

Central Academy of Technology and Arts

Cougar Chronicle

Central Academy Families

Good evening CATA
had a great week last week at
parent of a senior, please check
child is applying to colleges that
applications. There are a large
have October 15th deadlines for
acceptances. All sophomores took
Wednesday and it was obvious
ly. You should be proud of their

ALL students and families
their departure time in the morn-
been ringing two minutes late

problem. Therefore, the 8:50 tardy bell will ring at 8:50—not 8:52, like it has been for
a few weeks. We see many students running in after 8:50. Please remember that
being on time to school means that you are on campus for the first bell, which is
8:40. The 8:50 bell is a tardy bell, and the signal that instruction has started. Let's all
aim for arrival before 8:40 this week.

The Theatre Academy produced a show called Mime Less Chatter and it
was truly enjoyable to watch. The crowd was entertained and it reminded us how
very important it is for actors to use physicality and emotion in their craft. We look
forward to enjoying more performances from the Theatre Academy this year. Even
if your child is not in the academy, you and your child should make time to enjoy this
talented group. Please also pay attention to the hard work that is put into the pro-
ductions by our tech theatre students. As the year goes on, pay special attention to
the importance of lighting, sound, and scenery. Tech Theatre One students are
learning to use the woodworking equipment effectively and you may see some
new, finely crafted bird houses appearing on the campus.

Soccer continues to do well in competition and we have high hopes for the
remainder of the season! Way to go! Tennis and cross country are continuing to do
well and challenge all competition. Football takes on Monroe HS this week—JV
away and Varsity at home on Friday Night. We hope you will join us—come for the
game, and enjoy some pizza, hot dogs, or chick-fil-a for dinner as well. Let's make
this a sell-out crowd this Friday night!! As you may know it takes a lot of resources to
run a solid athletic program. The Athletic Department is launching two fundraisers
next week. First, we will be pre-selling BBQ tickets for a CATA Community BBQ at the
October 25th Football Game. Please consider buying plates for your whole family
and join faculty and staff for a fun BBQ event. Band will also be joining in on this
BBQ. Second, our athletic teams will be selling discount cards to popular restau-
rants throughout Union County. All proceeds will support athletics. Please buy a
card, it will more than pay for itself with the savings. If you do not know an athlete
at CATA, please stop by the main office later this week to buy a plate or a dis-
count card. We will also work on having this available on line later in the week.

Have you forgotten an assignment recently? See the technology section of
the newsletter to see how to get an agenda that syncs with both your chromebook
AND your cell phone. You will never forget an assignment again!

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 contin-
ue to work toward Leading the Way so that your child can lead the way in the fu-
ture! Go Cougars! — Mrs. Kim Fisenne, Principal



Cougar families! We
CATA. If you are the
to make sure that if your
they are working on ap-
number of colleges that
their first round of ac-
the PLAN test last
that they took it serious-
effort.

are asked to readjust
ings. Our bells have
and we have fixed that

Volume 1; Issue 9
October 6, 2013

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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.

Seventh Annual Show Off Central Academy—Dance Academy

The Show Off occurred on September 27th and 28th this year at CATA. Each night the auditorium was full of proud parents, good friends, and guests that love to watch great dance performances. The CATA Dance Academy really showed off how talented they were, and other CATA students were able to audition to get into the act as well. From modeling to dance, from saxophone to rap, the audience was entertained. The list of performances, as listed in the Show Off Program, is below. Congratulations to all.

Suit and Tie... Dance Academy & Models

Tenderness... Dance 4

Lights... Carlye Guido, Anna Italiano, Nicole Helms

2013 Fashion... Models and Shadarrius

Requiem... Angel and Romina

Back to Black... Chapin Silberquit

Picture... David and Annie

Cell Block Tango... Dance 4 and Models

Burlesque... Dance 3

Sweet in the Morning... Anna Italiano, Carlye Guido, Nicole Palmer, Brianna Orlando

