

Central Academy of Technology and Arts

Cougar Chronicle



Central Academy Families

Volume 1; Issue 3
August 25, 2013

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Welcome Back Central Academy Students and Families!! School resumes this Monday morning, August 26th. **Classes begin** promptly at 8:50, but students should be inside the school by 8:40 in order to get to class on time. A few notes: Advisory will take place at the start of each day for the first 3 days of school. **Lists of advisories** are posted in the front hallway and each student should check this list. Students will receive an updated **schedule**. Most schedules remain the same, others have had changes due to student request or the need to get academy or core classes to all students. Students must follow the schedule given to them on Monday morning. Advisors will explain the schedule change process to students on Monday morning.

To those parents that have been able to come in to sign the permission form for the **chromebooks**, your children will be able to pick up their laptop during lunch on Monday. All other students, we will be sending the form home with the student on Monday since we have been told that we can accept signatures without identification now. Students should return the forms on Tuesday morning to their advisory teacher. We will continue to have chromebook pick ups during lunches for students on Tuesday and Wednesday. Students will go through a chromebook orientation on Friday afternoon. Students are required to bring the chromebooks to school every day. The cushioned side of the students backpack is an appropriate way to carry the chromebook.

Thank you to all of the **parent volunteers** and staff members that made our first home athletic event this past Friday night, a fun filled evening. Our football team played tough and we know we will see some great things from them this year. The cheerleaders added a lot of spirit to the game. The Band of Blue marching band and colorguard had an awesome performance at halftime. Be sure to check the inside of this newsletter to get all dates for upcoming events. A shout out to the **PTSO** for providing the CATA staff with a much needed ice cream social on Friday. Teachers and staff have worked hard getting ready to welcome students back and we appreciate the support of all of the parents. Be sure to join the PTSO to help out in many areas of the school.

The UCPS and Central Academy **websites** are still not fully functional, however, we are working hard to continue to have great communication with our families. Families not receiving the weekly Cougar Chronicle newsletter by email can access it on the CATA Facebook page at www.facebook.com/CentralAcademyCATA. If you are not receiving the Cougar Chronicle via email, be sure to send your email and child's name to Penny.Lewis@ucps.k12.nc.us so that you can get regular and emergency messages from your child's school. Staff can access their emails and your students will have great functionality on their chromebooks. The Cougar Chronicle, our facebook page, in addition to our website, once it is re-established, 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

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.

Central Academy - Cougar Spirit

2013-2014 Student Spirit Wear t-shirts are on sale Monday Tuesday and Wednesday during lunches. T-shirts will be on sale for all students during the first week of school.

Watching the teams during their opening games 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:

When you first arrive to CATA tomorrow morning, stop at the front of the school and find your advisor's name and room number on the lists. There will be staff all over the building to help you find your way. Also, look for the signs that direct you to different room numbers.

Tomorrow bring something to write with, something to write on, and a folder to hold handouts in.

ALL Student Schedules

Small changes / additions in staffing resulted in small changes to the master schedule earlier this summer 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!!

You MUST follow your new schedule that you receive in advisory tomorrow morning. If you have a concern about your schedule you may email your counselor tomorrow after you have gone to your scheduled classes.

Remember that the only students that will be allowed to go to the guidance office during the day will be students that have a hole in their schedule for the first semester. All other concerns should be relayed to the counselors via email.

Hall Passes ~Each teacher has 2 hall passes that students may use with teacher permission to go to the restroom or other destination. NO student may be in the halls during class time without a hall pass.

Student Parking Lot —NO student will be allowed to their car during the day unless escorted by an Administrator or School Resource Officer. If it is an emergency that a student go to their car, they will need to come to the main office.

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. 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. Take care of this before or after school. You will not be given a pass out of class to do this.

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.



Central Academy - Cougar Spirit

Got Spirit?

The Blue Crew made a great showing at the first home game of the year. A huge number of Cougar student fans showed up to show their Cougar spirit with a banner asking "Got Spirit?". Be sure to show up to the next home game and cheer on your Cougars. Let's be sure to be that twelfth player on the field by showing up and being loud!! The teams appreciate you and gain energy from your energy in the stands.

Varsity Football had a solid game with some fantastic play by the defense. The offense is showing great promise and was close to scoring a number of times. We are looking forward to the next game!

Cougar Cheerleaders led the crowd in cheering for the Cougars throughout the game. Tumbling, cheers, and great spirit was seen throughout the night from this group. Way to go Cougars!

