Central Academy of Technology and Arts Cougar Chronicle



Volume 1; Issue 22 January 26, 2014

Central Academy Families

Second semester started off well with smiles and excitement for many students and teachers. Each teacher sent home a syllabus. Be sure to review the syllabus and sign any documentation requested by the teachers.

Report cards will be coming home on Wednesday. At this time we have received all EOC scores in Biology, Math 1, and English II. We have also received all final exam scores in the CTE courses. However, we have not yet received the student scores on any NC Final Exams from the state. If your child took a class with a NC Final Exam, the teacher has entered an Incomplete (INC). Once scores are received we will update the report card grades and send them home again. We thank you for your patience as we await the scores from the state.

CATA has done very well this semester on exams and has shown growth from last year's scores. Great job!! For students in Biology, Math 1, and English 2—each student received a percentage score and an EOC level. Mastery of the subject is a graduation requirement in the State of North Carolina. Students earning a level 3 or 4 on the exam have shown mastery of the subject on the exam and have met the graduation requirement for mastery in that area. Teachers will contact those students that need additional instruction in order to meet this graduation requirement on Monday.

The men's basketball team played a thrilling game Friday night defeating Forest Hills. The gym was alive with cheering and CATA spirit. Great job Cougars. The Sadie Hawkins Dance was a huge success on Saturday night and the CATA students looked great and danced the night away.

Our band and guard continue to work through the winter with winterguard taking first in dance and third overall this weekend. Band students marched in the Martin Luther King parade last Monday—check out the video that you can link to through this week's Cougar Chronicle. Individual band students continue to earn accolades which are detailed in the chronicle.

Our English classes continue to achieve success in the Poetry Out Loud competition, with 2 CATA students earning the top two spots in the UCPS Poetry Out Loud competition.

Applications to Central Academy are available on the CATA website. Online applications are now offered for both 9th and 10th grade admission.

The Cougar Chronicle, our Facebook page, 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

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600 Brewer Drive, Monroe, NC 28112 (704) 296-3088 (Phone) (704) 296-3090 (Fax) http://cata.ucps.k12.nc.us

Look for text that is <u>blue and</u> <u>underlined</u>. This text is hyperlinked to the corresponding information available on the web. Click on the text to be taken to the corresponding webpage.

~Class of 2014~Seniors

Graduation Day: Thursday, June 12, 2014 at Winthrop University in Rock Hill, SC 3:00 pm



Scholarships:

- The Herff Jones 'Believe in You' Scholarship will be awarded to one student who demonstrates academic success, community service, and exemplary leadership. If you are interested, please let Mrs. Cameron know. Scholarships could be awarded for \$2,000, \$5,000, \$8,500, or \$12,000. For more information, and to apply, please visit: http://www.herffjones.com/biuscholarship. Deadline is February 8, 2014.
- We are receiving a lot of scholarships in the Guidance Office. Please check our **scholarship page** frequently by clicking here. The following scholarships have upcoming deadlines- Crumley Roberts Founder's Scholarship (February 1), Jagannathan Scholarship (February 1), Herff Jones Believe in You Scholarship (February 8), Monroe-Union Breakfast Rotary Club Scholarship (February 12), Jerry McGee Endowed Scholarship (February 14), Charlie Adams Endowed Scholarship (February 14), Clary Student Medal Award (February 14), Henry S. and Carolyn Adams Scholarship Fund if the Foundation For the Carolinas (February 24), Michael A. DeMayo Scholarship (February 24), Rotary Student Service Scholarship (February 28), and Buick Achievers Scholarship Program (February 28). More information about all of these scholarships are listed on our scholarship page.
- **SECU Foundation's 'People Helping People' Scholarship:**Each NC high school will receive (1) four-year scholarship valued at \$10,000 (payable at \$1,250 per semester to attend one of the 16 constituent campuses of the UNC System. To be eligible, students must: 1). be a US Citizen and resident of NC; 2). plan to attend one of the 16 UNC -system schools; 3). have a minimum 2.5 GPA; and 4). have demonstrated leadership, excellence of character, integrity, and community involvement. Also, the student must not be a director, employee, or family member of an employee of the State Employees' Credit Union or the SECU Foundation. If you are interested, please pick up an interest form in the Guidance Office. The interest form, a detailed resume, and two letters of recommendation from organizations in which you have completed community service with must be given to Mrs. Cameron by the deadline. *Please note*: if you are planning to attend a North Carolina community college, you may be eligible for a \$5,000 scholarship. Please contact the Financial Aid office at the community college for more details. If you have any questions, please see Mrs. Cameron. **Deadline: April 10, 2014.**

Transcript Changes:

Effective January 6, 2014 transcript request guidelines will change. The new guidelines are as follows:

- o after the first 3 transcripts students will need to pay \$2 for each additional transcript
- o student will be handed an official transcript in a CATA envelope, upon receipt of the \$2 fee
- o student will be responsible for addressing and mailing the envelope containing their transcript
- o If you are applying to a N.C. college or university, please send your transcripts through the Transcript Manager on CFNC's website.
- o <u>Click here</u> for directions on the revised Transcript Process.

