz
  - Graduates will be motivated to create change in Aurora

RESPECT ♦ RESPONSIBILITY ♦ COURAGE ♦ DOING YOUR BEST ♦ INTEGRITY ♦ CURIOSITY



## 23-24 ORIENTATION PACKET

### AST Academics

### Calendar Key Dates

Symbol Explanation:

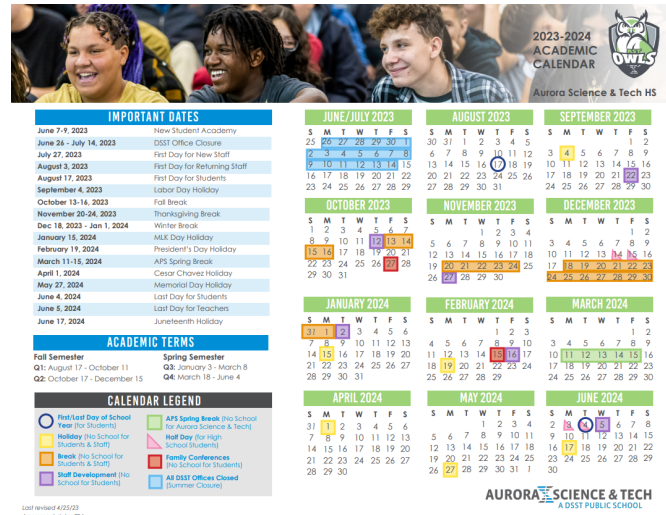
- Red Squares and Triangles = no school for students
- Yellow Squares = Early Dismissal at 11:30am

### Important Dates

1. June 7-9: New Student Academy
  - a. For New to AST Students only
2. August 17: First Day of School
3. October 12-16: Fall Break
  - a. This is different than APS Fall Break
4. October 27th and February 15th: Conferences
  - a. No school for students

Here is a sample of what our calendar looks like.

We have included a copy on the last page of this packet



### AST HS Daily Hours

- Doors Open at 7:45 am
  - Breakfast (optional) from 7:45-8:00
  - Supervision for students start at 7:25 am
- Regular Day 8:00-3:20
  - Regular Days are Monday, Tuesday, Thursday, and Friday
- After School Clubs/Tutoring 3:20-4:30
  - We have a variety of clubs, sports, and tutoring on Mondays, Tuesdays, Thursdays, and Fridays. See more details in the culture section of this booklet
- Wednesdays 8:00-1:30
  - On Wednesdays, our teachers engage in professional development and planning. For this reason, we dismiss students from school at 1:30 every Wednesday.
  - There will be no after school activities on Wednesdays.
- Early Release Days 8:00-11:30
  - There are various early release days for Final Exams and Conferences as noted on the calendar.



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### Classes and Length

An example student schedule is below:

9th Grade - M/T/Th/F				9th Grade - Wednesday			
Advisory	8:00 - 8:30	30 min		Advisory	8:00-8:30	30 min	
1st Period	8:35 - 9:33	58 min	Composition	1st Period	8:35 - 9:15	40 min	Principles of Biomedical
2nd Period	9:38 - 10:36	58 min	Math 2H or Math 1	2nd Period	9:20 - 10:00	40 min	Study Hall
3rd Period	10:41 - 11:39	58 min	Biology	3rd Period	10:05 - 10:45	40 min	Literacy Intervention
4th Period	11:44-12:42	58 min	Spanish 1 or Spanish for Native Speakers 1	4th Period	10:50 - 11:30	40 min	Physical Education
Lunch	12:45-1:15	30 min		5th Period	11:35 - 12:15	40 min	Math Intervention
5th Period	1:19 - 2:17	58 min	Humanities	Lunch	12:15 - 12:45	30 min	
6th Period	2:22 - 3:20	58 min	Intro to Engineering/Principles of Biomedical Science	6th Period	12:50 - 1:30	40 min	Intro to Engineering