Young and Beautiful... Courtney Walker

Evening Wear... Models

Improve... Dance 3

Thinking About You... Janiah and Jamarii

Lunch Time... Anna and Carlye

1000 years... Christian Chavez

Skin... Emma and Taylor

Requiem for a Dream... Noah and Jimmy

Hello... Shane Wyatt

Hard Knock Life... Dance 4 and Models

Georgia... Dance 2

Fame... Dance Acad. and Models

vocal of Slow Dancing... Elijah and McKenna

Someone Like You... Morgan Miller

I'm Going Down... Moneka Roary

Almost Lover... Hayley Presson

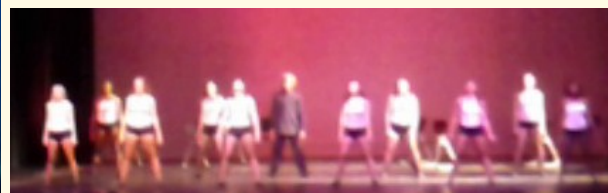
Oh My God You Guys... Dance 4

Heartcry... Sawyer Newsome

He Lives in You... Dance Academy

Models... Katlin Watts, Ginny Smith, Hannah Register, Chase Connor, Alisha Hartley, Monterrious Nixon, Raygan Hansley, Moneka Roary, Malasia McClendon, Janiah Massey, Siah Reed

Stage Manager –Sean Sharpe, Asst Stage Manager –Allie Schneider, Lighting Designer&Operator –Jasmine Lesane & Freddie Acoracci, Sound Kelsie Millet & Justin Stutte, Follow Spot—Noah Minsk & Nathan Heyde, Stage Crew—Michelle Dearmore & Dance 1



~Class of 2014~Seniors



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

Important Dates

- **October 19** – Open House for Duke's Pratt School of Engineering. 8:00am -3:15pm. Register at admissions.duke.edu.
- **October 24th** - Wells Fargo will be on campus to provide juniors and seniors with college planning and financial aid resources. A representative will be here from 2:00 - 3:30 to discuss and hand out these materials. If you are interested, please sign-up in guidance by October 22nd.
- **September 29**—HBCUs – Historically Black Colleges & Universities – representatives will be at Providence Day School from 5:00 – 7:00pm.

ACT Test

Register On line at ACT.org
October 26 Register by September 27
December 14 Register by November 8

SAT Test

Register On line at Collegeboard.org
November 2 Register by October 3
December 7 Register by November 8

Seniors, Check your email!!!: Guidance counselors are currently communicating with seniors through their email accounts. Seniors have received their first senior newsletter which is jam packed with the college application process.

Scholarships:

- Wendy's High School HEISMAN - If you are an athlete, apply for the Wendy's Heisman scholarship at www.wendysheisman.com.
- Congratulations to the following seniors who have been selected by the scholarship committee to represent CATA in the prestigious Morehead-Cain Scholarship Program: Paige Finney; Joe Hinkle; and Grace Wallace. (Any senior that meets the criteria for the scholarship may self-nominate.)

Choices: Now is the time to begin narrowing your college selection choices down from 5 to 1. A college visit is critical when selecting that final college. During the fall, colleges will have "Open Houses"; these events are planned with the idea of helping you select your final college. At a Senior Open House Visit, you will not only tour the school, you will be able to see the college housing (actual rooms), sit in a college class, eat the food, and ask questions. A visit will help you decide if the school really is all you hoped it would be. Go on line and check the college web site for the visitation dates. You may visit three colleges a year; bring something back stating you were involved in a college visit, and the days are excused.

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.

Central Academy - Cougar Spirit

Got Spirit??
Yes, We Do!!!!

Go Cougars—both on and off the field...



Rise and Shine!!!!

Attention—The school clock has been readjusted to the CORRECT time. The clock had been off and students had been getting an additional two minutes to arrive to school on time.

ALL students and parents should know that the bell time now matches the time on your cell phones. Therefore, students and parents should make an adjustment in your arrival time to school.

Again—the tardy bell will now ring at 8:50— Based on our observations, there will be many students that are tardy because they knew they had that wiggle room due to the school clock being off. As of Monday, October 7, 2013—the clock is now accurate. Students must be physically inside their classroom to be counted as on time. Remember—the first bell of the day is at 8:40, giving you 10 minutes to get to class. Students and parents should **aim for arrival prior to 8:40 am.**



So—set your alarms a few minutes earlier so you can be ON TIME to school!! Thank you!!!

