# Central Academy of Technology and Arts

# **Cougar Chronicle**

Volume 4; Issue 2 August 15, 2016

# Reminders for Start of School

- School starts on Monday, August 29, 2016. Students should arrive by 8:40 am to make the first bell of the day that signals students to move to their first class. On Monday and Tuesday, students will report to their Advisories (or homerooms) first. Lists will be in the hall.
- Freshman Orientation will be on Tuesday August 23rd for ALL new NINTH grade students from 9:00—11:30. Students will meet in the gym. Parents may choose to drop students off as the Freshman Orientation activities are student only. Parents also may choose to drop in to the media center between 9 and 10 to meet our PTSO parents and some staff for coffee and pastries. PTSO parents and staff will be available to answer questions and discuss both the high school and academy studies with you. Other information for parents is contained in this electronic newsletter sent to the email address we have on file for you.
- New Sophomore (10th graders) Orientation will be on Tuesday August 23rd from 12:30—2:00. Please meet in room 401—or what we call "the fishbowl". Parents are welcome to drop in to the media center between 12:30-1:30 to ask questions about school procedures, or feel free to just drop your student off.
- All current 10th—12th graders' Orientations—Monday 8/22. Seniors 8-10, Juniors 10-12, Sophomores 1-3. Get schedules, lockers, bus information, spiritwear, and parking passes. Lockers can be rented for \$3 per year.
- Athletic Home Games this year—Soccer game 8/25, Tennis 8/16 at Dickerson, Volleyball 8/16, Football 8/26, XCountry 9/6. See the Athletics page for more information. Come out and support the Cougars!!!
- Parent email and phone contact information—it is vital that we have accurate information so that we can reach you concerning your students. You will receive a form for changes with the student's back to school paperwork. You may also email <a href="Mr. William Smith">Mr. William Smith</a> with any changes.
- Chromebooks for ALL students at CATA—Parents—both you and your child will be required to sign a Chrome book Student /Parent Agreement. EVERY student will receive a

form on the first day of school. The form will be due back the next morning. Students will not be able to receive a chrome book when they are distributed unless the form is signed. The technology user fee (which carries INSURANCE again this year!!) for your student is due by September 5th—you can pay now ONLINE by going to our main CATA website.

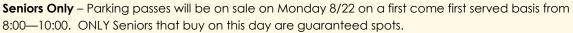
- Parking Passes will be sold on 8/22 during open house—see information inside—important!!!!
- Performing Arts Academy will be having a welcome back potluck dinner on Tuesday 8/23 for all families (grades 9-12).
   Please go the <u>CATA Performing Arts facebook page</u>.

Be sure to read the Cougar Chronicle each week. Past issues are available on the website. Go Cougars!

**Game Design Artwork** 



#### **Student Parking Passes**



All students – Juniors will be able to buy their passes from 10:00—12:00, and Sophomores will be able to purchase from 1:00—3:00.

- ALL past due student fees must be paid before you are permitted to purchase a parking pass—this includes the 2013-2014, 2015-2016, AND 2016-2017 technology fee, media center fees, cafeteria, etc..
- ALL Students, MUST print and bring ALL required documents with you along with the cash (exact amount) or check for \$40 made payable to Central Academy of Technology & Arts. Any incomplete application packets will delay the process and you canNOT reserve your parking spot until all documents and check are turned in. Please make sure to have your parent sign the registration forms. They are available on the CATA website under "Students".
- <u>Students may choose their parking spot number if they purchase BEFORE the first day of school</u>. After that we will sell remaining spots in order.
- 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. The availability of reserved parking spots is not guaranteed as we have limited spaces. While seniors that purchase on the first day are guaranteed spots, other spots are only available if spaces remain. Students obtaining their license during the school year are not guaranteed a spot, and may have to wait until the following year to drive. We will have a waitlist for those students bringing in all appropriate documentation.

#### Can't come to Open House??

No Worries. You can accomplish all of the tasks on the first day of school as well. We do recommend that if you will be driving to school on the first day that you buy your parking pass BEFORE that day so that you can choose your spot. Parking passes issued after school start will be chosen according to the next open spot.