For seniors and their parents it is time to fill out the FAFSA (Free Application for Federal Student Aid). To learn more about the FAFSA and financial aid, you may want to read this article: "Financial Aid Myths – Part I" by clicking here.

CATA will be hosting a Financial Aid Night on Monday, January 27th at 7:00 p.m. All students and families are invited.

GUIDANCE INFORMATION

Thinking Ahead—Senior Honor Awards' Opportunities

Seniors have the opportunity to be recognized at graduation for two UCPS honor programs.

The NC Scholar's Program, students must have an overall unweighted GPA of a 3.5. and take combinations of elec-

tive requirements including three extra honor or AP level courses in the student's junior and/or senior year.

To receive the Global Scholar's Award, the student must submit a proposal to the school's Graduation/Scholarship Committee outlining their plans for completing a Service Learning Project that will allow them to contribute to the local, national, or world community. The project must have a global theme and if approved, the student would present a written artifact to the committee. The student must also take a global awareness class and include two honor electives in recommended electives.

The specific requirements for each program can be found on page 17 and 18 in the UCPS Program of Studies.

ACT—All Juniors will take the ACT in March. This is a college readiness exam and can help students to gain entry into college and qualify for scholarships. Resources to help students prepare have been added to the Students Page of the CATA website.

Juniors planning to take the **SAT** this spring need to make sure they list four colleges in which they wish to send their scores to. The colleges can schools you are just thinking about and schools you are definitely interested in. Either way, entering those schools when you take the SAT is the only time your scores will be sent for free. The Guidance Office cannot sent test scores to colleges!

- March 2 Success is an online test preparation course that provides help with standardized tests, and improving math, language arts, and science skills. This site is FREE and there is no obligation. To get started, visit: https://www.march2success.com/index.cfm
- Lindenwood Learning is offering test prep sessions again for upcoming SAT and ACT administrations for \$199 beginning at the end of January. Visit http://cata.ucps.k12.nc.us/guidance/SAT-ACT-PSAT.php for more information.
- Future Prep is an SAT and ACT Review company offering face to face review in the area. You can get more information by going to their website: www.futureprep.com

Summer Ventures offers a 4-week FREE residential academic program in science and math for rising juniors and seniors. The programs will be offered at ASU, East Carolina, NC Central, and UNC Charlotte. **Deadline to apply: January 31st.** Applications can be found online at www.summerventures.org. Stop by the Guidance Office for more information.

Students interested in **summer enrichment opportunities** should check out our Summer Opportunities page on the school counseling website: http://cata.ucps.k12.nc.us/guidance/SummerOpportunities.php. Deadlines for some programs are quickly approaching.

NACAC (National Association for College Admission Counseling) will be sponsoring the Charlotte National College Fair on Sunday, March 9th from noon to 4:00 p.m. at the Park Expo and Conference Center in Charlotte, NC. The event is free, but registration is required! For more information, and a list of schools attending, please visit:

http://www.nacacnet.org/college-fairs/SpringNCF/Pages/Charlotte.aspx

-Class of 2014-







Central Academy - Cougar Spirit

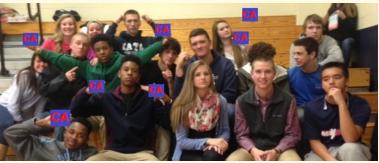


Got Spirit?? Yes, We Do!!

GO COUGARS







Inclement Weather Notifications...It is that time of year!

(From UCPS Communications) In making a decision about potentially closing schools or operating on a delay, our Superintendent, Dr. Mary Ellis, will always err on the side of protecting and maintaining the safety of students and staff. All inclement weather closing or delay announcements will be immediately posted on the UCPS website and on all school websites. The notification will also be posted on the UCPS Facebook page and on all school Facebook Pages. At the same time, UCPS faculty, staff and parents will be alerted via phone call and email through Blackboard Connect. Announcements will also be made through local television and radio stations.

In order to be notified, it is essential that parents keep emergency contact information updated at their child's school. This information includes home and emergency phone numbers and a valid email address. To receive an email from the school or school system, please give your email address to the school office and ask that your child's PowerSchool information be updated. To ensure the quickest notification, you are encour-

aged to visit the UCPS Facebook page, and "like" the page. News stories and weather announcements from UCPS will now appear directly in your Facebook newsfeed. For more information, please see the UCPS Website at http://www.ucps.k12.nc.us/communications/EngWeather Page.php

COUGAR ATHLETICS

Varsity Results:

Wrestling: CATA 24 – Mt. Pleasant 36, Team went 2-3 in the Gamecock Duel Tournament.

Men's Basketball: CATA 70 – Mt. Pleasant 53, CATA 51- Sun Valley

57, CATA 76 – Forest Hills 66

Women's Basketball: CATA 62 – Mt. Pleasant 50, CATA 26 – Sun

Valley 49, CATA 48 – Forest Hills 80.

Men's and Women's Swimming: No Events Last Week

Indoor Track: Elijah Inuwa and Faith Camillo both competed at the JDL Fast-Track in Winston Salem against top competition from across the state in all classifications in the 1000 Meter Event. Elijah finished 3rd overall!



Upcoming Events:

Monday 1/27: NO Events

Tuesday 1/28: HOME Wrestling vs. Parkwood <u>Senior Night</u> 6:30 pm

AWAY Basketball @ Parkwood, JV Girls start at 4:00 pm

Wednesday 1/29: AWAY Indoor Track @ Porter Ridge 3:00 pm

Thursday 1/30: NO Events

Friday 1/31: AWAY Basketball @ Monroe, JV Girls start at 4:00 pm Saturday 2/1: AWAY Indoor Track @ Weddington Invitational

AWAY Wrestling @ Parkwood, Rocky River Conference Tournament, All Day Event

AWAY Swimming @ Huntersville Aquatics Center, 4:00 pm Start

Other Athletic News:

The mandatory parent meeting for ALL spring sports athletes will take place in the CATA Gym on Mon-

<u>day, February 3rd at 7:00 pm</u>. Please contact Coach Niessner if you have any questions.

• The first official day of spring sports in Wednesday, February 12th

 The first day for spring games is Wednesday, February 26^{th.}

 All athletic forms should be filled out prior to tryouts for spring sports, all papers can be found on the CATA website, these include:

Current Physical
Insurance Waiver
UCPS Eligibility Form
UCPS Release Form
NCHSAA Concussion Form

Student athletes should check with Coach Niessner to see if they have all paperwork turned in before trying out for a sport.





Musical Accomplishments of Our Band Students!!!

Congratulations to **Kyle Johnson and Michael Jeffries on earning placement in the 2014 Western Regional High School Honors Orchestra** at Appalachian State University in February. Kyle and Michael are the first students in CATA history to audition for this ensemble and we are so proud to have them represent our school in the honors orchestra. Both musicians are eligible to be selected to perform in the North Carolina All State Honors Orchestra in November 2014.

The **Band of Blue recently marched in the Martin Luther King. Jr. parade** on January 20 in downtown Monroe. Click HERE to see footage of the band in action!

The following students were nominated to participate in the 2014 Union County Honor Band Clinic based on their musical achievement this year: Kyle Johnson, Michael Jeffries, Malik Rowland, Allie Schneider, Christian Chavez, Jake Dormady, Michael Bovi, Victor Flucus, Alex Alamos, Alec Merrill, Julian Coley, Whitney Morgan, Brice Martin, Joey Schneider, Yesenia Castrejon, and Chris Verrill. These students will convene in February at Porter Ridge High School for a two day clinic during which they will work with a guest conductor to learn new repertoire and performance skills. At the conclusion of the clinic, the students will perform a free concert for the community. We are so proud to have a strong representation at the upcoming county honor band event!

Student Council's First Annual Sadie Hawkins Dance is a HIT!!!



The freezing temperatures did not deter CATA students from coming out to the First Annual Sadie Hawkins Dance. Why would it deter them since the theme of the dance was Winter Wonderland? Tufts of snow surrounded the snack and drink tables and greeted the guests as they arrived! Thousands of twinkling lights lined the gym and were hung by Student Council representatives to create a picture backdrop for friends and dates. Silvery snowflakes greeted guests as they entered to the sounds of a great DJ. Snowflakes and lights were not the only things shining at the dance—glowstick bracelets and necklaces added to the festive mood.

A special thank you to Student Council for their hard work and to teachers—Dr. Tarlton, Mr. Mayhew, and Ms. Hinson—for helping to host a great time.





