Central Academy of Technology and Arts

Cougar Chronicle

Volume 2; Issue 20 January 8, 2015

Central Academy Families,

CATA Athletics are accelerating through the season. We have had some very exciting games this week in particular with the CATA Women's Basketball team defeating Union Academy!! Way to go!! This Friday night is an evening full of

great basketball AT CATA. Please come out and support the Cougars!!! Our Junior Theatre Academy students are presenting their annual shows this Friday and Saturday night. Tickets are \$5 and we hope that you will join us for entertaining evenings.

Testing begins next Monday for first semester. Students should be at school every day Monday through Thursday for exams and review. Any student that missed an exam can make that exam up on Friday. Please be sure to touch base with your teacher if you are absent due to illness.

Chromebooks are mandatory for Exam Days for all students as many state and teacher made exams use chromebooks to log answers, and teachers may also be using chromebooks for post exam activities. Students ARE able to leave their chromebooks with their teacher after their review period the day before so that the teacher can ensure that they are charged and ready to go for the exam. If students have an alternate study method (home computer or other means) we ask that they leave their chromebooks with their teacher so that staff can prepare computer in advance. Students may take their chromebook home if they need it to study, however, it is their responsibility to bring it in charged the morning of the exam and to drop it off immediately (even before the first bell) to the testing room so that the teacher can prep the computer. If students do NOT have their chromebook with them for the exam, they will need to come back to school on the make up day to take the exam as we do not have extra chromebooks for students that forget them.

Senior Parents—Now is the time to recognize your senior with a recognition ad. From now until January 31st, you can reserve a space in the yearbook by creating memories that will last a lifetime. Ordering options are located in the Cougar Chronicle and on the CATA website. Space is limited so do not delay!

Also, stay tuned for next week's Cougar Chronicle where the yearbook staff will give instructions on how to leave a

video message for your senior next to their senior portrait for only \$25.00 using the Aurasma app. This is an exciting opportunity that has never been offered before.

Sophomore student council invites the entire school to the Sadie Hawkins dance on January 24th from 8—11 pm. Ladies, take the lead, or take a chance to invite someone special, or a special friend to this dance. Tickets are on sale during lunch the week of exams. Tickets are \$15 per student or \$25 per couple. The theme is Winter Wonderland. If the students post a picture on instagram with the hashtag #CATASadieHawkins of how they asked their date, they can win a prize. The deadline for this is January 22nd.

CATA's JROTC students in COUGAR Flight have earned high marks. Cougar Flight has performed extremely well this semester. Honor Flight earns them an additional ribbon that they can be very proud to wear. The Flight earned top marks in measured categories:

Attendance-Excellent; Academic GPA-94%; Fitness participation-100%; Uniform Inspections-93.98%. Principal Fisenne from CATA and Principal Breedlove from MHS attended the December Commanders Call where

students from both schools were recognized.

A huge thank you to PTSO for honoring some wonderful students this week. Congratulations to the students who received a special student recognition from their teacher at the PTSO student achievement recognition! Each teacher at CATA was given the opportunity to award a special student recognition to one student

from each of their courses. Students nominated have impressed the teacher in the course, demonstrating success in the course. Way to go!!!

Please take time to read over this newsletter. Back editions are available on the website. 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

Guidance Info

Students – are you interested in **SAT or ACT test prep**? UNC Charlotte, in partnership with The Princeton Review, offers the ACT and SAT exam prep courses at a discounted rate! For more information, and to register, please visit http://continuinged.uncc.edu/examprep/hs/.

For more test prep resources, please visit our webpage.

Summer Ventures in Science and Mathematics

Summer Ventures in Science and Mathematics (SVSM) provides an opportunity for students - rising 11th and 12th graders - to foster identified interests in science and mathematics with its enriched program in a university research setting. **SVSM is competitive entry by application only**.

Applications are to be completed solely online and can be accessed from the website http://www.summerventures.org. SVSM Admission Policy requires that the student portion of the application must be completed on or before **January 31st, 2015**.





Career Development Corner—Ms. Webb's office is located in the Guidance Office and she is available to see students by appointment. You can email Ms. Webb at sq-rah.webb@ucps.k12.nc.us CATA Career Development Center has a twitter account. Start following @CATACareerDev to keep up with career opportunities in and around North Carolina.



