

Central Academy of Technology and Arts

Cougar Chronicle

Central Academy Families

In less than one week we will be welcoming our entire staff back to Central Academy. In less than two weeks we will be welcoming our students back on campus. We cannot wait to work with you this year. We would like to thank the PTO board and members in advance for all of the support they are planning for our teachers this year. We are so appreciative and hope that all families will consider joining this parent support organization. Additionally, we would like to thank the many parent volunteers for extracurricular programs at our school. Whether it is theatre, dance, band, clubs, or athletics we see parents driving students here, volunteering their time to help teachers, the band director, or coaches. You are appreciated. On Tuesday, August 20th and Wednesday, August 21st, CATA will offer their orientation for incoming freshmen students. Please see the online newsletter or the letter you were mailed for which day to attend. Parents will attend a brief meeting in the auditorium and then will leave while their students participate in the day's events.

In an exciting piece of news—Union County has done it again! UCPS has the highest cohort graduation rate of the ten largest school districts in North Carolina, and this time it is over 90% for UCPS. Central Academy has a lot to be proud of as well with a graduation rate of 99.01%. Way to go Cougars!!

Please take time to read over this newsletter. These newsletters will begin on a weekly basis once the school year starts. For information about how to make sure you and your CATA neighbors are on the list to receive the newsletter, please go to the Parents and Community tab on our website, or [click here](#). The Cougar Chronicle, in addition to our website, will be the main form of communication from school to home. At CATA we will continue to work toward Leading the Way so that your child can lead the way in the future! Go Cougars!

- Mrs. Kim Fisenne, Principal

Volume 1; Issue 2
August 14, 2013

In this issue:

<i>Principal's Message</i>	1
<i>SpiritWear NEW Shirts</i> <i>Student Information</i>	2
<i>Senior News</i> <i>Parking Passes</i>	3
<i>Cougar Athletics</i> <i>Football Parking Passes</i> <i>on Sale</i> <i>PTSO Open House</i>	4
<i>Driver's Ed Sign Ups</i> <i>Upcoming Dates -</i> <i>Around Campus</i> <i>PTSO</i>	5
<i>Chromebook -Parent</i> <i>Signatures required</i> <i>Cougar Pride</i>	6
<i>New Courses</i> <i>Student Life</i>	7
<i>Yearbooks</i> <i>Summer Read</i>	8
<i>NEW CATA family infor-</i> <i>mation</i>	9

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Look for text that is blue and underlined. This text is hyper-linked to the corresponding information available on the web. Click on the text to be taken to the corresponding webpage.

Central Academy - Cougar Spirit

2013-2014 Student Spirit Wear t-shirts go on sale on Tuesday and Wednesday during freshman orientation. T-shirts will be on sale for all students during the first week of school. Sophomores, Juniors and Seniors are also welcome to stop by the main office next Tuesday and Wednesday to purchase the shirt if they would like to get one early!!

Watching the teams practicing this past week—they are truly “busting their tails” to get it done!!! Get your SPIRIT ON!!!!!! Just \$15 !!!



Class of 2017

Ninth Grade Students—CATA Class of 2017:

Welcome to Central Academy. Be sure to read over our New CATA family information page; it contains a lot of great (and really important) information!!

Orientation Days: You should have received information in the mail regarding your orientation days. The dates are Tuesday 8/20 for Medical Science and Pre-Engineering Academies and Wednesday 8/21 for Information Systems, Performing Arts, and Transportation Academies. Both days the activities start at 10:00. Parents should expect to stay until @ 10:30. Students will finish at 2:00 pm. If you did not receive this information, please call Ms. Tammy Tweed at CATA to be sure that we have your correct contact information.

New Sophomores to CATA - Class of 2016:

We are so happy to welcome you to Central Academy. We hope that you will read the New CATA family information page so that you can get easy answers to questions you may have.

Orientation Day: You are cordially invited to a welcome orientation day just for new sophomores. Please join us in Guidance on Thursday, 8/22 from 10:00—@11:00. This is an informal orientation where you can walk your schedule, ask questions, and find out more about CATA. If you have questions, please call Ms. Tammy Tweed at CATA.