UCPS Poetry Out Loud District Competition!



Eight students from CATA, MHS, and WHS competed, and the First Place winner is Alisha Hartley, senior, from CATA. She was in Sarah Henry's Honors English 4 class first semester. On March 16, 2013, at the Greensboro Public Library, Alisha will represent UCPS at the State level competition.

Second place was awarded to Kelly Manning, also a CATA senior, whose English teacher first semester was Lisa Cable.

Thank you so much to all of the teachers and students who participated!

Student Opportunities

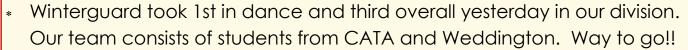
2014 Arbor Day Photo Contest Deadline Approaching - The 2014 Arbor Day Photo contest, which is sponsored by the North Carolina Forest Service, is open to all students in the 5th through 12th grades. Students are encouraged to submit photographs of trees in or around urban areas, depicting this year's contest theme, "Young and Old." The contest is designed to engage students' critical thinking skills by having them submit a photographer's statement discussing the contest theme and their interpretation of how their photo relates to the theme. The deadline for entries is **Feb. 28**. Prizes will be awarded to the top three photos. For more information or to download an entry form, please visit www.ncforestservice.gov/Urban/arbor_day_photo_contest.htm, or contact Jennifer Rall, photo contest coordinator, at Jennifer.rall@ncagr.gov.

Stop Rx Abuse PSA Competition - Attorney General Roy Cooper's office will be holding its Stop Rx Abuse competition for the third year to increase awareness about the dangers of youth prescription drug abuse. All students enrolled in grades nine through 12 are eligible to enter by creating a short public service announcement. The competition will run from March 1-April 15 and winners will receive prizes. In the coming weeks, each high school will receive detailed rules and guidelines about the competition, as well as a promotional poster to display via U.S. mail. To learn more, visit www.ncdoj.gov or e-mail questions to StopRxAbuse@ncdoj.gov.

10K For Solving Real-World Problems - The InvenTeam initiative, created by the Lemelson-MIT Program, offers an unparalleled opportunity for high school students to cultivate their creativity and experience invention. InvenTeams are teams of high school students, teachers and mentors that receive grants of up to \$10,000 each to invent technological solutions to real-world problems. Each InvenTeam chooses its own problem to solve. Invention Ideas and InvenTeam projects span many fields from assistive devices to environmental technologies and consumer goods. Applicants are encouraged to consider needs of the world's poorest people (those earning \$2/day) when brainstorming invention ideas. The initial application deadline is Feb. 28. More information is available online at http://web.mit.edu/inventeams/apply.html.

Cougar Pride

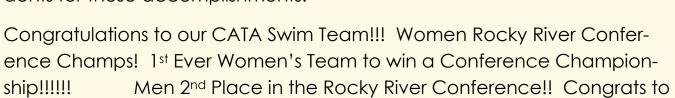
the Year!!!





Congratulations to all of our band students who auditioned for the South Central District honor band this weekend. Special congratulations to the Kyle Johnson, Chris Verrill, and Alec Merrill for earning a spot in the honor band and eligibility to audition for the North Carolina All State Honor Band in March. Honorable mention to Julian Coley, Yesenia Castrejon, Christian Chavez, Michael Jeffries, Brice Martin, and Alejandro Alamos for placing as alternates in the honor band. We are so very proud of our band students for these accomplishments!





Sam Souther for being named Rocky River Conference Men's Swimmer of



 Congratulations to the Robotics Club for receiving a \$5000 donation from ATI ALLVAC, a Monroe company that promotes Engineering at the High School level.





Information resources from Central Academy include:

Central Academy of Technology and Arts website at: http://cata.ucps.k12.nc.us/
Central Academy of Technology and Arts Facebook page at: https://www.facebook.com/
CentralAcademyCATA

Central Academy of Technology and Arts Twitter at: https://twitter.com/cata_monroe
Central Academy of Technology and Arts Athletic Twitter at: https://twitter.com/CATA_Athletics
Central Academy of Technology and Arts Band page at: https://cataband.blogspot.com/

Any other sites are not sites that are sanctioned by the school. We caution parents and families to get current and accurate information from the official sites listed above. If a school club or school organization has an additional page, please notify Administration so that we can properly authorize the site. Thank you.

Want MORE info?? Go to the CATA website, click on Parents and Community, then click on link for the newsletters—the Cougar Chronicle. Past issues are posted there each week!!

Around Campus... (for all home <u>and away sports times, see Athletics section</u>)

The CATA website Calendar is a great resource—please see that on the main page.

Monday, 1/27 pm—Financial Aid Meeting 7:00 in auditorium

Tuesday, 1/28 am—Cougar Time; pm—3:40 Shooting Sports Team; 3:45 HOSA; 6:30 HOME Wrestling vs. Parkwood—SENIOR NIGHT

Wednesday, **1/29** am—8:00 FCA Huddles; pm—Report Cards Distributed; 3:30 Debate Team; 3:40 *Site Base Team Meeting*; 4:00 AP Art Studio

Thursday, 1/30

Friday, 1/31— am YCI meeting (8:20)

Saturday 2/1

Upcoming Dates:

2/3—2/7/14—National School Counseling Week—Be sure to thank your counselor!!

2/3/14—Required Meeting for any students taking a UC Virtual Class this semester (6:00)

2/3/14—Required Meeting for all Spring Sports Parents (7:00)

2/10/14—Open House & PTSO meeting for all families of current students (6:00—8:00 pm)

2/10—2-14/14—School Bus Drivers Appreciation Week

2/13/14—Shrek Performances (UCPE) begin at CATA... more dates and times to follow

2/17/14—Teacher Workday—NO school for students

2/18-2/19/14—CATA Crawl for current 8th graders

2/19/14—Progress Reports Distributed

Site Base Meeting date was changed from Wed 1/22 to Wed 1/29 at 3:40.



Yearbooks—Be sure to buy your yearbook!!!! Yearbookforever.com

Driver's Education—Sign Up Now!! Driver's Ed 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 <u>not permitted</u>. The fee is \$55.00. 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**. The next class is Feb. 18- March 14. After that: March 17- April 9



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.

PTSO is continuing to sell CATA senior Yard Signs! Honor your senior CATA student with a great yard sign!!! Contact the PTSO at the email below for more information and GET YOURS TODAY !!!!!

Graduating seniors may be eligible to participate in the Cougar Council Senior Scholarship awards which will be given in the spring. The student, parent or guardian must be a paid PTSO member for the graduating senior to participate in the scholarship award.

We need new faces to help come up with new ideas and accomplish plans we already have. Please join PTSO and then join us for the meeting! **NEXT MEETING TUESDAY 1/14 AT 7:00 PM**.

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 family (which includes the student and parents), \$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!

Parent access to grades through the Parent Portal on PowerSchool

Parent access to grades requires a new Username and Password. To obtain the information, parent or legal guardian must bring photo ID to CATA. Parents may pick up their username and password during regular office hours, from 7:30 am—5:00 pm.

Please remember that you must show a photo ID to get the username and password. We will also be asking you to verify contact information when you come in, so if you have any changes to emergency contacts, please bring them with you.

Thank you to all who have already come in to collect their password. If you have problems with the account set up, please contact Ms. Penny Lewis at CATA. If you have a question about grades, please contact the teacher directly.

Grade Level Administrators—

9th grade—<u>Mr. Willie Howard III</u> 10th grade—<u>Mr. Jeff Pusser</u> 11th grade—<u>Ms. Deanna White</u> 12th grade—<u>Mr. Jeff Pusser</u>

Tutoring Opportunities at CATA

Teachers have the opportunity to offer both tutoring and enrichment to students that they select during Cougar Time. If you have a concern about your child's progress, feel free to contact your child's teacher to see when the best way for them to get additional support.



National Honor Society students are available to assist student's that need some peer tutoring in their coursework. Students that would like this help should go to guidance to ask for a counselor to connect them to an NHS student that can offer assistance in that course.

Every teacher offers tutoring times and this is listed in their class syllabus, on their moodle site, or posted in their room. If you cannot get this information from your child, please email the teacher directly or call the school.

The Math department has a set schedule where students from the teachers' own classes, or students from other classes can stop in to get a question answered. The Math times are listed below:

8:15—8:45 am Monday—Bradshaw (527); Tuesday — Sheppard (529) and Bradshaw (527); Wednesday—Sheppard (529)

3:45—4:15 pm Monday—Cochran (621); Tuesday—Cook (108); Wednesday—O'Connor (523); Thursday—Brooks (515)

CATA Safety Information—Annual Notification

In accordance with mandated requirements of the Asbestos Hazard Emergency Response Act (AHERA), an asbestos management plan has been prepared for each school in Union County Public Schools. The plans are available for review by the public. A copy of the plan is located at each school, as well as at the Facilities Department, 201 Venus Street, Monroe, NC 28112. The school plan for CATA is available upon request in the main office. Thank you.