Spring Semester CTE Internships

If you have received a CTE Internship application packet from either Ms. Lawson or Ms. Webb, please make sure that you complete and turn them in as quick as possible. Ms. Hunt, the Internship Coordinator, is going to start looking for placement for students within the next couple of weeks. The application is not considered complete unless all of the paperwork is filled out and turned back in; including a current shot record. Any questions, please see Ms. Webb in the guidance office.

WorkKeys—Any Senior that took WorkKeys in November/December—be sure you stop by guidance to pick up your scores if you have not already received them.

Seniors

Seniors – Did you receive the next scholarship newsletter?!? Copies in the guidance office!

Scholarship Opportunities: Scholarships are a great option for funding your college education. Below you will find a list of scholarships with upcoming deadlines in parenthesis. For more complete information, please visit our scholarship webpage. Asian and Pacific Islander American Scholarship Fund (1/9/15); Carolina Covenant Scholars Program (1/10/15); Gates Millennium Scholars Program; National Washington Crossing Foundation Scholarship (1/15/1)

Gates Millennium Scholars Program; National Washington Crossing Foundation Scholarship (1/15/15); and North Carolina Hispanic College Fund (1/15/15), Ronald McDonald House Charities Scholarship (1/20); Polly Holliday Award Theatre Scholarship (1/21); Zinch's One Year Free Tuition Scholarship (1/24); Toshiba Exploravision Science Competition (1/30); Herff Jones Believe in You Scholarship (1/30); Crumley Roberts Founders Scholarship (2/1); America's Farmers Grow Ag Leaders Scholarship (2/1).

Here is a review of our <u>transcript request process</u>.

Khan Academy has a new resource for helping students and parents navigate the **college admissions process**. It includes video interviews and conversations with successful students from all walks of life and admissions officers and counselors at some of the nation's top schools. Check it out at:

www.khanacademy.org/college-admissions

Senior Signs - Get your CATA Senior Sign -available for \$20.00! They can be purchased in the office. Please share your pride at being a CATA senior by displaying your CATA senior sign in your yard!



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. Refunds are <u>not</u> permitted. The fee is \$55.00 for all classes. 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**. Upcoming classes: February 2- February 25; March 9- April 1; April 20- May 13



2014-2015 Yearbook You may purchase at the school with cash or check or you may purchase online at www.yearbooksforever.com (there is a \$1 service fee for this option).

UCPS—Safety Net more information on keeping your teens and children safe—
READ THE WHOLE SAFETY NET NEWSLETTER— GREAT ARTICLES FOR HS!!!!!!

BACK EDITIONS ARE AVAILABLE ON THE UCPS WEBSITE.

American College Testing - THE ACT

The ACT will be given to all juniors **FREE** on **March 3rd**, **2015**! Preparing and doing well on the ACT will have <u>long term benefits</u>. The most important benefit is that your student has the <u>opportunity to take a college entrance exam for free</u>. All colleges and universities throughout the country will <u>accept an ACT score</u> (previously some colleges and universities only would accept the SAT but that is no longer the case). The second benefit is that students will be able to list <u>four colleges or universities to send the score directly to - this is also FREE</u>! The third and final benefit is that your student could <u>potentially earn scholar-ships to college</u>!!!!! If they score within the high range (28 to 32) they could earn a full scholarship to many colleges and universities throughout the country. It is also possible to earn in-state tuition to surrounding state colleges or universities - for example The University of South Carolina and Clemson!!! **Please take time to communicate with your 11th grade student the importance of the ACT!!** Community Colleges also use the ACT score, as well as potential employers.

Do these essay topics interested you? Participate in the Union County NAACP Essay Contest...

ESSAY CONTEST TOPICS

Why do You Think Kids Feel the Need to Bully Is the Media Changing the Lives of Young Children UNC- Chapel Hill and Phony Classes and Academic Abuse Controversy????

ESSAY DEADLINE All essays must be received by January 31, 2015. Please click here to see rules and application.



CATA Guidance Department

Guidance Department Chairperson– <u>Ashley Lawson</u>: Medical Science and Teacher Prep Kendall Cameron: Pre-Engineering and Performing

Arts (theatre & dance)

<u>Scott Norris</u>: IT and Transportation

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. **Go to Athletics link on the left side of the CATA homepage and click on your sport to access all the schedules. Coach contact info is there as well.

Upcoming Events:

Friday 1/9:

HOME Basketball vs. West Stanly 4:00 JV Girls start, JV Boys, V Girls & Boys to follow

Saturday 1/10:

Wrestling @ Ardrey Kell

Monday 1/12—Thursday 1/15: No athletic events due to exams; all practices must end by 5:45 so that athletes are picked up by 6:00.