Returning Students

Please remember that schedules that were distributed in the spring were draft schedules and you will receive a new schedule on the first day of school. Small changes / additions in staffing have resulted in small changes to the master schedule and ALL students will receive a new schedule when they return to school. Some students will be affected by the changes, others will not. Be sure to check out NEW Course Offerings on page 7!! The master schedule is also available on the website, or [click here](#).

Class of 2014

Seniors



ALL seniors should be sure to login to their **CFNC account** before they come back to school. If you cannot remember your account information, be sure to create a new account as you will need that.

Graduation Day: Thursday, June 12, 2014 at Winthrop University in Rock Hill

(Time will be at approx. 3:00pm)

Senior Pictures: Students had the opportunity to have senior pictures taken over the summer. If you did not get this done, plan on having your picture taken at CATA on 9/18.

Senior Graduation Packages: Senior orders for robes and other graduation materials will be taken on September 18th and 19th. Please be sure to watch for more information.

Senior Activities: Student Council will be working with Administration on designing some senior activities during the school year. Please work with your Student Council Representatives if you have ideas.

Senior Advice: This year will be very busy planning and applying for colleges, getting a job, working on classes, and enjoying your last year in high school. Plan out all that you need to do so that you have time to relax and spend the appropriate amount of time on items on your To Do list. Feel overwhelmed? Don't keep it inside and assume it will get better. Come and talk to your guidance counselor or administrator so that we can help you plan out what you need to get done. You are not alone. We are here to help you.

College Recommendations: Please be respectful with the time frame that you ask staff to complete recommendations for you. Teachers can limit the number of recommendations that they write, so please ask teachers early for recommendations. Be sure to provide staff with a minimum of 3—4 weeks time to complete a recommendation for you. Remember that it is your responsibility to meet deadlines, teachers cannot put aside their teaching or family responsibilities because you neglected to ask them in advance.

Seniors as Role Models: Please consider the legacy that you will leave. You have been Cougars for many years and have a lot to offer younger students at the school. Let's model good student habits, social skills, and school spirit! Go Cougars!!

Student Parking Passes

All students – Parking passes will be on sale during the first week of school in the main office. No parking passes will be sold next week.

ALL Students, MUST print and bring ALL required documents with you along with the check for \$35.00 made payable to Central Academy of Technology & Arts. Any incomplete application packets will delay the process and you will NOT receive your hang tag until all documents and check are turned in. Please make sure to have your parent sign on page 2 of the [registration form](#).

STUDENTS WHO DRIVE TO SCHOOL ON THE FIRST DAY WILL NEED TO HAVE A HANG TAG TO PARK IN A RESERVED SPACE.

Please know that if you do not have your driver's license, you cannot reserve a space. Once you get your license you can reserve a space.





COUGAR ATHLETICS



Attention Fall Athletes: **Fall Sports Pictures** will take place at school Wednesday, August 21st. Women's Tennis players will need to be dressed and out on the tennis court by 2:30 pm. JV and Varsity Football players need to be dressed and on the side lawn by 2:45. All other teams may report at 3:30. All orders are paid directly to the photographer and are due at the time of the pictures. Please feel free to contact Coach Niessner or Ms Eaton with any questions.

****Please make sure that you go to the Athletics link on the left side of the CATA homepage and click on your sport to access all the important information and [required forms](#).**



Thank you to all parents that came to the Athletic Parent Night for ALL fall sports on Thursday, August 8th. If you have questions or want to volunteer to help with athletics, please send an email to Athletic Director, [Mr. Jay Niessner](#). Fall Schedules are available on the CATA website. Please check the calendar for game dates for all sports, and all changes.

