

Central Academy of Technology and Arts

Cougar Chronicle

Central Academy Families

Students received a on Friday that parents should students received a copy of School Report Card Snapshot. compiled by the NC Department of Public Instruction and it is a way to see school is doing in terms of safety, instruction, personnel, and technology. For the full school report card, please go to the NCDPI website and look under School Report Cards. All students also received a copy of their personal report card for the first semester. Please note that a large number of students show an Incomplete on their report cards. The incompletes are on the report card because we have not yet received the scores for the NC Final Exams that the students took. As soon as we get these scores from the state we will reprint report cards and send them home again. We are hopeful that they will be here within the next couple of weeks. All 10th grade students also received a copy of their scores from the PLAN. The PLAN is a pre-ACT test that predicts how students will score on the actual ACT assessment their junior year. The ACT is a college and career- ready assessment that lets students, parents, colleges, and potential employers know how a student may perform in college and on the job. Students were shown how to read and interpret the scores. You can also see this information. The link is included in the Cougar Chronicle.

Approximately each three weeks, students meet with their advisor to learn about ways to be a successful student. This past Friday, sophomores learned how to interpret their PLAN scores. Freshman learned how to calculate their Grade Point Average, or gpa, and why that number is important to them. Juniors and Seniors were able to listen to a presentation about financial aid for college. Parents can see the advisory information from this year on the CATA website, under Student Success.

Be sure to consult the Cougar Chronicle for athletic schedules as there have been a number of changes due to the snow days we had last week. Basketball continues to play their season games—check out the athletics page for scores. Swim, Track, and Wrestling are moving on to regional competition and our athletes are doing an outstanding job with a large number qualifying for Regional and State Competition!! Way to go Cougars. Check out the listing on the athletics page. This week we celebrated the contributions to CATA of our Senior Wrestlers! Thank you to each one of you for making CATA Wrestling a top competing team. We will miss you after this season!! Best of luck to you.

We hope you enjoy the Superbowl tonight and look forward to seeing our students back at school tomorrow! Parent meeting for Spring Sports is tomorrow night. Open House for all students and parents is the following Monday, 2/10. Please come, attend the PTSO meeting and meet your child's teachers. The PTSO will also be selling Valentine Monkeys to raise money. These are very popular with the students, please support this fundraiser at Open House.

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



few important items be sure to see. All the Central Academy This report card is ment of Public In- how your child's

Volume 1; Issue 23
February 2, 2014

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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 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.

~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- 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 of 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.**

Transcripts:

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 [Click here](#) 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 hosted a financial aid night this past Monday. It was a great success. Many students and families attended. Now is the time for families with children accepted into college to complete the FAFSA to qualify for financial aid in college. Go to <https://fafsa.ed.gov> to complete this form.

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 over-all unweighted GPA of a 3.5. and take combinations of elective 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

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~



Student Success—Advisory Period

Approximately every three weeks, students meet with their advisor to learn about how to set and reach goals, pick study groups, take notes, and much more. Parents can see what students are learning by going to the "Students" page on the CATA website, and clicking on [Student Success](#). Advisors will move up with students each year so that every student has a "go-to" person while in high school!! This is in addition to every student having a guidance counselor.

This past Friday students learned about the following:

9th grade—[How to Calculate a GPA](#)

10th grade—[How to Interpret PLAN results](#)

11th and 12th grade—[About the FAESA](#)

Central Academy - Cougar Spirit

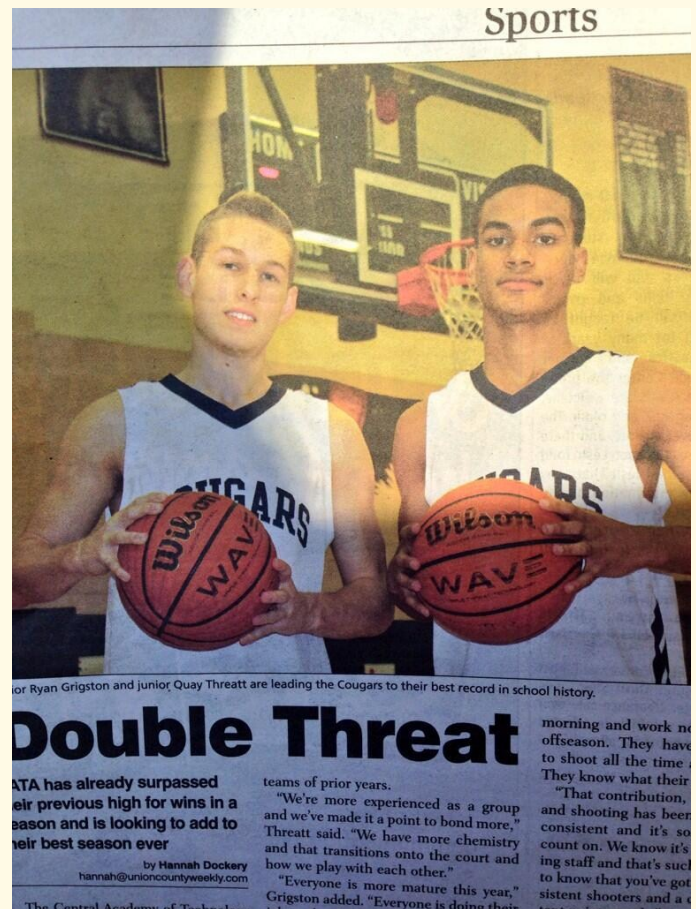
Got Spirit??

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Yes,
We
Do!!



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 encouraged 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 47 – Parkwood 27.

Rocky River Conference Tournament: Sergio Paz 106 Champ; Dylan Vanderschal 2nd in 120; Ian Rogers 2nd in 132; Josh Lemon 160 Champ; Alex Miles 2nd in 182; Jackson Price Heavyweight Champ. ALL qualify for REGIONALS!! Team finished 4th overall!!! Way to go Cougars!!

Men's Basketball: CATA 50 – Monroe 52

Women's Basketball: CATA 32 – Monroe 53

Men's and Women's Swimming: 1A/2A Regionals:

Men's 200 Medley Relay –10th place for team Sam Souther, Deyton Cook, Mark Goodson, & Nathan Burnette; Men's 200 Freestyle –8th place for Sam Souther; Women's 100 Butterfly –2nd place for Sarah Everhart; Men's 100 Butterfly –9th place for Sam Souther; Women's 100 Backstroke 6th for Sarah Everhart. ALL qualify for STATES!!!! Way to go Cougars!!

Indoor Track: Elijah Inuwa finished 1st at the Weddington-Charlotte Polar Bear Championship on Saturday with a 2:30.3 in the 1000. He finished 5th in the 3200. Way to Go!!



Upcoming Events:

Monday 2/3 Spring Sports Orientation 7:00 pm in the Gym

Tuesday 2/4 **AWAY** Basketball @ Mt. Pleasant, JV Girls start at 4:00 pm

Wednesday 2/5 **AWAY** Basketball @ Parkwood, JV Girls start at 4:00 pm

Thursday 2/6 **AWAY** Swimming 1A/2A NCHSAA State Meet, All Day

Friday 2/7 **AWAY** Basketball @ Mt. Pleasant, JV Girls start at 4:00 pm

Saturday 2/8 **AWAY** Indoor Track @ JDL Fast Track, Winston Salem, 1A/2A State Championships

Other Athletic News:

- The mandatory parent meeting for ALL spring sports athletes will take place in the CATA Gym on **Monday, February 3rd at 7:00 pm**. 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 26th.
- 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.



CONGRATULATIONS AND THANKS TO OUR SENIOR WRESTLERS!!!