The Band of Blue did a fantastic job of providing great spirited music throughout the game, and really "BLUE" everyone away during halftime with their new show. Their music was wonderful and the marching was right on beat. The Band of Blue Colorguard added great visual effect to the show to really make it awesome to look at as well as listen to. Go Cougars' Band of Blue!!

Spirit was not only filling the stadium it was on sale too! Whether you browsed through the Cougar Spirit Wear shop or grabbed a delicious bite to eat, you were greeted with great Cougar Volunteers. A special shout out to all of the parents that volunteered their time to make everyone's night great!! Parents can continue to sign up for all athletic events

through Mr.

Niessner and the SignUp Genius that our parents have set up for this purpose. Talk to Mr. Niessner or your team parent about how to get signed up today!!



COUGAR ATHLETICS

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.

Parking Passes for all Football Games (both JV and V) at Cougar Stadium at Walter Bickett are on sale now. Passes are 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. Handicapped parking is accessible behind the press box. You can purchase your passes in the main office OR online. To order online go to the UCPS website and click on [online payments](#).



Varsity Results:

Football CATA 0 North Stanley 14

Soccer CATA 0 MRHS 7; CATA 1 Independence 1; CATA 2 JM Robinson 0

Cross Country Men 1st, women 2nd at West Stanly Meet

Women's tennis CATA 3 Cuthbertson 6

Upcoming Events:

Monday 8/26—Tennis vs. Sun Valley Dickerson Park 4:00

Tuesday 8/27—Soccer @ Lake Norman HS (JV 5:00, V to follow)

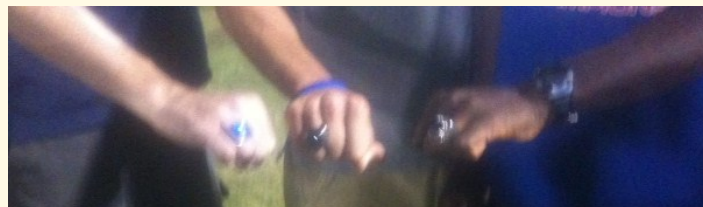
Wednesday 8/28—Soccer vs. Weddington (JV 4:30, V to follow)

Thursday 8/29—Tennis @ Sun Valley HS 4:00, Volleyball vs. Cuthbertson at home 5:30, JV Football vs. Lake Norman Charter at home 7:00 pm.

Friday 8/30—V. Football @ Highland Tech 7:30 pm

A note to all Athletes—Hydration is imperative for every athlete. Athletes should have a bottle of water with them throughout the school day in order to be completely hydrated. Dehydration can lead to muscle cramps that can prevent you from playing and other illnesses that keep you from being your best. Drink H₂O every day, all day to be at your best!!

During halftime of the Opening Football game of the year, a very special recognition occurred. **Elijah Inuwa** was presented with his official North Carolina State Ring for winning the 1A State Championship in the 800 m race during the Spring 2013 season. Elijah did it in a school record time of 1:58. Elijah and his head coach, Field Miller, and Assistant Coach, David Daniels all received State Rings. Rings were presented by Central Academy Athletic Director Jay Niessner, Principal Kim Fisenne, and UCPS Lead Athletic Director Doug Jones. Elijah's parents were also there for this recognition.

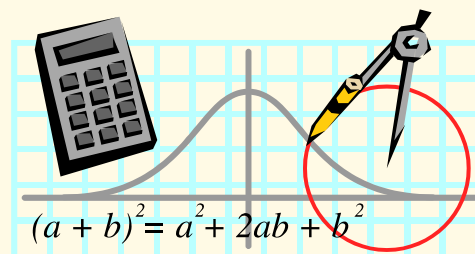




Freshman Open House was a great success. Parents were able to watch a video about the new chromebooks, students participated in fun activities with student council, and were able to get tips, find classrooms, complete an art project, and most importantly, get to know some of their classmates. Welcome Freshman—we are so excited that you have chosen Central Academy!!!!

Calculators

All math classes will require students to use calculators. Details on the type of calculator needed will be given out in the math classes this week. Students should be sure to either buy a calculator for school use or check one out from the media center. Teachers will NOT have class sets of calculators. If families are able to purchase one the student should be able to use that same calculator for many math classes to come. If families are unable to purchase one, students will be required to check one out from the media center and must be responsible for maintaining it in good condition and keeping it working by replacing batteries during the semester. We have a limited number available to borrow. Students will be expected to have their calculator every day in order to be prepared. Whether you decide to buy one or borrow one, student success is sure to 'Add Up'!!



PTSO Meeting, Central Academy Open House, Fall Bars & Letters

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!!

Fall Bars and Letters will be awarded just prior to the PTSO meeting at 5:30 in the auditorium. Students should arrive by 5:20 to sign in so that they are recognized. Those not coming on 9/10 can pick up their Bar or Letter in the front office later that week.

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 \$45.00 (for the September class) and \$55.00 for all classes starting in or after October. 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**.



9/9/2013 through 9/30/2013—THIS IS A DATE CHANGE FOR THE 8/26 CLASS

Additional classes start in October, November, February and March.

Sign up Today!!

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

8/26—FIRST DAY BACK TO SCHOOL!!!!

8/26—8/28 Chromebooks distributed during lunch in Room 401 (near the main office)

8/26—8/28 Spirit Wear on sale near gym concession stand during lunches

All club dates (including meeting dates) will be listed here each week—we need **ALL clubs to get their dates in by the end of the first week of school**. This is important so that all students know when club meetings are. Clubs will not be permitted to use classrooms or spaces in the building until dates are submitted. Check with your advisor to see if they have submitted the dates.

Thirsty? There are water fountains throughout the building AND two water bottle vending machines—one at the bottom of the stairs near the media center in the 100-200 wing and one in the café. Stay hydrated! Your brain works better that way!!

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. We may now accept your signatures without identification. We will get student signatures when they return to school and then forms will be brought home to you by your child to get your signature. Students will not be able to receive a chrome book when they are distributed during lunches the first few days of school unless the form is signed.

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 and send your payment in. 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. Families of students that have qualified for the free lunch program will not have to pay the user fee.

Cougar Pride

- * Matthew Bucklin was accepted to and attended, this past summer, the University of New Hampshire's Project SMART Summer Institute Biotechnology/ Nanotechnology program!!
- * 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 Athletic Teams that began competing this past week. You are looking great!! Go Cougars!!!!
- * Congratulations to this year's Student Body Officers for already boosting student spirit!!!
- * Congratulations and thanks to all teachers and students that took part in this years Freshman Orientation. You did a fabulous job! A special thank you to Ms. Kopcheck for organizing this great event.
- * Congratulations to all of the incoming Theatre students. They were treated to an afternoon of activities with the upperclass Theatre students and then their families joined in a potluck supper to get to know each other. It was a great event!
- * Congratulations to the Band of Blue for completing Band Camp and learning a new show so quickly and so well! The Band of Blue celebrated the end of Band Camp with a potluck dinner to allow families to get to know each other. Way to go Blue!
- * Welcome to Mr. Willie Howard III who has joined us as an additional Assistant Principal! Mr. Howard will be with us during the day and will also work with Union County students that cannot attend school during the day and are taking advantage of online classes in the afternoon here at CATA.

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 will serve on the Club Leadership Council 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.

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.

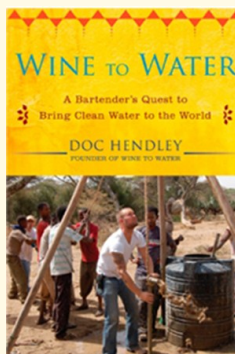


YEARBOOKS

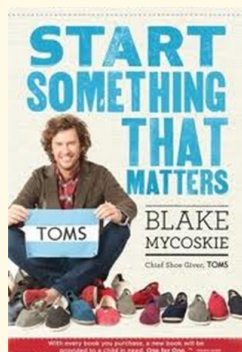
2014 Yearbooks are on sale!! Reserve your copy for only \$65. You may purchase online or send check or cash to Ms. Eaton. This is the lowest price of the year, and the sale ends September 8th! ALL Senior Recognition ads are on sale also until September 8th. This will be the only time they will go on 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).
- All students 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 advisory first. Advisory assignments will be posted at the front of the school.
- Freshmen students will receive bus letters and assignments during Freshmen orientation.
- Bus letters and routes were mailed out to all students.
- 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. Athletes may also use a locker after school to lock up valuables. Please see your coach.
- Athletes may store their sports bags in the Varsity locker room each morning if needed. This will be locked by 8:40, so be sure to get there early. No one will be permitted in during the day.
- 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.
- If you should be late to class over 15 minutes, you will be counted absent for the class, even though you may be there the rest of the period.
- 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.
- Students will all receive an email account that they can use for their googlechrome books. It will be able to email other people in the UCPS network only.

OFFICE HOURS

Central Academy of Technology and Arts Office Hours are Monday through Friday; 7:30—5:00 pm. Please call or visit during these hours.