Friday 1/16:

AWAY Swim @ Wingate University HOME Wrestling vs. West Stanly 6:30

Saturday 1/17:

AWAY Basketball vs. Mt. Pleasant AWAY Wrestling @ West Mecklenburg Tuesday 1/20—Wrestling **Senior Night**Tuesday 2/10—Basketball and Cheer **Senior Night**

More to be announced soon...

Winter Head Coaches Contact Information:

Athletic Director – Jay Niessner jay.niessner@ucps.k12.nc.us
Men's Basketball – Greg Wenger greg.wenger@ucps.k12.nc.us
Women's Basketball – Kevin Allran kevin.allran@ucps.k12.nc.us
Swimming – Kelly Lepsig Kelly.lepsig@ucps.k12.nc.us
Indoor Track – Field Miller field.miller@aol.com
Wrestling – Mike Jacobus mike.jacobus@ucps.k12.nc.us
Cheerleading – Ashley Lawson Ashley.lawson@ucps.k12.nc.us



Cougar Basketball This Friday VS



West Stanley
JV games begin at 4
Varsity games begin at 6
WE need a BIG Blue Crew
student section!

Got Spirit?? Yes, we do!!













2014-2015 Central Academy Yearbook Parents—recognize your Senior for 2015

Senior Recognition Ads:

Order online at www.yearbooksforever.com

- you can either upload your photos and text and have the yearbook staff design your ad OR for \$5 you can create you entire ad yourself and upload it to the same website.

Bring in photos and text to the school and the yearbook staff will design your ad. You will be sent a proof prior to publication.

Pay by credit card online OR send cash or check to Ms. Eaton

Senior Ad Prices

1/8 page = \$55

1/4 page = \$100

Full Page = \$275

> ½ page = \$195

*************Chromebooks Mandatory for Exam Days*************

- ALL students are required to bring their chromebooks to school charged the day of their exam. In addition to state exams, the majority of teachers will be using the chromebooks for some portion of their exam or activity after the exam.
- Students ARE able to leave their chromebooks with their teacher after their review period the day before so that the teacher can ensure that they are charged and ready to go for the exam. If students have an alternate study method (home computer or other means) we ask that they leave their chromebooks with their teacher.
- If students do NOT have their chromebook with them for the exam, they will need to come back to school on the make up day to take the exam as we do not have extra chromebooks for students that forget them.

EXAM INFORMATION

Type of Exams: We have four types of exams at the end of each semester – EOC, NC Finals, IMS (given in CTE courses), and Teacher-Made. Your student's teacher can address which type your student will take, and will certainly do this with students in the classes. A list of EOC courses and NC Final Exams is posted below. IMS tests are for all CTE courses. All other exams are teacher-made.

Attendance: Attendance during exam days is required for all students, for both exam sessions and review sessions. Our normal school hours apply, but the schedule and lunch times are adjusted. January 16 is an important day for any students who have missed an exam earlier in the week due to illness. We regret that family vacation plans are not excused, and students cannot take exams early. We apologize that any requests for exceptions cannot be honored.

Testing Window: All exam testing must be completed between January 12 and January 16. This is true for ALL types of exams: EOC, NC Common Exams, IMS, and Teacher-Made. Students may not test early, and if absent on an exam day, they must make arrangements to be at school on the make-up day in order to meet the approved testing window time-frame.

Score Results: All high school exams count 25% of a student's grade for the semester. Please emphasize this point to students so that they study.

Exam review: All teachers are expected to help students with review during class time and to distribute a review guide to students prior to testing. Many teachers may distribute these prior to the holiday break, and students should begin organizing and reviewing material.

Academic Integrity: Please remind students of the need to prepare well for the exams and to make sure that they make ethical decisions when taking exams. The penalty for cheating of any kind is a "0" on a final exam. Students will be required to turn in cell phones during testing sessions. If they do not want to do this, they should not bring their cell phone into the school.

The following subjects are End of Course Exams and will be tested on the Chrome Books -

- Biology
- English II

Math I

The following subjects are North Carolina Final Exams and will be tested on the Chrome Books -

- Earth Science
- English III
- Math II
- Math III

Physical Science

The following subjects are North Carolina Final Exams and will be tested Paper/Pencil -

- AFM
- Chemistry
- Discrete Math
- Pre-Calculus

The following CTE subject areas have IMS tests – Information Systems, Transportation, Child & Family Development, Foods courses

The following CTE subject areas have PLTW tests – Engineering, Medical Science

All other exams are teacher made exams.

