

Central Academy of Technology and Arts

Cougar Chronicle



Volume 2; Issue 1
July 23, 2014

Central Academy Families

Welcome to Central Academy of Technology and Arts for the 2014-2015 school year! We are so excited to see our returning students and to welcome our new students. We have a lot of information to share and have listed it by category within this short newsletter. Please be sure to find all of the information that pertains to you and your child. Should you have any questions after reading this information, please do not hesitate to contact Central Academy.

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Student-athletes have been working hard at off season workouts and will begin trying out on August 1st. Remember that ALL paperwork must be in before a student can try out. A required **Fall Athletic Parent meeting** is on Monday July 28th at 6:00 pm. We will see you there.

Sophomores through Seniors can attend open house on Monday August 18th from 8:00—11:00 to pick up their schedule, rent a locker, buy a parking pass, and get bus information. **Parking passes** may be purchased at open house, or on the first day of sale for seniors—August 4th and other grade levels August 5th. Remember that ALL past due fees must be paid in order to purchase a parking pass.

Freshman Orientation will be on Tuesday August 19th. Medical Science and pre-Engineering Academies from 9:00—11:30. Performing Arts, Information Systems, and Transportation Academies from 12:30—3:00. Parents should drop students off as this is a student only event. Other information for parents is contained in the electronic newsletter sent to the email address we have on file for you. This same newsletter is available on the school website under parent, then Cougar Chronicle.

Call to all **Club Leaders**—please contact Lexi Rose to get information on the Club Fair for Freshman during their Orientation. You can contact her through the electronic Cougar Chronicle.

CATA Community Read: CATA supports reading! The CATA community – staff and students – are reading this summer. It is not too late to start to get ready to return to school prepared to talk about your reading! This past spring teachers and staff members shared with current Sophomores, Juniors, and Seniors their Book Picks. Students were then able to look through the book descriptions and choose a book that they were interested in. Nearly all students that chose a book were assigned what they chose (the only exceptions were due to books only have a few students choosing them) and the assignments were emailed to student email accounts prior to the end of school. Students should be reading away... Students that did not make a choice were assigned a book that was emailed to them. ALL incoming 9th graders and new 10th graders should read The Last Lecture by Pausch & Zaslow. **If your child does not remember the name of their assigned book, they should call the school and ask – we have a list.**

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

Go Cougars! - Mrs. Kim Fisenne, Principal

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

Class of 2018

Ninth Grade Students—CATA Class of 2018:

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

Orientation Days: Come and explore CATA, meet your student council representatives, and get important information (schedules, lockers, spiritwear, bus information). Students are to be dropped off at the front of the school and will automatically get their schedules during the activities. Students will also have the opportunity to pick up bus information during their time with us, or parents can accomplish that as well. Parents can pick their students up after the orientation and may stop in briefly from 9:00 – 3:00 to buy spiritwear, ask questions about buses, SIGN for laptop and Powerschool Password, and rent lockers.

- Medical Science, Pre-Engineering- Tuesday 8/19 from 9:00 – 11:30 am.
- Performing Arts, Information Systems, Transportation Systems – Tuesday 8/19 from 12:30 – 3:00 pm.

New Sophomores to CATA - Class of 2017:

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

Orientation Day: Please come to the Sophomore, Junior, Senior Open House on Monday 8/18 (see below). Please also stop in to guidance to take one of our “sophomore tours” with our guidance department. This is an informal orientation / tour where you can walk your schedule, ask questions, and find out more about CATA. If you have questions, please call Ms. Tammy Tweed at CATA. The tours will start promptly at 9:00 and 10:00 from the guidance office.

Returning Sophomores, Juniors, & Seniors Open House

Open House for 10th – 12th graders: Monday 8/18 from 8:00 am – 11:00 am. Get schedules, lockers, bus information, spiritwear, and parking passes. Lockers can be rented for \$3 per year. Schedules NOT picked up on Monday and Tuesday will be mailed home Wednesday 8/20.

Class of 2014

Seniors



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 9/23.

Senior Graduation Packages: Senior orders for robes and other graduation materials will be taken on September 9th. Please be sure to watch for more information.

Senior t-shirts: Seniors that ordered a t-shirt last spring can pick it up at Open House on 8/18. If you still need to order one, you can do so on 8/18.

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. This is going to be a great year for you!! Go Cougars!!

Student Parking Passes



Seniors Only – Parking passes will be on sale from 9:00-11:00 AM on August 4th on a first come first served basis.

All students – Parking passes will be on sale from 9:00-11:00 AM on August 5th on a first come first served basis. Can't make it those days? Passes will also be sold on 8/18 during open house.

- ALL past due student fees must be paid before you are permitted to purchase a parking pass—this includes the 2013-2014 technology fee, media center fees, cafeteria, etc...
- 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](#).
- If you pay with cash, you MUST have exact change.

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



COUGAR ATHLETICS



Parent Meeting Monday 8/28 at 6:00 pm in the auditorium at CATA. Try-outs begin as early as 8/1 and are mandatory. ALL athletes and parents should see the CATA website – go to Athletics and then [General Information](#) for important dates, forms, and important information. All fall coaches are listed there as well.

First Tryout Dates:

Football: 8/1 from 7:00—9:00 pm (1st day of practice)

Cross Country: 8/1 8:00-10:00 am at CATA (1st day of practice)

Women's Tennis: Tryouts 8/4-8/6 in mornings at Monroe HS (time tbd—watch website))

Women's Volleyball: Tryouts 8/1—8/4 10:00—12:00

Men's Soccer: Tryouts 8/1 8:00-11:00 am, tryouts continuing through week.

Cheer: Try-outs 8/4, 8/5, 8/6, 3:00—5:00 pm. Paperwork due by 8/1.

Women's Golf: tbd—watch website



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



Fall Schedules are available on the CATA website. Please check the calendar for game dates for all sports.

AP Classes: It is quite typical for Fall AP classes to have summer reading or review activities for students. Please check the teacher's website or review any emails/letters that you have received from the teacher – many of our AP teachers provided this information to students in the spring. As teachers link their websites to the Teacher Class Pages section, you will be able to access it there as well. If you are unsure – please email the AP teacher. Those names and courses are listed on the website under Academics.

CATA Club Leaders: All CATA Club leaders should contact Lexi Rose as soon as possible to get information on the Club Fair for 9th grade students which will take place on Tuesday 8/19. This is very important and a required part of your role as a Club Leader. You can [email Lexi](#)

CATA Guidance Department

Guidance Department Chairperson—
Ashley Lawson

[Ashley Lawson](#): Medical Science and
Teacher Prep

[Kendall Cameron](#) : Pre-Engineering and Per-
forming Arts (theatre & dance)

[Scott Norris](#): IT and Transportation

SUMMER HOURS Union County Public Schools will observe a four-day workweek during the 2014 summer months to continue to improve our efficiency and energy cost savings for the school system. UCPS will follow a four-day workweek schedule through 8/15.

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

CATA Community Read

CATA supports reading! The CATA community – staff and students – are reading this summer. It is not too late to start to get ready to return to school prepared to talk about your reading! This past spring teachers and staff members shared with current Sophomores, Juniors, and Seniors their Book Picks. Students were then able to look through the book descriptions and choose a book that they were interested in. Nearly all students that chose a book were assigned what they chose (the only exceptions were due to books only have a few students choosing them) and the assignments were emailed to student email accounts prior to the end of school. Students should be reading away... Students that did not make a choice were assigned a book that was emailed to them. ALL incoming 9th graders and new 10th graders should read The Last Lecture by Pausch & Zaslow. **If your child does not remember the name of their assigned book, they should call the school and ask – we have a list.**

How to Get Involved as Parents:

- PTSO – please send an email to thecougarcouncil@gmail.com or call the main office and leave a message for the PTSO.
- Band Booster Club - Contact Band Booster president [Jacquie Jeffries via email](#) to volunteer – OR 704.292.1950
- Cougar Athletic Parent Support (CAPS) – contact Jay Niessner at mail-to:jay.niessner@ucps.k12.nc.us
- Performing Arts Booster Club – contact president, [Liz Branca](#) for information about how to help out.

More information from these groups will come out during August as well.

Student Life

Student Council has met with Administration already this summer to get a head start on making this a spirit filled year. They have some great ideas and are using them to plan the Freshman Orientation right now! Student council also went to a summer workshop at Mars Hill to hone their leadership skills.

Yearbook leaders will be attending a summer conference in order to make this year's yearbook the best ever.

Last year's award winning cast of The Parchman Hour performed uptown in Charlotte to an enthusiastic audience, which included many members of the North Carolina Theatre Conference. As usual, there were rave reviews.

HOSA student organization sent graduate, Kaley Kirby, to national competition where she placed fourth in her event. Way to go!



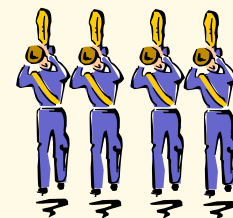
BAND Program.....

The CATA band program welcomes all of the incoming freshmen. Our band program offers all of the performance opportunities you would expect and are excited to welcome you into our band program. We encourage you to learn more about our band program by exploring earlier posts on our homepage and the SYMPHONIC BAND, JAZZ BAND and MARCHING BAND tabs across the top of the homepage.

All students who are interested in MARCHING or COLOR GUARD this fall should email band director Leslie Craven at catacougarband@gmail.com ASAP to secure a spot in the marching band.

Important Dates: Leadership Camp 8/4-5

Guard/Drumline/Rookies/Leaders 8/6-8



Full Band 8/11-15. See the [Band of Blue website](#) for more information.

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.
- Freshmen students will receive their class schedules at orientation.
- Upperclassmen will receive their class schedules at open house on 8/18, or through mail later that week.
- 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 and in the cafeteria.
- Freshmen students can receive bus letters and assignments during Freshmen orientation.
- 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 \$3.00. **PE Lockers are required.** Your PE teacher will provide information on rental fee. NO students may leave their belongings out in the PE locker room.
- There is not a supply list. Supplies needed are on a class by class basis and each teacher will communicate this on the first day of school.
- Attendance is taken during each class, and it is vital that you are present at school every day. If you must make doctor appointments during the school day, be sure to do so at different times of the day so you don't miss too many days in one class.
- Attendance matters for participation in extracurricular activities, credit for courses, 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 web page for students and parents to access with course information.
- All students will receive a student login/password to the Parent Portal so that they can see their grades.
- Students are expected to check their school email account as both teachers and administration use this to communicate with students.