Upcoming Events:

Thursday 8/14—Volleyball Teambuilding 8:00 pm

Saturday 8/17—Soccer @ Mt.Pleasant Jamboree; Football Scrimmage v Cuthbertson @ Monroe HS 7:30

Tuesday 8/20—Tennis @ Cuthbertson 3:30, Volleyball @ Pageland Central 5:00, Soccer @ Marvin Ridge 4:30

Wednesday 8/21—Fall Sports Pictures, Tennis v PRHS at Dickerson Park 4:00

Thursday 8/22—Soccer v Independence at Ramblewood Soccer Park 6:00

Friday 8/23—V. Football v North Stanley **AT HOME!!! First Home Game of the Year—let's make it a sell-out!! \$6 admission at the gate.**

Saturday 8/24—Soccer v JM Robinson at MRHS 2:00



Parking Passes for all Football Games (both JV and V) at Cougar Stadium at Walter Bickett will go on sale this Wednesday 8/14. Passes will be limited and will cost \$75 each. Passes are for parking ONLY and money for game tickets will be collected at the gate for each person in the vehicle. The pass gate is located across from the field house on . Handicapped parking is accessible at the ... street entrance. You can purchase your passes in the main office OR online at the CATA website, under Parents and Community, then [online payments](#).



PTSO Meeting and Central Academy Open House

All parents and students are invited to the CATA open house. We will start with a PTSO meeting and information from School Leadership in the auditorium at 6:00 pm on Tuesday, September 10th.

Following this presentation, parents will be able to visit classrooms from 6:30 to 8:00 pm.

Please join us!!

Driver's Education—Sign Up Now!!

The Driver's Ed class schedule is below. Classes must meet the minimum number of students or the class will be cancelled. Please sign up early so that classes are filled and do not have to be cancelled. If we have to cancel a class, the student will be moved to the next scheduled class. Refunds are not permitted. The fee is \$45.00 and a student must be at least 14 1/2 years old on the first day of class. Classes will run Monday through Friday from 4:00-6:00 pm. To sign up please contact Ms. Tammy Tweed in the guidance office **as soon as possible**.

8/26/2013 through 9/23/2013

9/30/2013 through 10/24/2013

10/28/2013 through 11/21/2013

2/18/2014 through 3/14/2014

3/17/2014 through 4/9/2014



Around Campus... (for sports, see Athletics section)

8/14-8/16 Band Camp continues this week and finishes Friday 8/16 with a Potluck Preview at 6pm for band families!!

8/15 Club Leadership Council 5pm in media center

8/20-8/21 Freshman Orientation

8/21 Co-op Student Meeting Rm 401 at 2:00; Theatre Orientation 4—6 and Potluck Dinner for families @ 6pm; Parent Technology Drop In Night

8/22 New Sophomore Orientation

8/26 First Day of School; Parent Technology Drop In to get those signatures in so that your child can take their laptop home

PTSO

Are you looking to get involved at CATA? Join the Cougar Council, PTSO! We plan events for the teachers and provide resources for students. We would love to have you join us! Please fill out the [information sheet](#) on the PTSO website.

Officers for 2013-2014 :President – Laura Minsk; Vice-President – Deb Christensen; Secretary – Wendy Duemmler; Treasurer – Susan Montgomery

To contact the PTSO, please email us at thecougarcouncil@gmail.com. You may also call the school at 704-296-3088 and ask for Deb Christensen.

PTSO membership - \$10 per parent, \$5 per student, \$5 per staff

PTSO is seeking volunteers to help with hospitality/teacher events, and many other areas.

Contact thecougarcouncil@gmail.com to sign up

Support CATA when you use your VIC card at Harris Teeter. Link your card to our school's account - # 3612. [Click here](#) to re-link online or visit any Harris Teeter store. We appreciate your support!

LAPTOP INITIATIVE

UCPS Technology Initiative will provide learning anywhere, anytime for our students. We are very excited for all of our CATA students to receive their Chrome book that they may use for schoolwork during the school year. This is an amazing initiative that students in UCPS will benefit from. Students will be required to bring their chrome book to school every day.



Parents—both you and your child will be required to sign a Chrome book Student /Parent Agreement. In order to do this, the parent or legal guardian of every child must come to Central Academy to sign their form. You must bring legal identification (such as a driver's license or passport) with you to show the staff member. We can get student signatures when they return to school. Students will not be able to receive a chrome book when they are distributed during the first few days of school unless the form is signed.