COUGAR ATHLETICS

If you have questions about athletics or want to volunteer to help with athletics, please send an email to Athletic Director, [Mr. Jay Niessner](#).

Volunteers Needed: Please visit our signup genius website to sign up to help with concessions at home Volleyball, Football, and Soccer games. Volunteers are needed for all games in October. The website is:

<http://www.signupgenius.com/go/409084FA5AD2EA02-concession>

Varsity Results:

Cross Country Men 1st, Women 1st @ Forest Hills

Football No Game Last Week

Soccer CATA 9 – Mt. Pleasant 0, CATA 4 – Forest Hills 0, CATA 2 - Garinger 4 (Garinger was ranked #11 in the nation)

Women's tennis CATA 3 – Forest Hills 6, CATA 4 – Mt. Pleasant 5

Volleyball CATA 3 – Grace Academy 1, CATA 0 – W. Stanly 3, CATA 1 – Mt. Pleasant 3

Winter Sports: Official Start Date: October 30th, 2013

Any student athlete who is planning on trying out/participating in a winter sport needs to have a **current physical** and **insurance waiver** on file with their coach or with Coach Niessner. Students must have these forms on file before they can begin any offseason workouts. All forms can be found on the CATA website under athletics. If you have any questions you can email Coach Niessner at: jay.niessner@ucps.k12.nc.us

Upcoming Events:

Monday 10/7

Volleyball **HOME** vs. Piedmont 5:00 and 6:30 pm

Women's Tennis @ Porter Ridge 4:00 pm

JV Soccer @ Covenant Day School 4:30 pm

Varsity Soccer @ Parkwood 6:00 pm

Tuesday 10/8:

Volleyball @ Forest Hills 4:30 and 6:00 pm

Tennis vs. Parkwood @ Monroe 4:00 pm

Wednesday 10/9:

Soccer @ Monroe 4:30 and 6:00 pm

Thursday 10/10:

Tennis @ Rocky River Conference Tournament @ West Stanly 11:30 am

Volleyball **Home** vs. Parkwood 4:30 and 6:00 pm,

Senior Night

JV Football @ Monroe 7:00 pm

Friday 10/11:

Football **HOME** vs. Monroe 7:30 pm



Grade Level Administrators—

9th grade—[Mr. Willie Howard III](#)

10th grade—[Mr. Jeff Pusser](#)

11th grade—[Ms. Deanna White](#)

12th grade—[Mr. Jeff Pusser](#)

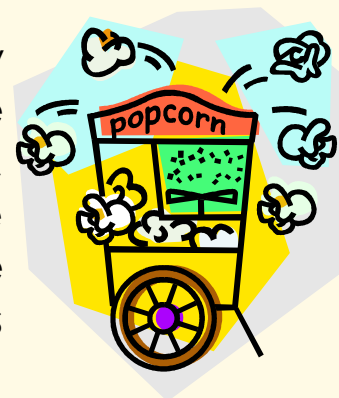


Cougar Pride

- * Congratulations to Paige Finney! She was chosen by her peers as the Daughter's of the American Revolution (DAR) Good Citizen. She will represent CATA in the DAR's scholarship contest.
- * Congratulations to the students and staff for working diligently at school. This year, Ms. Fisenne was invited to Raleigh with other top high schools in the state to receive an award for the highest graduation rate for schools our size. Way to Go CATA!!!!
- * Congratulations to Union County Public Schools for being recognized in the top 10 graduation rates AND for having the highest graduation rate among 'large' school districts in NC!!!!
- * Women's Cross Country finish 8th in Union County meet today. Men's Cross Country finishes 3rd!! Elijah was county champion at the meet! Go Cougars!!
- * Congratulations to the following seniors who have been selected by the scholarship committee to represent CATA in the prestigious Morehead-Cain Scholarship Program: Paige Finney; Joe Hinkle; and Grace Wallace.
- * Dr. Gundersen for being named the 2013-2014 CATA Teacher of the Year!!!!