All AP classes will have teacher made exams as well.

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 CATA page.

Friday, January 9: Junior Theater Show, 7 pm (Auditorium), YCI meeting, 8:15 (Mr. Robinson)

Saturday, January 10: Junior Theater Show, 7 pm (Auditorium), HOSA Conference, 7 am (Hickory

Ridge High School); All District Band, 8 am (South Point High School)

Monday, January 12: Exam Day Period One, Second Period Review

Tuesday, **January 13**: **Exam Day Period Two, Third Period Review**, PTSO Meeting, 7 pm (Media Center)

Wednesday, January 14: Exam Day Period Three, Fourth Period Review

Thursday, January 15: Exam Day Period Four

Friday, January 16: Exam Make up Day for any student that has to make up an exam.

**Note on student life organization meetings during exam week—students should check directly with club leaders and advisors about whether there are any meetings.

Upcoming Dates:

1/9& 1/10—Junior Theater Show, 7 pm auditorium

1/12 to 1/16—Exam Week

1/13—PTSO Meeting, 7 pm Media Center

1/19—Martin Luther King Holiday, NO SCHOOL

1/20 & 1/21—Teacher Workdays, NO SCHOOL

1/21—**Site Based Team Meeting**, 3:40 Media Center

1/22—Beginning of the Second Semester

1/22—County-wide Poetry Out Loud Competition, 3 pm Auditorium

1/24—Sadie's Dance, 8 pm, Gym

1/26 to 2/6— Beta Club Hygiene Kit Drive

1/28— Report Cards

1/30 & 1/31— All District Band Clinic

1/30 & 1/31—Wingate Choral Festival

February—Black History Month

2/2—Open House—Spring Semester 6:00—7:00; take time to meet your student's teachers

2/2—**Spring Sports Night**, 7 pm Auditorium

2/2 to 2/13—Tickets available for Jazz Café

2/4—Guest Speaker: Minnijean Brown Trickey— a shared experience with CATA and MHS during the school day

2/5 to 2/7— Mars Hill Choral Festival

2/10— PTSO Meeting, 7 pm Media Center

- ALL students are required to bring their chromebooks to school charged the day of their exam. In addition to state exams, the majority of teachers will be using the chromebooks for some portion of their exam or activity after the exam.
- Students ARE able to leave their chromebooks with their teacher after their review period the day before so that the teacher can ensure that they are charged and ready to go for the exam. If students have an alternate study method (home computer or other means) we ask that they leave their chromebooks with their teacher.
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Semester 1 Final Exams

Monday 1/12—1st period Tuesday 1/13—2nd period Wednesday 1/14—3rd period Thursday 1/15—4th period

2nd Semester Classes Start on Thursday 1/22

Cougar Pride

 Congratulations to our Students that were recognized by their teachers to receive the PTSO Student Recognition!!



Way to go Cougars!!!!

The Parent Teacher Student Organization began a new student recognition program in the 2013-2014 school year. Each semester teachers are given the opportunity to award a special student recognition to one student from each of their courses. The criteria set by the PTSO is that the student must have impressed the teacher in the course. There is great flexibility in this award for the teacher in that each teacher can set their own criteria on who receives this star award based on what they consider to be important in their classroom. Some teachers choose a student that has shown great improvement, others choose a student that shows leadership or collaboration. The important point is that the student has shown success in the course in some manner.

Central Academy student benefit from recognition by their teachers and peers as they work together to learn in the classroom each day. The student recognition program provides an opportunity for teachers to highlight a few students each semester. Teachers are proud of all of our students and enjoy being able to demonstrate that through programs such as this.

PTSO Announcements

1. Congratulations to the students who received a special student recognition today at the PTSO student achievement recognition! Each teacher at CATA was given the opportunity to ward a special student recognition to one student from each of their courses. Criteria set by the PTSO is that the student must have impressed the teacher in the course, demonstrating success in the course. Some examples are

The list of students who were honored this week at a breakfast are listed on the previous page.