To that end, we will be making as many *opportunities* as possible for you to come in. Students can come in and sign with you, or we can obtain student signature when school starts. Please see the list of remaining dates below and be sure to get this taken care of before school starts. We have had great turnout already!!

Wed, Thurs 8/14-8/15 7:30—11:30 am

Mon—Fri 8/19-8/23 7:30—5:00 pm

AND

Wednesday 8/21 and Monday 8/26 5:30 pm—8:30 pm Parent Drop In Technology Night—parents can drop into the main office to sign the form and watch the video on school computers if needed. (If parents have already come in to sign at an earlier date, they should not come back in, this is just to try to accommodate all schedules.)

You will receive a letter explaining the initiative as well as a new \$25 user fee for your student. The letter will explain the many important services and parts that this fee will help to cover. Please read the letter when it comes home. You may begin to pay now if you would like, by check in the main office, by check given to your child's teacher, or [online](#) on the CATA website, under Parents & Community, then under On-line school payments. We ask that each family submit payments by the end of September if possible.

Cougar Pride

- * Congratulations Central Academy for a 99.01% graduation rate!
- * Congratulations to Union County Public Schools for having the highest graduation rate of the top 10 largest school districts in North Carolina!!
- * Congratulations to the CATA Football team for a great scrimmage at Wingate University last Saturday. They are looking Awesome—both on Offense and Defense!!!!
- * Congratulations to the CATA Soccer team for a terrific scrimmage at East Lincoln HS last Saturday. Despite the heat, the team played tough and we are expecting great things this season.
- * The Cougar Volleyball team is to be congratulated on their first scrimmage against Union Academy! The team was able to dominate! Go Cougars!!!!

New course offerings

Looking for a challenge? Something different? See the list of additional courses we have been able to add this summer. Let us know if you would like one of these courses added to your schedule by emailing your counselor...

Foods 1 (grades 10-12)

Sports Medicine 1(grades 10-12)

Fitness and Nutrition Honors (grades 10-12)

Forensic Science (grades 11-12)

AP Geography (grades 9-12)

Or try **Multimedia and Webpage design (grades 9-12)** - this course is a pre-requisite for the Film Production course that we plan to add the following school year. Email the counselors your schedule changes (please use the contacts listed below for the academies for this scheduling purpose). The new master calendar will be on the website soon.

Sheila.long@ucps.k12.nc.us - Medical Prep, Teacher Prep and Dance

Kendall.Cameron@ucps.k12.nc.us - Pre-Engineering, IT

Scott.Norris@ucps.k12.nc.us - Transportation, Theatre

Student Life

Club Leadership Council—A Representative from each club is invited to a Leadership Council meeting to discuss Student Life for the year, set calendar dates, and discuss fundraising ideas. The Club Leadership Council will be headed by Student Council, but will be a collaborative group that makes decisions about the Student Life program at Central Academy.

*Join us at 5:00 pm on Thursday August 15th
in the CATA Media Center*



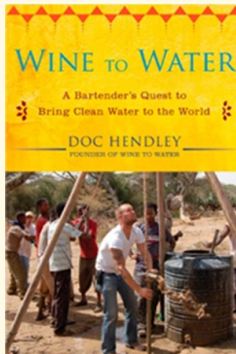
Club Officers—Be sure to send a representative to the Club Leadership Council. If you cannot attend, please send your meeting dates and times to your club advisor (staff member) and ask them to forward the dates and times, with their approval, to Mr. Pusser. We will be working toward having ALL club meeting, fundraising, and event dates on the school master calendar. Help us by sending in your dates as soon as possible. If you are unsure who your advisor is, please forward your dates to Mr. Pusser and he will direct them to the correct person.