The Cougar Canteen is now open for business every afternoon from 3:30-3:45. Items for sale include Coke products, Powerade, water, chips, popcorn, cookies, and candy. CATA Spirit wear is also on sale in the canteen through the end of September. The Cougar Canteen is located outside the gym and is sponsored by the Band Booster Club at CATA!



Junior College to Do List

College Preparation Checklist for Students and Parents of all ages: [Click here](#). And [Click here](#).

What should a junior be doing to prepare for college? [Click here](#).

How to get a great letter of recommendation: [Click here](#).



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

The CATA website Calendar is functioning again—please see that on the [main page](#).

Hands Helping Others Canned Food Drive begins (10/7—10/18).

HOSA Fundraiser 10/14—11/1.

Monday, 10/7—End of Grading Period—pm—Volleyball @ Home

Tuesday, 10/8— am 8:00 YCI meeting (Mr. Robinson's room); pm—3:45 Cultural Awareness Club (Janicki's room); 4:00 Tennis @ Home (MHS); 7:00 PTSO meeting in media center

Wednesday, 10/9—am 8:15 Beta Club; 8:15 Club Leadership Council (media center); - pm—3:30 Debate Team (Ms. Cochran's room); 3:45 Club Leadership Council (620); Beta Club; 4:00 AP Art Studio

Thursday, 10/10—am 8:00 FCA Huddles (Sholar and Gundersen's rooms); Underclass Absentee Photos and Retakes; pm—3:30 Environmental Club (620); Volleyball @ home & Volleyball Senior Night

Friday, 10/11— pm—Varsity Football vs. Monroe @ home 7:30 kickoff **Cancer Awareness Nights ending with V Football game on Friday—Pink Out**

Saturday 10/12—Debate Tournament at North Meck HS

Upcoming Dates:

Monday 10/14—Optional Teacher Workday (Columbus Day)

Wednesday 10/16—PSAT testing; Report Cards Distributed

Week of 10/21—Spirit Week

Monday 10/21—Fall Band Concert

Tuesday 10/22—Powder Puff Football Game

Wednesday 10/23—Site Base Team Meeting

Friday 10/25—Homecoming Football Game

Saturday 10/26—Homecoming Dance

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 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**.

The next class is Nov. 12th—Dec. 10th. Most Fall athletes should be able to take this class. Feb. 18- March 14; March 17- April 9



10th YEAR GUIDANCE INFORMATION

GPA - Continue to pull up your GPA. The transcript you send for college acceptance, scholarships, and NCAA Clearinghouse reflect the grades you have made through the end of your junior year.

PSAT- given to **Geometry** students in October. Test is a good predictor of how you will do on the SAT. It is also a good idea to take the PSAT **again** in your junior year before you take the SAT in the spring.

PLAN-given to all sophomores in October. It is a good predictor of how you will perform on the ACT. This year's test will be **October 2**.

SAT/ACT - You take the ACT and SAT in the **spring** of your **junior** year. You will be given the ACT in your junior year at CATA free of charge. After you receive your scores, take a second test from the test you scored higher on. The ACT covers Math, Verbal, Science, and writing; you need to answer all questions. The SAT covers Math, Verbal, and Writing; you do not answer the questions you do not know. If you can omit the incorrect answers and make an educated guess, do so. Each incorrect answer counts $\frac{1}{4}$ of a point off your score. The average SAT score is 1500; the average ACT score is 21. Scores for scholarships must be much higher. **Do not make the mistake of coming into your senior year without a test score.** www.college.com has a SAT question of the day and material that will help you prepare for the SAT. CATA will give you an ACT in the spring of your junior year.



Scholarships-You apply for scholarships in your **senior** year, BUT you should begin searching for them now. Below are some web sites that will assist you in your search for scholarships. Please keep in mind that most of the scholarship money comes from the college and you must meet their criteria to apply. For the most part, scholarship money from the public colleges is need-based. The SAT/ACT score are very important when applying for a scholarship. Most scholarships are interested in your character, leadership, community service, and extracurricular activities. Keep a calendar of all your community service; note what you did and how long you worked.

Useful Web Sites –www.cfnc.org www.collegenet.com www.finaid.org www.collegeboard.com
www.novakint.com/colleges www.princetonreview.com www.kaplan.com www.collegetown.com
www.campustours.com www.usnews.com www.NASFAA.org/c www.fastweb.com
www.rams.coms/sm www.petersons.com/resources/finance/.html www.fie.com (minority students)
www.ets.org/aid.html www.scholarshipprograms.com www.gocollege.com
www.collegeboard.com has much information that can be copied to help you in your college pursuit;

please take the time to look at it.

Grade Point Average=GPA How to compute your GPA- Add your quality points and divide by the number of classes. What are quality points? Points awarded to you for the grade you made in a class.

Regular Class	Honor Class	AP Class
A=4	A=5	A=6
B=3	B=4	B=5
C=2	C=3	C=4
D=1	D=2	D=3

Remember when you apply to college or for scholarships, you must look good on paper. Keep those grades up and get busy building that resume'.

MORE INFORMATION..



CFNC—Open/update your cfnc.org account. Want to know what a college in NC requires for admission: Go to cfnc.org.

click on APPLY tab

click on Explore Postsecondary Schools under Quick Links on right

click on letter of school-U will bring up UNC schools

click on name of college

click on Admissions on left side scroll down to find admission requirements

click on Academics to see if the school has your major

click on Student Life to see if it has a sport you are interested in playing

click on Cost and Financial aid to check out how to pay for college

CATA Parent Newsletter—this newsletter is designed to help parents of high school students understand the process involved in thinking about and applying to colleges. [Please click here](#) to open the newsletter. Some of the information included answers the following questions:

When should my child apply to colleges?

How many colleges should my child apply to?

How do I apply to college?

What is a letter of information?

How does my child find scholarships, and what types are there?

How do I find out about financial aid?

Should my child take the SAT or ACT?

Student Life

Club Leadership Council— Next meeting date—Wednesday 10/9. Clubs discussed a school-wide club community project to address global water needs!! Way to go!! If your club was not there—see Mr. Howard asap to get on the info mailing list!!!! This will be used for the school wide club community project and for spirit info!!! In addition, Mr. Howard will need info from your club—so email him today!

Club—spotlight—Beta Club!!!

The Central Academy of Technology and Arts Beta Club had it largest induction ever this past Monday, September 30, 2013. Sponsors Ms. Morgan and Dr. Gundersen were overwhelmed at the academic talents and focus on community service that these students will bring to the 2013-2014 Beta Club.

The induction was facilitated by the Beta officers, with Jeet Patel and Jake Hillhouse (co-presidents) taking the lead. They organized and hosted the induction. Alisha Hartley (Vice President), Asiah Reed (Historian) and Hannah Echols (Secretary) all spoke to the new members and their families about the importance of their roles within Beta and the significance of being a part of such a community minded club.

The CATA Beta club now has over 120 members, which is a significant increase from years past. This will allow Beta to affect the community in a major way.

The National Beta Club is an academic and service oriented organization. Students must meet specific GPA requirements, have letters of recommendation from teachers, and be willing to give up personal time for the betterment of others. Applications for Beta Club occur at the end of each school year.



Mime Less Chatter

This past week, the Theatre Academy students put on a show called Mime Less Chatter. Students were responsible to work in teams to create a skit to entertain the audience. Students were not permitted to speak during the entire skit, but had to rely on their bodies and faces to tell the story and express the emotions. Students were allowed to use music that enhanced the performance.

The majority of the show consisted of performances by our newest Theatre Academy students, the ninth grade students. This was their first performance at Central Academy and they did not disappoint! As an addition to the show, some of the older students also presented skits using the same requirements. It was a great night, with great performances. New parents not only got to see their ninth graders perform, but also got to see some of the more experienced Theatre Academy students show the talent within our program. Way to go CATA—TA!!



Site Base Management Team—Last call for statements for anyone that replied to desire to serve on the Site Base Management Team. Please email your short statement to [Ms. Deb Christensen](#). Thank you. If you did already send it in, please verify that it was received.