10th Grade - M/T/Th/F				10th Grade - Wednesday			
Advisory	8:00 - 8:30	30 min		Advisory	8:00-8:30	30 min	
1st Period	8:35 - 9:33	58 min	Human Body Systems/Intro to Psychology/Financial Literacy	1st Period	8:35 - 9:15	40 min	Human Body Systems
2nd Period	9:38 - 10:36	58 min	Math 2 or Algebra 2H	2nd Period	9:20 - 10:00	40 min	Study Hall
3rd Period	10:41 - 11:39	58 min	World Literature	3rd Period	10:05 - 10:45	40 min	Literacy Intervention
Lunch	11:39- 12:09	30 min		4th Period	10:50 - 11:30	40 min	Wellness
4th Period	12:16 - 1:14	58 min	Chemistry	Lunch	11:33-12:03	30 mins	
5th Period	1:19 - 2:17	58 min	World History	5th Period	12:05-12:45	40 mins	Math Intervention
6th Period	2:22 - 3:20	58 min	Spanish 2 or Spanish for Native Speakers 2	6th Period	12:50 - 1:30	40 min	Intro to Psychology/Intro to Psychology





## Elective Offerings and Certification Pathways

### Certification Pathways

At DSST, we are focused on ensuring our elective offerings are intentional so our students leave with a certification that can be shown to colleges and post-secondary institutions to show in-depth experience and knowledge. Our three pathways at AST HS are explained below with a table to show a sample of the electives we will offer within those pathways.

#### Bioscience



In alignment with our partnership with Anschutz, this pathway focuses on exposure in the biosciences. This is primarily through the Project Lead the Way course, where students take a biomedical science focused elective. Our students will take Principles of Biomedical Science their freshman year so choose a pathway starting their sophomore year between bioengineering or bioscience. Our Anschutz exposure days are primarily tied to these classes.

#### Bioengineering



In alignment with our partnership with Anschutz, this pathway focuses on exposure within the engineering/computer science side of the biosciences. Students will focus on the basics of engineering courses their freshman year to then choose a pathway starting their sophomore year between bioengineering and bioscience. Our Anschutz exposure days are primarily tied to these classes.

#### Entrepreneurship



Starting in the sophomore year, students will take Introduction to Financial Literacy (this is a new graduation requirement from the State of Colorado). After sophomore year, students will have the option to continue to take elective courses in this pathway to gain an Entrepreneurship Certificate.





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Grade	Biosciences	Bioengineering	Entrepreneurship	Other
9th	PLTW: Principles of Biomedical Science	Intro to Engineering	N/A	Physical Education
10th	PLTW: Human Body Systems  Intro to Psychology	Bioengineering 1 (available in 24-25)	Intro to Financial Literacy	Wellness
11th	PLTW: Medical Interventions	Bioengineering 2	Entrepreneurship 1	
12th	PLTW: Biomedical Innovation		Entrepreneurship 2 or AP Business Management	

### Electives not within the Pathways

#### Physical Education Requirement

- Students must have 1 credit of PE in order to graduate
- 9th grade PE will give students 0.25 credits of PE
- 10th grade Wellness will give students 0.25 credits of PE
- Students can fulfill the rest of their PE credit through playing a sport or joining a physical education type club.
  - We will be offering many opportunities in the 23-24 school year for your students to complete their PE credit. **Our goal is to ensure that 100% of students complete their PE credit by the end of sophomore year.**

#### Intervention Courses

There will be a 40 minute ELA and 40 minute Math Intervention course for students every week. This will provide students targeted support and/or extension in these specific areas to ensure we are best preparing students for the next grade level. Students will be put in a class appropriate for their skill level so they can receive the best support and/or extension possible.

#### Study Hall

There will be one 40 minute study hall period once a week on Wednesdays. This time will serve a few purposes including a weekly attendance and grade reflection that will be emailed to parents, advisors, and study hall teachers by the student as a replacement for weekly progress reports and paychecks going home. Students can also use this time for doing homework, reading, or completing academic intervention work to help close skill gaps.



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### Math Placement

The process for deciding the math track students are on will be using a comprehensive body of evidence to ensure students are in the proper math course.

- Students on the honors track for math will reach AP Calculus or AP Statistics.
- **Every year students will have the opportunity to move to the honors track of math using the same criteria as initial placement**

The body of evidence will consist of, but not limited to:

- Student Interest
- Teacher Recommendation
- Math Grades (Focused on Summative grades to ensure content proficiency)
- State Testing scores (CMAS for incoming 9th graders and PSAT for movement in High School)
- **A commitment to engage in summer work to ensure content that is “skipped” will be learned. This will be done through Khan Academy**

### Placement Exams

There will be one placement test to ensure your student is in the appropriate class.

1. Spanish - Students will take this for an opportunity to be placed in a Native Spanish Speaker course
  - a. Taking spanish on this track all four years will earn your student a certificate recognized by colleges and universities for spanish fluency

*Current AST MS 8<sup>th</sup> graders will take these exams in the last few weeks of the school year in classes. New to AST HS 9<sup>th</sup> graders who are new to AST will take the placement exams during New Student Academy.*

### Opportunities for College Credit

1. STEM Elective: Project Lead the Way - Biomedical Science Track
  - a. We are working to provide college elective credits for students who take the PLTW Bioscience courses at AST HS.
  - b. More details about the program can be found here: <https://outreach.uccs.edu/pltw>
  - c. Cost: \$105 per credit hour (\$306 for a 3 credit course = 1 year of the elective)
    - Scholarships are available through the website listed above
2. Starting in the 11th grade year, we will be providing concurrent enrollment classes at AST through Western Colorado University. We will have more details later this school year for 10th grade families and students who wish to participate.



## AST Community and Culture

### Advisory

Advisory is the heart of our community connections. Our goal is for every student to be fully known by adults and peers at AST and it starts in advisory! We have a daily advisory block to prepare for the day and connect with one another. During this time, students will prepare for the day, engage in team building and activities together, and reflect on grades and core values.

Each student is assigned an advisor at the beginning of the year - a teacher who knows the 14-20 students in their advisory very well, advocates for the student and helps support the students' overall growth. Your student's advisor will be your primary contact in navigating their many teachers and AST but you may communicate with any staff member as needed.

### Morning Meetings

Morning Meetings are a DSST tradition and a core part of our community building at AST. Morning Meetings occur 1-3 times per week as whole school or grade levels. Morning Meetings are a time to come together as a community to do things such as:

- Build community
- Focus on Core Values
- Learn about what's happening in our community (AST, Aurora, and beyond)
- Have fun together!

We often bring in speakers, play games, share lessons and announcements, engage in competitions, celebrate each other through awards, and more!

### Anschutz Medical Center Partnership



AST HS sits on the Anschutz Medical Center campus, and that provides us with unique and dynamic opportunities for students to get hands-on experience in the bioscience and medical field. We not only will provide internships in the later years, but we will provide many exposure experiences that are tied to what students are learning in classes.



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### Clubs and Sports

We believe in developing students' interests academically and beyond! For that reason, our clubs and sports are an essential part of the AST experience.

- Clubs: We host after school and lunch clubs based on student interest and available teachers/parents/community organizations to run them. A few clubs we offered last year were art, Science Explorers, strings, LGBTQ, and Girls Who Code.
- Sports: We offer 1-2 sports per season for boys and girls. Our students participate in the DSST league of sports, competing against other DSST and charter schools around Denver and Aurora. Some sports we offer are basketball, volleyball, soccer, and cheer.

### Lockers

All students will have access to their own lockers and secure combinations. Backpacks and bags stay in the students' lockers at all times. They will be able to visit their lockers between classes to get materials for different subjects as needed during passing periods. Students are not allowed to share lockers or carry backpacks throughout the day.

### Transportation

Transportation is not provided through APS. It is up to the family to ensure their student is at school on time to and from school every day. A few recommendations for families:

- Many families found success using the "Way to Go" carpool app to find other students traveling to the school for carpools.
  - <https://waytogo.org/getting-around/carpool>
- There is an RTD station directly across the street from the school (Fitzsimons station)

### Expectations (Shared across all DSST HS Campuses)

#### Tardies

All students in middle and high school are expected to arrive at school - and to each of their classes throughout the day - on time.

*Rationale: being on time to school and to class ensures a strong start and maximizes time for learning.*

- Passing Periods will be 5 minutes between classes.
- Tardies have attendance implications in High School that can affect the ability for students to earn credits



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### Cellphones

Cell phones and headphone use are not permitted in the classroom, but may be permitted at lunch. In addition, phones & headphones may be used when directed by the teacher for an instructional activity. If cell phone use impedes success in school and/or causes negative peer and public interactions, then a more restrictive plan will be put in place.

*Rationale: Decrease barriers and distractions to learning; gradual release of responsibility to use tech responsibly at school in upper grades.*

- 1<sup>st</sup> Infraction = Confiscated and given back at the end of class. If confiscated in the hallway in the morning, it will be returned at lunch. If confiscated in the hallway in the afternoon, it will be returned at the end of the day.
- 2<sup>nd</sup> Infraction = Confiscated and given back at the end of the day
- 3<sup>rd</sup> Infraction = Confiscated and given to administration, parent will either pick it up OR must be contacted before cellphone is given back to student
- 4<sup>th</sup> Infraction = Parent meeting and contract designed to ensure proper cellphone usage in the building

### Inclusivity and Using Appropriate Language and Gestures

All students in high school are expected to use appropriate language throughout the school day. Students are not permitted to use curse words, racial slurs, hateful or discriminatory language, or inappropriate gestures.

*Rationale: Everyone in our community deserves to feel safe and respected in the classroom and common spaces. Use of inappropriate, racist, hateful or discriminatory language causes harm to our school communities and will not be tolerated.*

- Any report of this will be immediately addressed with a reflection and consequences that focuses on repairing harm towards the person
- There will be no distinction between joking language and serious language in order to build understanding of impact of language
- Repetitive issues with language and actions will result in a parent meeting with more robust consequences

### Anschutz Dress Code

- Tops should be an AST HS Professional Top (options sweaters, button ups, etc) Students will receive a button up shirt once they have paid part or the full amount of their student fees
- Bottoms should not be blue jeans, sweatpants, pajama pants, ripped jeans.
- Shoes with a Hard Sole and Closed-Toe in order to remain safe in all academic environments

*Rationale: When we are on campus, it is essential that we represent AST in the best way possible. This will also provide opportunities for students to dress in a professional manner to prepare them for careers. The last piece of rationale is safety, once we are off campus having a common uniform allows staff to quickly identify students.*



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### Dress Code

Guidance for Dress: Dress that is suggested to support the wellbeing of self and community.

- Tops and Bottoms that adequately cover undergarments. Tops must meet the waistband of their bottoms when standing straight. Bottoms should cover the majority of their legs from their waist to their knees. Students are allowed to wear leggings underneath jeans if they are ripped between the waist and knees. Suggestions: T-shirts, sweatshirts, sweaters, blouses, jeans, joggers, athletic leggings/shorts, sweatpants.
- Shoes with a Hard Sole and Closed-Toe in order to remain safe in all academic environments including PE and science labs. Suggestions: Sneakers, flats, athletic shoes, boots

Prohibited Items: Students wearing these items will be asked to change to support the wellbeing of self and community.

- Attire harmful to the community that may promote topics inappropriate to the school environment, including violence, drugs, tobacco, alcohol, gangs (any color paisley patterned bandana), sex/nudity, or anything derogatory or harmful to any other member of our community.
- Hats and Headwear that cover any part of the face or ears, including hats with brims, beanies that cover the ears, and hoods put up are not allowed in our building so as to effectively engage in the learning environment and quickly identify our students for safety. Head coverings for religious purposes and face masks related to COVID-19 are the exception.
- Crop tops and significantly ripped jeans without leggings underneath.

*\*Teachers may ask that students have specific dress for science labs, mock interviews, internships, athletic activities, etc. that will be clearly stated in syllabi, rubrics, directions and/or in class and may affect a students' grades. Please reach out to the teacher with any additional questions or clarification needed.*

- In order to support students changing, first a phone call home for parents to bring clothes to their student.
- If parents cannot come up, students will be asked to change into a loaner AST Shirt and/or pants provided by the campus
- Pushback on dress code could result in students not being a part of the community until expectations are met.

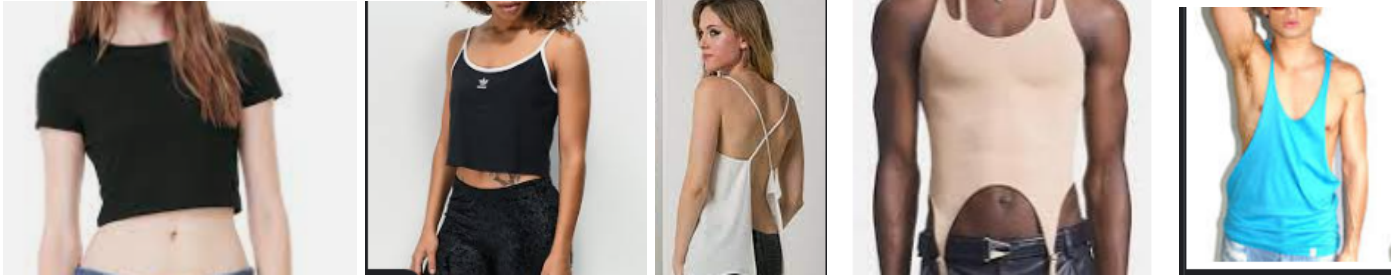




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### Examples of Prohibited Dress Code Items

Tops:



Bottoms:

Leggings should be worn underneath if jeans look like this:







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Footwear:



If you have any questions about dress code, please contact Ms. Mendoza



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### Supporting your Student as an AST Parent/Guardian

We see our families as a CRITICAL part to our students' success! Our goal is to partner with you through ample communication and problem solving together to ensure all of our students are successful. The following sections lay out our home/school partnership expectations. Parents are vital to our community and we strive to respond to answer all emails and phone calls within 48 hours

#### A Week in the Life of an AST Parent:

Every Day: Make sure your student attends on time and in dress code daily

M, T, Th, F: you will get a call if your student has MT after school

Wednesday: will send you an email with grade, attendance, and reflections - review with your student at home

Wednesday: Early dismissal at 1:30 PM (no clubs or tutoring due to teacher professional development)

Anytime: Check grades on Parent Portal, contact advisor for updates

#### Family Communication

- Weekly progress reports: Your student will email you progress updates with advisor and study hall teacher copied.
- Robocalls for after school interventions: If your student has Mandatory Tutoring, you will receive a robocall by 4:00 pm the day before.
- Advisor/Teacher phone calls and emails: Your students' advisors and teachers may contact you by phone, email, or Reachwell app to share updates about classes, celebrate successes, or problem solve challenges together. Our administrators may also call/email for similar reasons so please be sure to answer their communications, we are here to partner in your student's success!
- School Director's weekly newsletter via reachwell app. Weekly newsletter will be going out about important events and happening at AST.
- Reachwell Phone app: We strongly suggest all families download the reachwell app now as it is one of our primary forms of communication! Directions for downloading are in the next section.
- Over the Summer: Throughout the summer, we will be in contact via phone and email to ensure you and your student have what you need to start strong in 2023-24. Please let us know immediately if any of your contact information changes.



### The Family Engagement Committee

The Family Engagement Committee exists to provide parents a voice and platform to express themselves, advocate, volunteer and fully immerse into the AST community. We have subcommittees (Fundraising, Recruitment, and Events committee) that allow Parents to be as involved as their schedule allows. We desire to go much deeper than your average parent group. We believe that a school where parents are present, visible and active is a healthy school. Parents will have the opportunity to work hand in hand with teachers and advisors through our grade parent program. Parents will be able to plan and co-lead school wide cultural events and activities. Most importantly, parents will have the opportunity to continue learning and adding tools to their parenting skills through our workshops series "Raising Highly Capable Kids". AST is committed to a holistic approach when it comes to our families and we strive for you to not only be seen but also known.

For more information please contact Mr. Rivera [Abiud.Rivera@scienceandtech.org](mailto:Abiud.Rivera@scienceandtech.org)

## Preparing for the 2023-24 School Year

### Student Fees

AST has student fees in order to support the learning, technology, and activities for students every year. Please see below and let us know how we can support - payment plans are available. We ALWAYS work with families and never want fees to be a barrier in being a part of our school!

- Fees for FRL Students: Technology + Resource Fee + Activities + College shirt = \$145
  - Free or Reduced Lunch (FRL): Families need to apply for this once you apply please notify the front office that way they can make the adjustment in the system
- Fees for Students Who Are NOT FRL: Technology + Resource Fee + Activities + College shirt = \$325

### Reachwell App

- All AST families are expected to join Reachwell, our messaging app, for whole school and teacher updates and messages. Reachwell is our primary form of communication home. Ms. Rodriguez will be sending out information via email when AST HS is added to Reachwell. This will be really important to have during the summer to get all the latest information.

1

#### Download the app

Go to the App Store on your smartphone. Search for "Flyer School". Download the app and accept push notifications.



2

#### Add your school

Set your language and tap the "+" (plus button) to search for your child's school then press "ADD".





## 23-24 ORIENTATION PACKET

### New Student Academy

Typically, DSST schools host a New Student Academy for incoming 9th graders to acclimate them to our culture, core values, and expectations and start to build connections in our Owl community. **We will be hosting New Student Academy from June 7-9 from 8:00 am - 12:00 pm.**

**Please make sure we have up to date contact information for you at all times**, including phone number and email on file. If your address changed please reach out to Ms. Rodriguez

### Enrollment Steps - Are You On-Track?

- **Fill out the registration form on the link below - ALL Families**
  - <https://tinyurl.com/OnlineRegistration2023>
- Please make sure you've sent in your student's Release of Records Form to Karina Rodriguez at [karina.rodriguez@scienceandtech.org](mailto:karina.rodriguez@scienceandtech.org) **(Only NEW students)**
- If your student has an IEP for specialized services, please send an electronic copy to Liz Caffrey ([elizabeth.caffrey@scienceandtech.org](mailto:elizabeth.caffrey@scienceandtech.org)) (from our DSST Home Office special education team). This is due for registration if you are coming from outside Aurora Public Schools but can be helpful to send to us ahead of time! **(Only NEW students)**
- Students currently NOT attending APS school will need to fill out a separate form please be on the lookout for an email that will be sent in May **(Only NEW students)**
- If you have any questions about the enrollment process, please email Ms. Rodriguez!

### Student Registration

Registration form is now live. You can fill out the registration form on the link below.

<https://tinyurl.com/OnlineRegistration2023>

This will be something you can do 100% ONLINE. Some things you will need to turn in before the start of the school year.

- Copies of an IEP (if your student receives specialized services) This needs to be turned in before the end of May
- Doctor's order for medications
- Immunization Record for your student

**We can't wait for you to be part of our High School Owl community for the 2023-24 school year and beyond!**



## 23-24 ORIENTATION PACKET

### Front Office Information:

Ms. Rodriguez - Front Office Manager

[karina.rodriguez@scienceandtech.org](mailto:karina.rodriguez@scienceandtech.org)

(720) 437 - 9814

You can also contact me via google phone number in case of an emergency.

**Please call the front office phone number first if you need to get in touch with me.**

### Contact information:

Phone: 303.524.6397

Fax: 303.200.1238

Email: [OwlsAST@gmail.com](mailto:OwlsAST@gmail.com)

### Front office hours:

Monday, Tuesday, Thursday, Friday 8:30 am - 3:40 pm

Wednesday 8:30 am - 1:45 pm

### Excuse student absences:

If you need to excuse your student please leave a voicemail on our attendance line 303.524.6397 or you can send an email. The front office staff will check the voicemails and emails every morning before sending out attendance calls for that day.

Email: [OwlsAST@gmail.com](mailto:OwlsAST@gmail.com)

### Picking up your student early:

If you need to pick up your student early or they have a doctor's appointment you can call the front desk before and Ms. Rodriguez will have your student ready for pickup at the front office. Please note that we will not call students down after 2:40 and after 1:00 pm on Wednesdays.





### IMPORTANT DATES

June 7-9, 2023	New Student Academy
June 26 - July 14, 2023	DSST Office Closure
July 27, 2023	First Day for New Staff
August 3, 2023	First Day for Returning Staff
August 17, 2023	First Day for Students
September 4, 2023	Labor Day Holiday
October 13-16, 2023	Fall Break
November 20-24, 2023	Thanksgiving Break
Dec 18, 2023 - Jan 1, 2024	Winter Break
January 15, 2024	MLK Day Holiday
February 19, 2024	President's Day Holiday
March 11-15, 2024	APS Spring Break
April 1, 2024	Cesar Chavez Holiday
May 27, 2024	Memorial Day Holiday
June 4, 2024	Last Day for Students
June 5, 2024	Last Day for Teachers
June 17, 2024	Juneteenth Holiday

### ACADEMIC TERMS

<b>Fall Semester</b>	
Q1: August 17 - October 11	
Q2: October 17 - December 15	
<b>Spring Semester</b>	
Q3: January 3 - March 8	
Q4: March 18 - June 4	

### CALENDAR LEGEND

	First/Last Day of School Year (for Students)		APS Spring Break (No School for Aurora Science & Tech)
	Holiday (No School for Students & Staff)		Half Day (for High School Students)
	Break (No School for Students & Staff)		Family Conferences (No School for Students)
	Staff Development (No School for Students)		All DSST Offices Closed (Summer Closure)

Last revised 4/25/23  
Assessment dates TBA

### JUNE/JULY 2023

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
25	26	27	28	29	30	1
2	3	4	5	6	7	8
9	10	11	12	13	14	15
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
23	24	25	26	27	28	29

### OCTOBER 2023

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
29	30	31				

### JANUARY 2024

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
31	1	2	3	4	5	6
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
28	29	30	31			

### APRIL 2024

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
31	1	2	3	4	5	6
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
28	29	30				

### AUGUST 2023

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
30	31	1	2	3	4	5
6	7	8	9	10	11	12
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
27	28	29	30	31		

### NOVEMBER 2023

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
			1	2	3	4
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28	29	30		

### FEBRUARY 2024

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
				1	2	3
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
25	26	27	28	29		

### MAY 2024

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
			1	2	3	4
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28	29	30	31	1

### SEPTEMBER 2023

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
						1
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
24	25	26	27	28	29	30

### DECEMBER 2023

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
						1
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
24	25	26	27	28	29	30

### MARCH 2024

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
						1
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
24	25	26	27	28	29	30

### JUNE 2024

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
						1
2	3	4	5	6	7	8
9	10	11	12	13	14	15
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
23	24	25	26	27	28	29
30						