YEARBOOKS

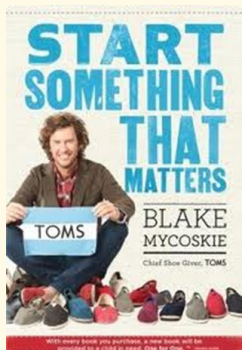
2014 Yearbooks are on sale!! Reserve your copy for only \$65. You may purchase online or send check or cash to Ms. Eaton. This is the lowest price of the year, and the sale ends September 8th! ALL Senior Recognition ads are on sale also until September 8th. This will be the only time they will go on sale this year. Don't delay... See the [flyer for more details](#).

Summer Read—It's not too late to get in the summer

read... This year, we are supporting two community read options that are **OPTIONAL**. We will be offering extra credit within English classes for students who demonstrate knowledge and insightful reflection of one of the selected books. There is no summer assignment attached to the reading, however to receive the extra credit, students will be required to demonstrate their knowledge of the book when school resumes.



Choice One: *Wine to Water* by Doc Hendley. "Doc Hendley never set out to be a hero. In 2004, Hendley—a small-town bartender—launched a series of wine-tasting events to raise funds for clean-water projects and to bring awareness to the world's freshwater crisis. He planned to donate the proceeds through traditional channels, but instead found himself traveling to one of the world's most dangerous hot spots: Darfur, Sudan." - amazon.com There will be an opportunity to attend a session and meet the author through Wingate University in September. Please see the attached flyer from Wingate with more information about the book.



Choice Two: *Start Something That Matters* by Blake Mycoskie. "In ***Start Something That Matters***, Blake Mycoskie tells the story of TOMS, one of the fastest-growing shoe companies in the world, and combines it with lessons learned from such other innovative organizations as method, charity: water, FEED Projects, and TerraCycle. Blake presents the six simple keys for creating or transforming your own life and business, from discovering your core story to being resourceful without resources; from overcoming fear and doubt to incorporating giving into every aspect of your life. No matter what kind of change you're considering, *Start Something That Matters* gives you the stories, ideas, and practical tips that can help you get started." Amazon.com

For more information about a Meet the Author Event, [click here](#)

For the opportunity to see more on Glogster—[click here](#).

New Family Information for Central Academy of Technology and Art

- School day hours: 8:50-3:30 (Class starts at 8:50, students should all **arrive by 8:40** when the first bell rings to move to class.) If you are dropping your student off by car, you should arrive between 8:20—8:30 to ensure that your child can get to class on time.
- Lunches are determined by your 3rd block teacher, (there are four lunches).
- Freshmen students will receive their class schedules by mail before orientation.
- Upperclassmen will receive their class schedules in home room on the first day of school.
- Upon arrival on the first day of school, all students will report to home room first. Home room assignments will be posted at the front of the school and in the cafeteria.
- Freshmen students will receive bus letters and assignments during Freshmen orientation.
- Bus letters and routes will be mailed out to 10th through 12th grade students before school starts.
- Set uniforms are not required for PE classes, but a dress code is strictly enforced. This will be discussed during the first day of class. Sneakers, athletic shorts, and t-shirt are required every day.
- Lockers are not required, but you may rent a locker for \$2.00. PE Lockers **are required**. Your PE teacher will provide information on rental fee. NO students may leave their belongings out in the PE locker room.
- There is not a supply list. Supplies needed are on a class by class basis and each teacher will communicate this on the first day of school.
- Attendance is taken during each class, and it is vital that you are present at school every day. If you must make doctor appointments during the school day, be sure to do so at different times of the day so you don't miss too many days in one class.
- Attendance matters for participation in extracurricular activities, and affects eligibility for sports. Students too sick to come to school should not be on school grounds for extracurricular events that day.
- Every teacher will have a Moodle page for students and parents to access with course information.

SUMMER HOURS Union County Public Schools will observe a four-day workweek during the 2013 summer months to continue to improve our efficiency and energy cost savings for the school system. UCPS will follow a four-day workweek schedule from [June 10 - August 12, 2013](#).

Central Academy of Technology and Arts Office Hours Monday & [Tuesday 7:30am – 5:30 pm](#). Wednesday & Thursday 7:30 am – 11:30 am.