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



School Safety Reminders

All visitors must enter through the front doors and sign in at the office. Students coming to school tardy **MUST** enter through front doors only. Remind your children to **NEVER** open exterior doors and to get an adult if someone comes to an exterior door.

Bubbly Biology

Biology students in Ms. Katie Morgan's class were able to delve into a favorite childhood pastime in order to learn difficult biological concepts!!! What was the pastime? Blowing bubbles, of course!

Biology students spent this week learning about parts of the cell and how that allows for the transport of materials in and out of the cell. After learning about the "fluid-mosaic model" of the plasma membrane, students had the opportunity to demonstrate properties displayed by the membrane in all cells such as the hydrophobic/hydrophilic properties of the phospholipids, protein pores, endocytosis, and cell-to-cell adhesion.



We all remember blowing bubble as fun, but who knew that blowing bubbles could be such a great learning experience!



Cougar Café News and Information:

- The café menu is available through the website for the traditional line—please [click here](#).
- **Free and reduced lunch applications were sent home the first day of school. As of Monday, October 7, the students who did not bring in an application will no longer be eligible for free and reduced lunches. The price of lunch is \$2.20 and \$2.60.**
- The Cougar Café has three lines: One is traditional and costs \$2.20 for the meal. Two lines are combo lines and cost \$2.60 for the meal.
- All students may be served on all three lines.
- All three lines will have an assortment of items so that students may choose the main dish, two sides, and a milk of their choice. Choices outside of this will result in higher costs for the meal.
- You can direct specific questions to our Café manager, Ms. Hurst by emailing her at anna.hurst@ucps.k12.nc.us
- Only CATA students and faculty may eat in the Cougar Café during daily lunches.

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!!

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.

Tuesday, October 8th will be our first official PTSO meeting. We meet at 7pm in the media center at CATA. We hope you will join us! We will be discussing fund raising ideas for this year, the staff luncheon in November and the student academic recognition program.

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!

We also still have some dates left to fill on the monthly staff birthday cake Sign-Up Genius so if you would be willing to bring in a cake for our teachers, please sign up here: <http://www.signupgenius.com/go/30E0E4BABAA2AA31-ptso>.

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!

Sneak Peek at CATA Students Outside of School... **Stonewashed BlueGrass**

CATA is home to three out of the four members of the local band, Stonewashed BlueGrass. Morgan Medlock plays bass, sings harmony and lead vocals, Brandon Hayes plays guitar, Haley Sholar plays fiddle and sings harmony and lead vocals. Scott Stegall, who attends Piedmont High School, plays the banjo and also sings. This talented young group has been playing together for a long time, and officially formed their band in January 2013. They play traditional bluegrass and gospel music. Their influences come from banjo artist, Earl Scruggs, fiddle player, Josh Greene, singer Allison Krause and classic rock bands. Hallie Sholar commented, "I really enjoy playing in the band because it's an experience most teens don't get to have. I feel very fortunate to have had so much support. And who know what else it might lead to!"

Stonewashed performs at all types of events. They play at reunions, revivals, churches and festivals. Every Tuesday evening they play at Old Hargette Store just outside of Marshville from 7-9 pm. They played at the Boll Weevil Jamboree on Sat. Sept. 21st to a very excited crowd. The feedback from the community has been really positive. Some of their upcoming events include Revival at Prospect Methodist Church on October 7th, and at the Earl Shruggs Festival on Nov. 2nd. Check them out on their Facebook Page for more details.




If you are a CATA student and do something awesome outside of school—let us know!!!

Technology Corner

If students are experiencing issues, Mr. Simon's office hours are during lunch and he will be in the Media Center. Check with your teacher first—they may be able to help you in the classroom.

CATA Tech Tips

To take a screenshot of your current window, press Ctrl and . You can then retrieve the image file from the Screenshots folder in your file manager:

1. Open the Files app
2. Look for the new screenshot with the date and time as file name

Bonus tip: If you want to take screenshot of a specific part of the screen, here is the keyboard

shortcut: Ctrl+ Shift+



Every wonder about all the shortcuts available on the Chromebook? Hold down the "keyboard" key on the Chromebook and then press the Alt key. All the shortcuts will appear that go along with the Alt key. Now try each of the following: ctrl key, shift key, dia-



Need to get organized?



Try AnyDo

AnyDo is an extension that allows you to:

- keep track of to-do in sync with your computer and phone
-
- drag and drop to plan your agenda
-
- add reminders and never forget a thing
-
- attach notes, or use them as sub-tasks
-
- view tasks while offline
-

For instructions click here: <http://goo.gl/k2FRTb>

Any.Do is an extension that YOU install on your Chromebook!!! It is an agenda for you to use that can sort by date or by subject!!! Never forget your homework again!!!

Don't know what an extension is??? It is an "app" that sits to the right of your address bar when you have the internet open—see the picture below....

It syncs your agenda to your computer AND your phone!!!!!!
What are you waiting for—Just Any.DO it!!!!!!

CATA Parent Newsletter

An Early Start!

High school is an important time in a student's life. It is never too early to begin planning for after high school. Your child's counselor will be working with him/her over the next few years to help him/her achieve his/her post goals high school.

It's a good idea to begin searching for college material before your child's senior year. If you have not started visiting colleges, you need to begin looking. The Guidance

Department hopes this newsletter will be a valuable tool in making college plans with your child. The newsletter is written in question and answer form; these are the typical questions parents and students ask.

The Guidance Department wishes each year to be a year that each student focuses and prepares for their future. We hope **your child will take an active part in this process now.**

CFNC.org

We strongly encourage your child to open an account with cfnc.org.

This web site has several tools that will assist you and your child with career and college plans.

Please be sure to write down the user id and password that you select when you open the account. This is a free service. Your child can apply to any NC college or university through this web site.

College ??

When should my child apply to colleges?

Fall of their senior year.

We believe the earlier you apply the better! We hope your child will apply by October 15 in their **senior** year. Some colleges select students for **scholarships** based on the information on their application and transcript. We believe having an application in **early** gives your child an edge for scholarships and admittance.

You can check the college web site to see what the priority date for applying is. Most college's priority date is Nov. 1. **How many colleges should my child apply to?**

3-5 colleges

By applying to at least three to five schools, you have an opportunity to compare cost. Your student should apply to their dream school, a school they will go to if they cannot get into their dream school, and to

at least one **"safe"** college, a college they know they can get in. If your student knows what he/she will major in, it is good to make sure he/she is applying to **schools with that major.**

Always apply to a small private college just to compare cost. Private colleges give merit based scholarships and do not look and parent income.

How do I apply to College?

On line

For NC schools, please use **cfnc.org**. It is a simple process and they will send the student's transcript electronically.

For out of state school, apply on line by going to the college web site. Students may also apply to many schools by using the **Common Application.**

What is a letter of information?

A letter the parent may write to the college to explain special circumstances concerning their child.

A letter of information is a letter you write giving the college information you feel they need to know about your child that is personal. A tragedy that occurred that could have impacted your child's grades.

How does my child find scholarships?

Begin your search with the college. Go to the college web site and google scholarships. Also check CATA's website.

We believe you should begin your scholarship search **now**. If you wait until your child's senior year, you are rushed and stressed. **The first place** to begin your search is with the colleges your child might consider attending. You can go to the college website and find the financial aid link; this link will give scholarship information. When we re-

ceive scholarship information, we immediately let students know through **emails, announcements, the bulletin board and the CATA web site.** If a scholarship candidate must be selected by a certain criteria, the CATA Scholarship Committee makes the selection based on the criteria for the scholarship. Remember, searching for scholarships is time consuming. We suggest you search for the scholarships and save the information in a data file or notebook. When your child is a senior, you can apply for scholarships and avoid applying to college and searching for scholarships at the same time.

Be careful not to fall prey to any organization that offers to find you scholarships for a fee.

What are the criteria to be selected for a scholarship?

There are **merit-based** scholarships, **need-based** scholarships and **talent** scholarships. Some colleges have your child complete a scholarship application, some colleges determine if your child is eligible for a scholarship based on the student's transcript and SAT &/or ACT score. Most of the small private colleges give merit-based scholarships. **Scholarships are also given to seniors with outstanding leadership ability and community service (it is important to get involved now!).**

Merit-based scholarships are determined by the student's transcript and college entrance scores.