Any schedules/bus information NOT picked up at open house will be mailed home Wednesday afternoon.

Schedules—Please also note that schedules can be viewed on the Parent Portal as well. Schedules will be considered valid **as of August 22nd**. Schedules viewed prior to that are not final schedules and should be ignored until the 8/22 release date. If we can finalize them earlier we will make an announcement.

If there are staffing changes or other school changes, schedules may be changed at any point.

- Please do NOT send in any schedule change requests based on schedules viewed prior to 8/22 on Parent Portal.
- ALL schedule requests will be submitted using the Schedule Change form available in guidance OR by emailing your counselor. If schedules are available prior to this date, you will be notified with a connect-ed communication.
- So that counselors can have ample time to meet the needs of all students requesting changes, there will not be any meetings with counselors to discuss schedule changes. If there is a need for a discussion the counselor will contact you via email or phone. Please be sure to provide information on the online form where you can be reached.
- All current students met with their counselors last spring to choose courses and information was sent home to parents as well. Schedule changes will only be approved if:
  - There is a hole in your schedule (fewer than 8 classes)
  - There is a class listed twice
  - There is a class listed which you have already passed
  - There is a class listed for which you have not passed the pre-requisite

**AP Level Classes:** It is quite typical for Fall AP classes to have summer reading or review activities for students. Please check the CATA website for information. Some teachers send an email to students, so students should check their UCPS student email as well (some teachers did this in the spring before school was out).

Students in AP level courses should expect to take a rigorous AP-level final exam with their AP teacher prior to taking the actual AP exam. This AP level exam will count for 25% of their final grade in the AP course. This will ensure that they are preparing well enough to pass these college-level courses and exams. Teachers will discuss this more with your student at the start of each course. It is important that you and your student remember that an AP course should be a college-level course, and as such, have college-level assessments.

# Attention Seniors - Thursday September 1st, 6:30 pm in

the CATA Auditorium the **Guidance Department will be hosting Senior Night**. This event is for all seniors and their parents. The purpose of CATA Senior Night is to review a packet of information that explains and guides the timeline of senior year. Seniors will also receive a copy of their unofficial transcript to use for college applications. Beginning the week of September 5th to the end of September each guidance counselor will have an individual meeting with each



of their assigned seniors—please note that seniors will receive important information that they need to have BEFORE they meet with their counselor. Your attendance at the evening meeting is strongly encouraged. Please contact your assigned counselor is you have any questions.

#### **CATA Guidance Department**

A high school guidance department can help your student with a LOT during high school—counseling during a problem/or stress, college planning, career/college questions, interview skills, problem solving with classes/teachers, friendship/social issues. Counselors also help with scheduling and what courses to take. Counselors are available to answer parent questions as well.

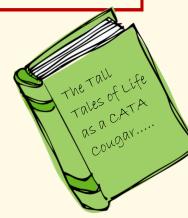
Please see the list of counselors by academy:

Ashley Lawson: Medical Science, Transportation & Guidance Department Chairperson Kendall Cameron: Pre-Engineering and Performing Arts (theatre & dance)

Mini D'Rozario: Information Systems
(CyberSecurity, Computer Engineering, Software & Game Design) and Music Production & Recording Arts.

### **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. The assignments were emailed to student email accounts prior to the end of school. Students should be reading away... If your child does not remember the name of their assigned book, have them check their UCPS student email, or call the school for any current 10th-12th grade students.



**New 9th and 10th grade students** should read <u>"All I Really Need to know I learned in Kindergarten"</u> by Robert Fulghum.

### Help our PTSO raise funds to support the academies at CATA!

There are simple ways to do this—for example, raise money as you shop at Harris Teeter. Simply link your HT card to CATA. If you have done this in the past—thank you! But you do need to re-link after August 1st each year.

CATA school # is 3612.