Cougar Pride

- * Congratulations to **Cameron Dion** for being chosen as one of only 50 students to represent the Southeastern USA as a semi-finalist for the Congress-Bundestag Exchange Program. This is a 10 1/2 month exchange program with Germany. What a great honor!! Way to go!!
- * Congratulations to all students and staff at CATA that participated in the fundraiser to support the **ARC relief efforts in the Philippines**. This fundraiser, organized by the Environmental Club, Hands Helping Others, and Student Athletes, and supported by the Club Leadership Council, raised \$1,300 to donate to the American Red Cross. Way to go Cougars!!
- * **Winterguard** took 1st in dance and third overall last week in our division. Our team consists of students from CATA and Weddington. Way to go!!
- * Congratulations to our wrestlers for earning spots in the upcoming regionals: **Sergio Paz, Dylan Vanderschal, Ian Rogers, Josh Lemon, Alex Miles, Jackson Price!!** Way to go!!
- * Congratulations to our swimmers for earning spots in the upcoming States: **Sam Souther, Deyton Cook, Mark Goodson, Nathan Burnette, and Sarah Everhart**. Way to go!!!
- * Congratulations to Indoor Track runner, **Elijah Inuwa**, for advancing by winning the regional meet in the 1000 with a time of 2:30.3. This is the fastest time this year in North Carolina, and the seventh fastest in the Country!!!! Woww!! Elijah also finished 5th in the 3200! Way to go!!!



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: <http://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 and away sports times, see Athletics section)

The CATA website Calendar is a great resource—please see that on the [main page](#).

This week is National School Counseling Week—Thank your counselor today!!!

February is National Black History Month.

Monday, 2/3 pm—3:30 UCPE rehearsals; 6:00 UC Virtual School REQUIRED orientation; 7:00 Spring Athletics Parent Meeting—required

Tuesday, 2/4 am—8:15 NHS meeting; Cougar Time; pm—UCPE rehearsals; 3:45 FTA meeting; NHS meeting; Hands Helping Others Meeting

Wednesday, 2/5 am—8:00 FCA Huddles; pm—3:30 UCPE rehearsals; Debate Team; 3:45 Student Council Meeting; 4:00 AP Art Studio

Thursday, 2/6 pm—UCPE rehearsals

Friday, 2/7— am 8:15 Club Leadership Council; SAAD; YCI meeting (8:20); UCPS All County Honors Band Clinic; pm—3:30 UCPE rehearsals; Indoor Track State Championship

Saturday 2/8—UCPS All County Honor Band Clinic; 3:30 UCPE Rehearsals; Indoor Track State Championship

Upcoming Dates:

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 & PTO 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 2/13 (7:30), 14(7:30), 15(7:30), 16(2:30), 20 (7:30), 21 (7:30), 22 (7:30), 23 (2:30)

2/17/14—School is IN session—this is a makeup day for staff and students.

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

2/19/14—Progress Reports Distributed

Site Base Meeting on Wed 1/29 was cancelled due to school closure. This will be rescheduled....

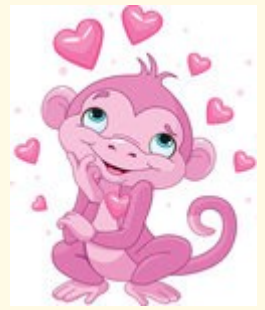


Yearbooks—Be sure to buy your yearbook!!!!
Yearbookforever.com

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 not permitted. 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 "The Cougar Council PTSO is selling stuffed monkeys for Valentine's Day. The monkeys cost \$2 and will be sold during lunches February 6th-February 12th. The monkeys will be delivered to fourth block classes on Valentine's Day.



Parents, we will also be selling the monkeys at open house on Monday, February 10th. Stop by our table and buy one for your student.

We could use help selling the monkeys during lunches. If you would like to help for a couple of hours, please [sign up by clicking here](#). A PTSO board member will be there each day, we'd just like more people to help with the sales. Thank you for your support and we hope to see you February 10th!"

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 at Open House 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.

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.