Talent scholarships are given for a student's special talent. Examples of these would be athletic scholarships, musical scholarship, and artistic scholarships. Some of these scholarships require portfolios or auditions.

Need based scholarships are given based on the income of the family.

How are students selected for scholarships that are not open to all students?

By the CATA scholarship committee at the school.

CATA has a **scholarship committee** composed of teachers from different subject areas, and administrator and the counselors. When a student needs to be

selected for a scholarship, the committee meets, looks at the criteria for the scholarship, and then selects the student that best meets the criteria for the scholarship by a ballot method.

Students should have a **resume ready** when they return to school as a senior. The resume will be given to the scholarship committee. Check the senior link under school counseling on CATA's web site for a resume example.

How do I find out about financial aid?

Go to www.CFNC.org or

www.FAFSA.ed.gov.

There are basically four categories of financial aid: **Grants** – money that is given to the student because of financial need; **Scholarships** – money that is awarded because of outstanding academic achievement, outstanding talent or skill, and/or financial need; **College Work Study** – money the student earns through a campus job; **Loans** – money that must be paid back (usually low interest loans are available).

Should I complete the FAFSA?

Yes! This federal form known as the FAFSA is completed by all seniors to find out about federal **grants and loans**. The FAFSA is completed online after January 1st during **the senior year** using the prior year's tax information. The government takes your family history and income to determine how much you can pay toward your child's education and what your **need** is. In the form, you provide the names of the colleges your child has applied to, the college will use the FAFSA results to create a financial aid package. This statement reveals what you can expect to pay and what you may qualify for in terms of grants, loans and work study.

It is important that all students planning to attend a 4 year college or community college **complete** a FAFSA.

Should my child take the SAT or the ACT?

Take one of each and take the one the student scored better on a 2nd time.

All students planning to attend a 4 year college or university right after high school needs to take the SAT or ACT. It is highly recommended that students take

the SAT or the ACT **at least twice**.

Guidance has SAT and ACT registration information available, including practice booklets.

Students should take the first test in the **spring semester of his/her junior year**. Students should take the ACT and the SAT once and then take a second test selecting the test he/she scored the highest on. It's to a student's advantage to take the test at least twice because college will use the best scores from the different parts of the test to compute a final score. Students may register for these tests on line at

www.collegeboard.com for the SAT and

www.act.org for the ACT.

Presently, all UCPS juniors are given the ACT in their junior year.

Web Sites

COLLEGE INFORMATION & PREPARATION

www.CFNC.ORG

www.collegenet.com

www.collegeboard.com

www.collegetown.com

www.campustours.com

www.mapping-your-future.org

www.march2success.com

www.princetonreview.com

www.pbs.org/tenstepstocollege

TESTING

www.collegeboard.com

www.act.org

www.kaplan.com

www.petersons.com

SCHOLARSHIPS

www.CFNC.ORG

www.collegeboard.com

www.fastweb.com

www.wiredscolar.com

www.scholarships.com

www.scholarshipprograms.com

www.scholarshipameric.org

CAREER INFORMATION:

www.soicc.state.nc.us

www.careerkey.org

www.bls.gov.oco

Financial Aid and Scholarship Info

Here is a list of books you might find in a library that might be helpful.

Paying Less for College/

Petersons

Don't Miss Out / Octameron

The A's and B's of Academic Scholarships / Octameron

The Scholarship Book by Daniel Cassidy

The Black Student's Guide to Scholarships

By Barry Beckham

Money Book for Women and Minorities

/ Young & Young

SAT and ACT Preparation Guides

Here is a list of study guides for testing.

ACT, the Classic Course: Kaplan

Sourcebooks/ Bantam

Official Guide to the ACT Assessment / HBJ

Cracking the ACT / Princeton

Review

Kaplan SAT Classic Course / Bantam

Doubleday Dell

8 Real SAT's College Board

Up Your Score (SAT) / Workman Publishing

We hope this newsletter has helped.

Please know the Guidance Department at CATA is available to you to answer any questions that you might have. It is our desire to keep the lines of communication open. Have a great year!