Last year we had 98 links and raised over \$700. With over 800 students at our school, we know we can beat that this year! Link your HT card today

#### How to Get Involved as Parents:

- PTSO please send an email to <a href="mailto:thecougarcouncil@gmail.com">thecougarcouncil@gmail.com</a> or call the main office and leave a message for the PTSO. Our PTSO President is Kathie McKain, but we are looking for a new president for the start of this year. Please consider and get involved.
- Band Booster Club Contact Band Booster president Aime Gunderson to volunteer at catabandpresident@gmail.com
- Cougar Athletics contact Jay Niessner at <u>mailto:jay.niessner@ucps.k12.nc.us</u>
- Performing Arts Committee contact the PTSO (see above) for information about how to help out.

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

# CATA Cougars Athletic Fundraiser

Please support our student-athletes by donating to our very important Fall Athletic Fundraiser. While the school receives money from the system to cover travel,

Click here to go to athletics page to donate

officials, and security; many expenses must be covered by fundraising, concession sales, and gate receipts. Last year these additional means of raising funds helped us to pay for some of the following expenses:

- Game officials
- Travel to regional and state meets for men's and women's tennis and golf, cross country, indoor and outdoor track & field, wrestling, and swimming.
- Weather tents for cross country, track & field, and tennis
- · CATA Cougar Padded Game chairs for volleyball, basketball, wrestling
- Practice rounds for golf in preparation for regionals and states
- Needed equipment for various sports—each head coach and team requested at least one special sport specific item, and all of those items were purchased
- Uniforms for 2016-17 away men's & women's basketball, football, cheerleading, and wrestling. All teams are on a five year rotation for uniforms and we spread expenses out over each year so that it is more affordable.

This year we have had to replace our old mower with a new one and we will need to upgrade our sprinkler & irrigation system at the stadium and maintain our system on campus.

#### COUGAR ATHLETICS

If you have questions about athletics or want to volunteer to help with athletics, please send an email to Athletic Director, <u>Coach Jay Niessner</u>.

Make sure to follow all of CATA's athletic teams on Twitter: @CATA\_Athletics

NEW - official twitter page of CATA Football: @CATA\_cougarfb

#### **Upcoming Events:**

- August 15th: AWAY Men's Soccer @ East Montgomery 6:00 pm
- **August 16<sup>th</sup>:** HOME Tennis vs. Sun Valley 4:00 pm @ Monroe High School HOME Volleyball vs. Sun Valley 4:30/6:00 pm
- August 17th: No Events Scheduled
- August 18th: AWAY Tennis vs. Union Academy 4:00 pm @ Stonebridge Country Club

AWAY Volleyball vs. Union Academy – 5:00 pm

AWAY Soccer vs. Butler – 5:00 pm – Ortho Carolina Soccer Park

- August 19<sup>th</sup> AWAY Football vs. Mt. Island Charter School 7:30 pm
- August 20th AWAY Soccer vs. Charlotte Latin 7:00 pm
- August 22<sup>nd</sup>: HOME Volleyball vs. Anson 6:00 pm
- August 23<sup>rd</sup>: AWAY Tennis vs. Sun Valley 4:00 pm

AWAY Volleyball vs. Sun Valley – 4:30/6:00 pm

- August 24th: AWAY Soccer vs. Porter Ridge 4:30/6:00 pm
- August 25th: HOME Tennis vs. Porter Ridge 4:00 pm @ Monroe High School

AWAY Volleyball vs. Cuthbertson – 4:30/6:00 pm

HOME Soccer vs. Cox Mill - 5:00/6:30 pm

- August 26th: HOME Football vs. Highland Tech 7:30 pm
- August 27th: AWAY Soccer vs. Newton Conover 11:00 am & 12:30 pm
- August 30th: HOME Tennis vs. Union Academy 4:00 pm @ Monroe High

AWAY Volleyball vs. Piedmont – 4:30/6:00 pm

AWAY Cross Country @ West Stanly Course – 4:30 pm

HOME Soccer vs. Covenant Day School – 5:00/6:30 pm

- August 31st: HOME Volleyball vs. Union Academy 5:00 pm
- **September 1st:** AWAY Tennis vs. Porter Ridge 4:00 pm

HOME Soccer vs. Covenant Classical School – 6:00 pm

- **September 2**<sup>nd</sup>: AWAY Football vs. Union Academy 7:30 pm
- **September 3<sup>rd</sup>:** HOME CATA Cougar Cross Country Invitational 9:00 am

#### Fall Sports Head Coach Contact Information:

Athletic Director & Men's Soccer – Jay Niessner – jay.niessner@ucps.k12.nc.us

Football - Shane Griffin - edward.griffin@ucps.k12.nc.us

Volleyball – Doug Mayhew – <u>doug.mayhew@ucps.k12.nc.us</u>

Cheerleading - Ashley Lawson - ashley.lawson@ucps.k12.nc.us

Women's Golf - Mike Jacobus - mike.jacobus@ucps.k12.nc.us

Women's Tennis – Nelson Rowell – nelson.rowell@ucps.k12.nc.us

Cross Country – Kim Inuwa – <u>kim.inuwa@gmail.com</u>



Congratulations to all our 2015-2016 athletes and coaches—we were one of the schools that were EJECTION-free last year. Let's do it again Cougars!!!!



# Best price of the year!

Order online at www.yearbookforever.com.

Search for CATA.
Or
ash or check to Ms Christe

Bring cash or check to Ms Christensen When paying at the school,

please make checks payable to Central Academy. \$65.00

Next price increase is \$75.00

#### CATA Class of 2017

### Rising Seniors Pre-Order Form







- Pre-orders should be placed no later than <u>June 8th</u>.
- Orders must be accompanied with payment by <u>CASH or CHECK</u> only
- Checks made payable to <u>CATA PTSO</u> \$10.00 per T-Shirt, \$20 per sign or \$25 for both!
- Tear off bottom portion return to Ms. Christensen in the media center with payment
- T-Shirts will be available in August.

Student Name:

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#### CATA 2017 Seniors Pre-Order Form

Student Hame.									
Phone:	•								
Email:									
Please indicate number of T-Shirts and Sizes below:									
T-shirt/Lawn Sign Combo: \$25.00 eaTotal ordered:									
T-Shirts: \$10.00 - Total ordered:									
Senior Lawn Sign: \$20.00 each—Total ordered:									
T-Shirt Size: SMALL MEDIUM									
LARGE XL XXL	,								



# Senior T-Shirt Perk:

Seniors that wear the official Senior T -Shirt with CATA Pride will receive a concession/special at a Fall/Winter & Spring SENIOR NIGHT.



Total Paid:

Thank you for supporting your students and the PTSO! Sale proceeds will be used by the PTSO to support students and CATA programs in our upcoming school year.

# Cougar Pride - Way to go!!!

- ⇒ Three Student Dance Works from our **Dance Academy** were selected for the 2016 Middle and High School Dance Festival—"Accumulation", "Geometric", and "Vice" will be performed at the Knight Theatre in Charlotte!
- ⇒ Way to go Guidance for your diligence in completing the lottery process this summer and for getting all of our students into classes by mid-Auguat!!
- ⇒ Air Force JROTC News—Andrew McDow will serve as the 2016-2017 Cadet Group Commander for NC-931! Andrew will be in charge of all three squadrons comprised of both CATA and Monroe High School students. Way to go Andrew and all of the JROTC students!!!
- ⇒ Central Academy Fishing Club ranked #1 in the final 2015-2016 Scholastic Anglers School of the Year Rankings!!! Way to go CATA Fishing Club!!!



⇒ Congratulations to our 2016-2017 Student Council Officers:

Your Student Body President is... Nazirah Ahmad.

Your Student Body Vice President is...Dan Morrison.

Your Student Body Secretary Treasurer is... Taylor MacLellan.

Your Student Body Spirit Leaders are... Courtney Walker and Paula Das.

Your Senior Class President is... Alexis Elko.

Your Senior Class Vice President is...Lindsey Reich.

Your Senior Class Secretary Treasurer is... Rebecca Dean.

Your Junior Class President is... Garrett Gilmer.

Your Junior Class Vice President is... Nicole Nava.

Your Junior Class Secretary Treasurer is... Taylor Barnes.

Your Sophomore Class President is... Ethan Cammer.

Your Sophomore Class Vice President is... Hunter Thompson.

Your Sophomore Class Secretary Treasurer is... Ashton Petty.



#### CHROMEBOOKS- 2016-2017

CATA is the school of Technology and all students are required to use their chromebooks at school. UCPS Technology Initiative provides learning anywhere, anytime for our students. We are very excited for all of our CATA students to receive their Chromebook again to use for schoolwork during the school year. This is an amazing initiative that students in UCPS will again benefit from. Students at CATA are 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. **EVERY student will receive a form on the first day of school.** The form will be due back the next morning (Tuesday 8/30). Students will not be able to receive a chrome book on Tuesday 8/30 unless the form is signed.

The required technology user fee (\$25) for your student is due by September 5th. This fee includes an insurance policy that covers accidental damage. It is important to pay your fee so that if there is accidental damage to your child's computer that it is covered. You can pay this fee online.

### Around CATA

Wednesday, August 17- CATA Band Review, 5-7 PM (Bus Lot or Auditorium)

Monday, August 22- Upperclassmen Open House (drop-in for schedule, parking passes, lockers): 12<sup>th</sup> graders: 8:00 – 10:00 AM, 11<sup>th</sup> graders: 10:00 – 12:00, 10<sup>th</sup> graders: 1:00 – 3:00 (Front of School) Tuesday, August 23- Freshmen Orientation, 9-11:30 AM (Begin Auditorium); New to CATA Sophomore Orientation, 12:30-2:00 PM (Begin Auditorium); Parent Drop in (PTSO members, counselor, admin, and a couple of teachers to answer questions about processes and general curriculum, 9-10 AM OR 12:30-1:30 PM (Media Center); Performing Arts Academy Banquet—6:00

Monday, August 29- First Day of School; Lockers for Sale during lunches

**Tuesday, August 30-** Lockers for Sale during lunches; Band Rehearsal, 4-6 PM (Bus Lot)

**Wednesday, August 31-** Lockers for Sale during lunches; Site Based Team Meeting, 3:45 PM (Media Center Conference Room)

Thursday, September 1- Lockers for Sale during lunches; Senior Night, 6:30 PM (Auditorium) Friday, September 2- Lockers for Sale during lunches

#### **Upcoming Events**

9/5—NO School-Labor Day

9/6—Underclassmen Photos, during the school day, (Auditorium)

9/7—Student Life Organization Meeting, 8:15 AM, (Rm. 401)

9/8—Josten's Senior Orders (Also Ring Delivery), All Lunches (Café)

9/8—Beta Club Induction, 7 PM (Auditorium)

9/12—PTSO Open House, 6:30 PM

9/15 to 10/15—Hispanic-Latino Heritage Month

9/16 to 9/17—NCTAE Statewide Theatre Conference

9/20—Progress Reports

9/22 to 9/23—Senior Cap and Gown Pictures (For Absentee and Makeup (Media Center))

9/26 to 9/29—Theatre Rehearsals, 4-9 PM, (Auditorium)

9/28—Site Based Team Meeting, 3:45 (Media Conference Room)

9/29 to 10/1—Theatre Performance, 7 PM (Auditorium)

10/2—Theatre Performance, 2 PM (Auditorium)

10/3—Early Release Schedule Day, 8:50 until 12:30

10/5—Student Life Organization Meeting, 8:15 (Rm. 401)

10/8—NCASC Western District Student Council Conference (Union Academy)

10/10—End of Grading Period

10/10 to 10/15—Homecoming Week

10/12—NO SCHOOL, Teacher Workday

10/17—CFNC Financial Aid Night, 6:30 PM (Auditorium)

10/18—Underclassmen Absentee Photos and Retakes

10/19—Report Cards

10/19—PSAT Administration

10/25—Winter Sports Parent/Team Night, 7

PM (Auditorium)

10/26—Site Based Team Meeting, 3:45

(Media Center Conference Rm.)

10/31—Annual Trunk or Treat, 4:15 PM (Staff Parking Lot)

CATA's Assistant Principals Preparing Some Ideas for Collaborative
Work!



### **College and Career Corner**

#### Class Information from the Guidance Counselors

#### SAT Prep Course with Future Prep @ CATA:

CATA will once again be offering an SAT prep course through Future Prep right here at CATA! Students will review content on all three areas of the NEW SAT with a special focus on the essay. Students will also learn global and section-specific strategies that will help maximize their test day performance. As part of this prep course, students will take a full-length practice test halfway through. In preparation for the *November 5th SAT*, this prep course will be held on Thursdays from 4:00 to 6:30 p.m. beginning September 29, 2016 and ending November 3, 2016. The practice test will be held on Saturday, October 15, 2016 from 8:30 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. The cost for the entire course is \$179. Please visit <a href="http://www.futureprep.com/sat.php">http://www.futureprep.com/sat.php</a> or call (704)307-8975 to sign up. Please see Mrs. Cameron if you have any questions.

**US Air Force JROTC**—Did you know that Central Academy students have access to the NC931 Air Force JROTC program? They do! CATA and Monroe HS students join together each year in the Air Force JROTC program. For more information click here or go to the CATA website, to Academics, then to Course Curriculum to see the brochure. Don't delay! If you are interested, please contact your counselor today!



**JUNIORS**—All juniors will be taking the ACT, a college entrance exam, in early March. In order to best prepare all juniors will work on ACT preparation during Cougar Time two times per week.

**Open House—Meet the Teachers**; Monday September 12th: 6:30—8:00. We hope to see you there!!



# **New Family Information**

- 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. Don't worry—you will meet people to sit with.
- 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.
- 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—
  ALL belongings must be secured with a school-issued lock.
- 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. Just bring something to write ON and something to write WITH.
- Attendance is taken during each class, and it is vital that you are present at school every day for every class. 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. Absence notes MUST be turned in within three days.
- Every teacher will have a web page (on Canvas) 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.

# CATA Cougars - Meet the Cougars has record attendance!!









Great night to be a CATA Cougar!!!

Dear Parents and Student,

We welcome you to **Central Academy of Technology & Arts!** Although students come from every corner of the county, we work hard to create a family atmosphere at CATA and we need your help.

The Cougar Council, PTSO is responsible for many activities at CATA. In past years we have been responsible for the following events which support the many varied members of our family:

- Student Academic Recognition Program
- Teacher appreciation week / Luncheons
- Senior Scholarships / Senior Medallions at Graduation
- Invest in Excellence Fundraiser
- And other events.

We look forward to your membership and support. You are making an investment in your child's future. Please complete the application form and return it to CATA with your \$10 donation made payable to **Cougar Council PTSO**.

Regards,

Cougar Council PTSO



### THE COUGAR COUNCIL

We plan together, we work together and our children will succeed together. <u>Parent-Teacher-Student Organization</u>  $\sim$  Participation Form

Parent or Guardian Name	:		
Student Name (s):			
Grade Level:	Academy:		
Address:			<del></del>
City:	Zip code:	E-Mail Address:	
Home Phone:	Cell Phone:	Text Messaging: Y	N
Volunteeri	ng your time and investin	g in your student's future is very much	appreciated.
	Thank you in	advance for joining our team!	
Please check the committ	ee or activity in which you	u are interested in helping.	
Hospitality		Teacher Appreciation Committee	
Fundraising		Volunteer	
Return this form and cont	ribution of \$10.00 per far	nily to the front office or a teacher. Ch	ecks should be made out to
Cougar Council, PTSO. Th	ank you.		

For all the latest news and information, check the school website at <a href="http://cata.ucps.k12.nc.us">http://cata.ucps.k12.nc.us</a> and Facebook page.