Thanks to all the members of the PTSO who donated breakfast items for the STAR Recognition Program. Special thanks to Alyson Flood and Lisa Holliday, PTSO Hospitality Chairs for organizing this event. Student Achievement Recognition
January 2015 - PTSO
Are You a STAR
Student Improvement
Student Leadership
Student Character
Student Collaboration
Student Compassion
Student Colleagues
Student Involvement
Student Initiator

- 2. January 13, 2015 PTSO Meeting at 7:00 pm in the Media Center
- 3. Lanyards are still for sale in the main office. They will be sold at several of the upcoming winter sports events.
- 4. Thanks to all who attended the Winter Collaborative this December! Concessions were provided by the Performing Arts Committee of the PTSO. Proceeds will support the Performing Arts Academy. Please contact Liz Branco or Michelle Maguire for information on how you can support their committee.
- 5. Proctors are being sought by the Guidance Department to assist with testing scheduled on Thursday, January 15 at 9:00 am 1:00 pm. Please call or email Kathie McKain to sign up 301-514-1908 orkathiepstocata@gmail.com
- 6. Thanks again to all who have supported the Invest in Excellence Campaign!

Sincerely, Kathie McKain

Grade Level Administrators—

9th grade (A-L) & all 10th grade— Mr. Josh Wall 11th grade—<u>Mr. Jeff Pusser</u> 9th grade (M-Z) & all 12th grade— <u>Ms. Deanna White</u>

Information resources from Central Academy include:

Central Academy of Technology and Arts website at: http://cata.ucps.k12.nc.us/

Central Academy of Technology and Arts Facebook page at: https://www.facebook.com/CentralAcademyCATA

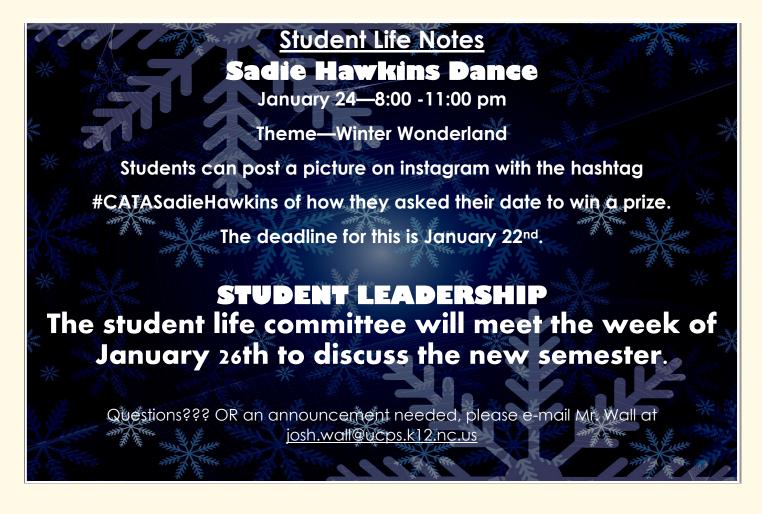
Central Academy of Technology and Arts Twitter at: https://twitter.com/cata_monroe

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

CATA Career Development Center @CATACareerDev to keep up with career opportunities in and around North Carolina.

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 JROTC students earn top marks.

COUGAR Flight has performed extremely well this semester. Honor Flight earns them an additional ribbon that they can be very proud to wear. The Flight earned top marks in measured categories:

Attendance-Excellent; Academic GPA-94%; Fitness participation-100%; Uniform Inspections-93.98%.

Principal Fisenne from CATA and Principal Breedlove from MHS attended the December Commanders Call where students from both schools were recognized.



Invest in Excellence at CATA

Central Academy of Technology & Arts Cougar Council PTSO needs your help! The mission of Central Academy of Technology & Arts is to prepare students for informed decision-making, effective citizenship, personal achievement, higher education, and rewarding careers.

We are kicking off the inaugural Invest in Excellence at CATA campaign. It is a simple, one time, straightforward way for individuals, businesses and corporations to invest in the excellence of CATA. Please consider a tax-deductible investment! 100% of the money donated is reinvested in CATA.

PTSO Sponsored Events

Invest in a Student

Senior Scholarships

Staff Appreciation

Parent Information

Student Achievement Award

Senior Shirts and Signs



CATA Dept. Wish List

Examples of how we can help CATA Departments

Science: Kit for Forensics, Magnetic Stirrers and Stir Bars, Quiet Air Source

English: Turn it in Software Plagiarism Checker

Social Studies: Current USA/ World Pull Down Maps

PE: Class set of Pedometers and Software

Arts: Theater Production Consumables, Sound/lighting consumables, slab roller

Anyone who donates \$25.00 will receive a CATA Lanyard.

Invest in Excellence	Name:
\$25.00 \$50.00	Address:
\$75.00 \$100.00	
Other	Email:
Make Checks Payable to CATAPTSO	Phone:
•	Student Name:Grade: