

# Central Academy of Technology and Arts

## Cougar Chronicle

**U.S. Department of Education Blue Ribbon School**

Volume 4; Issue 8  
October 6, 2016

Dear CATA Family,

We congratulate our 2016-2017 teacher of the year, Mr. Michael Hardy of the Pre-Engineering Academy. Mr. Hardy will go on to compete for UCPS teacher of the year. Way to go!! In addition we celebrate visual arts at CATA, Ms. Pentecost has won a grant from the Union County Community Arts Council for \$500.00. We appreciate Ms. Pentecost and our Union County Arts Council!! Due to possible weather we have to cancel our NHS Retreat on Friday afternoon after school. We will set another date soon.



Our Homecoming festivities begin this Friday with our first spirit day, which is Safari Day, and continue through Saturday of next week at our Homecoming Dance. Please see the events calendar and the ads in this edition for information about the Homecoming Spirit Days, football game, and dance. Thank you to our theater students for a wonderful pantomime performance this past week!

- The **Pre-ACT** will be administered to all 10th graders this Friday.
- October is **Breast Cancer Awareness Month**. CATA will participate in many ways this month.
- Information about the **Veterans of Foreign Wars (VFW)**, "**Voice of Democracy**," Contest is in this edition.
- Check out the **Community Arts Page** in this edition.
- Information about the **new UCPS mobile app** is included.
- The CATA Cougar Council (PTSO) **Bylaws are located [here](#)**. Click the link and scroll down to see the proposed changes.
- See the information about **Connecting Families** for networking and carpool information.
- Please see information in this edition about **Senior Yearbook Ads**. See the Ad for the Ads!
- **Military Appreciation** Night is Friday, October 14 at the homecoming football game. We hope you come out and join us, admission for veterans is free.
- **Manufacturing Week** ends October 7; thank you to all that went to these events.
- Please check out the **School Bond Information** in this edition.
- Remember that **Underclassman photo retakes** will be on Tuesday, October 18th.
- **Dr. Houlihan**, our new Superintendent, will be conducting a **listening and learning** tour at MHS on 10/27. We hope you can make it from 6-7 pm.

Please take time to read over this newsletter. The Cougar Chronicles are also available on the website. The Cougar Chronicle, in addition to our website, is 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! Dr. Fisenne



# Guidance News

## 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)

[Melody Carr](#): Information Systems (CyberSecurity, Computer Engineering, Software

## Seniors....

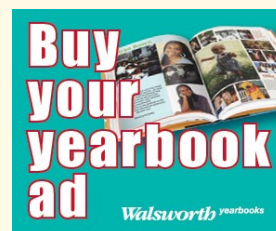
**Graduation—Saturday, June 10, 2016 7:30 PM at Winthrop Coliseum**

**Parents of seniors** – Senior ads are on sale now! Order online or at CATA.

These prices are good until **November 18th**. Contact Ms. Christensen for more information.

1/8 page = \$60, 1/4 page = \$95, 1/2 page = \$185, Full page = \$280

**College 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.



## The time has come to apply for North Carolina Governor's School for

Summer 2017. North Carolina Governor's School is a summer program that provides a unique and innovative residential educational experience for gifted and talented high school juniors from across the state each summer since 1963. The nomination packet is located on the North Carolina Governor's School website which is [www.ncgovschool.org](http://www.ncgovschool.org). If you have questions or are interested in this opportunity please see Ms. Lawson in the Guidance Office. The deadline to submit your paperwork is **Monday, October 17th, 2016**.

**Are you interested in spending two weeks traveling through Spain and Portugal next year? If so, see Ms. Foreman if you have any questions.**



## Theater I Students before the Pantomime Performance



## College and Scholarship Spotlight

[2016-2017 North Carolina College Admissions Deadlines and Open House Information](#) – this can go on the senior page

**Hampton University**, a historically black university located in Hampton, Virginia, will be offering an **Onsite Admissions & Information Session** for seniors to have the opportunity to have their admissions application reviewed *with the possibility of receiving admissions and scholarship decisions on the spot*. While students are interviewing, students and parents can attend sessions on such topics as financial aid and student life. To learn more, please visit: <http://www.ucps.k12.nc.us/Page/5455>.

**Levine Scholars Program at UNC Charlotte:** If you are interested in being nominated for the Levine Scholars Program at UNC Charlotte, please pick up an interest form in Guidance. Interest forms and resumes are due to Mrs. Cameron. You can learn more about Levine Scholars here: <http://www.ucps.k12.nc.us/Page/4530> or here: <http://levinescholars.uncc.edu/>. **Deadline: October 7, 2016.**

### The Prudential Spirit of Community Award:

If you've made a difference by volunteering in your community over the past year you could receive \$1,000, an impressive medallion, and a trip to Washington, D.C. next May. Please visit <https://spirit.prudential.com/> for more information. Applicants should demonstrate initiative, effort, impact, and personal growth. If you are interested in being considered for this award, please pick up an interest form in Guidance. Interest forms and resumes must be returned to Mrs. Cameron. **Deadline: October 14, 2016**

### UCPS College Fair - October 9, 2016:

UCPS will be hosting a college fair at the Agricultural Center (located at 3230 Presson Rd. in Monroe) from 2:00 - 4:00 p.m. on Sunday, October 9th. Students and parents are encouraged to attend! For a list of participating schools, click [here](#).

### College Presentations: Juniors or Seniors

The following colleges plan to visit at the dates and times listed. If you are interested in attending one of these information sessions, please sign up in the Guidance Office.

- **College of Charleston Honors Program** - October 13, 2016 @ 11:30 a.m.
- **Wofford College** - Will be rescheduled
- **Elon University** - October 17, 2016 @ 10:30 a.m.
- **High Point University** - October 17, 2016 @ 2:30 p.m.
- **Winthrop University** - October 18, 2016 @ 9:30 a.m.
- **Queens University** - October 21, 2016 @ 10:30 a.m.
- **Appalachian State University** - October 24, 2016 @ 2:15 p.m.
- **UNC Charlotte** - October 26, 2016 @ 11:00 a.m.
- **Carolinas College of Health Sciences** - November 2, 2016 @ 11:00 a.m.
- **UNC Chapel Hill** - November 4, 2016 @ 2:15 p.m.
- **Savannah College of Art & Design (SCAD)** - December 6, 2016 @ 11:15 a.m.

**Please REVIEW the Scholarship Newsletter emailed to all seniors on the [Guidance and Counseling page](#) on the CATA Website.**

## Class Information

### PSAT, SAT, ACT, and Pre-ACT

**The PSAT** - Preliminary Scholastic Aptitude Test - is scheduled for **Wednesday, October 19th** for **all 11th grade students**. The PSAT is very important because your score may qualify you for National Merit Scholarship, your score will help to predict how well you will do on the SAT, and hopefully you will build confidence towards taking the SAT. **Any 9th or 10th** grader that is interested in taking the **SAT** is eligible; the cost is \$17. Please pay this fee to Mrs. Tammy Tweed by **Friday, September 30th**. For more information on the **PSAT** please click the link [here](#).

**The Pre-ACT** The North Carolina Department of Public Instruction is administering the PreACT assessment to all eligible tenth grade students during the month of October. The PreACT will take place at CATA on Friday, October 7th, 2016. The PreACT assessment includes a pretest portion that will not be available to students through the state test administration. Parents and students can voluntarily access and complete the information that is included in this pretest portion and create an ACT profile at the following website: <http://www.act.org/content/act/en/products-and-services/act-profile.html> If you have questions or concerns about the PreACT, please contact Ashley Lawson at 704.296.3088 or [Ashley.lawson@ucps.k12.nc.us](mailto:Ashley.lawson@ucps.k12.nc.us).

**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.

**CLASS OF  
2018**


*CLASS  
OF 2019*

**Class of  
2020**

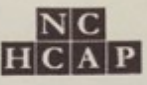
## College and Career Corner—

This past week our students heard from guest speakers from various industries here in Union county for Manufacturing week. The businesses included Charlotte Pipe and Foundry, Scott Safety,









UNC  
CAROLINA HIGHER EDUCATION  
OPPORTUNITY PROGRAMS



# Save the Date

## Health Careers Day on the Hill

Saturday, October 29th, 2016  
 9:30am-4:00pm Campus Tour 4:00pm-5:00pm  
 Registration begins at 8:30am  
 Fee: \$17.00 Location: Student Union

For more information contact Ms. Kayla McLaughlin at [kayla.mclaughlin@unc.edu](mailto:kayla.mclaughlin@unc.edu) or call 919-966-2264.

<https://www.eventbrite.com/e/health-careers-day-on-the-hill-2016-tickets-26330961615>



## Cougar Pride - Way to go!!!

Congratulations to our teacher of the year Mr. Michael Hardy!

Congratulations to Nazirah Ahmad for being selected as CATA's Parade Princess by the Scholarship Committee! She will now go on to compete for the Alex Kahle Scholarship!

Congratulations to Ms. Pentecost for winning an Arts In School grant for our pottery wheel from the Union County Community Arts Council in the amount of \$500.00.

## Breast Cancer Awareness

Hands Helping others is sponsoring a Pink Drive selling pink items for \$2  
October 10 to 21 during lunch  
We will have a PINK OUT at our homecoming football game on Friday,  
October 14



## CATA Computer Repair



Bring your computer to room 216  
We will give you suggestions and an estimate on cost

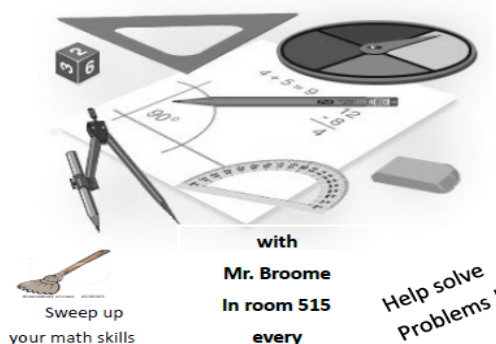
- we can:
- get rid of viruses, malware, adware
  - optimize your computer
  - install upgrades
  - install hardware



No additional charge other than parts

## Math Lab

Bring me your math problems



Sweep up your math skills

with  
Mr. Broome  
In room 515  
every

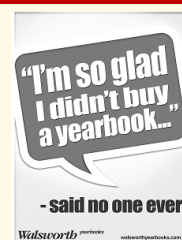
Help solve Problems!

Monday  
3:30-4:30

Wednesday  
& 3:30-4:30

## Get Your Yearbooks!

Yearbooks are now on sale for \$75 (Price is good through January 27)! Buy your 2017 yearbook today! Order online at [www.yearbookforever.com](http://www.yearbookforever.com) and search for CATA or bring a check (made out to Central Academy) or cash to Ms. Christensen.



## COUGAR ATHLETICS

If you have questions about athletics or want to volunteer to help with athletics, please send an email to Athletic Director, [Coach Jay Niessner](mailto:jay.niessner@ucps.k12.nc.us). Make sure to follow all of CATA's athletic teams on Twitter: **@CATA\_Athletics**

### Last Week's Results:

**Football:** No Game Last Week

**Volleyball:** Win vs. Monroe, Loss vs. West Stanly

**Men's Soccer:** Win vs. Piedmont, Loss vs. Forest Hills

**Women's Tennis:** Win vs. Mt. Pleasant

**Women's Golf:** Team shot a 135 @ Firethorne Country Club

**Cross Country:** Team competed at Wendy's Invite

### Upcoming Events:

#### October 10<sup>th</sup>:

Women's Golf @ Badin Golf Course – 3:30 pm

Women's Tennis @ Parkwood – 4:00 pm

Men's Soccer HOME vs. Parkwood – 5:00/6:30 pm

Volleyball HOME vs. Forest Hills – 5:30/7:00 pm – Senior Night

#### October 11<sup>th</sup>:

No Events

#### October 12<sup>th</sup>:

No Events

#### October 13<sup>th</sup>:

Women's Tennis @ RRC Tournament – West Stanly – 10:00 am

Volleyball AWAY @ Parkwood 4:30/6:00 pm

Men's Soccer HOME vs. Monroe 5:00/6:30 pm

#### October 14<sup>th</sup>:

Football HOME vs. West Stanly 7:30 pm – HOMECOMING

### Other News:

**Winter Sports** Mandatory Parent Night will be on **Tuesday, October 25<sup>th</sup>** **@ 7:00 pm** in the CATA Auditorium. Important paperwork will be distributed, along with sport specific meetings.

**Fall Sports** Awards Night will be on **Monday, November 14<sup>th</sup>** **@ 7:00 pm** in the CATA Auditorium.

### Fall Sports Head Coach Contact Information:

Athletic Director & Men's Soccer – Jay Niessner – [jay.niessner@ucps.k12.nc.us](mailto:jay.niessner@ucps.k12.nc.us)

Football – Shane Griffin – [edward.griffin@ucps.k12.nc.us](mailto:edward.griffin@ucps.k12.nc.us)

Volleyball – Doug Mayhew – [doug.mayhew@ucps.k12.nc.us](mailto:doug.mayhew@ucps.k12.nc.us)

Cheerleading – Ashley Lawson – [ashley.lawson@ucps.k12.nc.us](mailto:ashley.lawson@ucps.k12.nc.us)

Women's Golf – Mike Jacobus – [mike.jacobus@ucps.k12.nc.us](mailto:mike.jacobus@ucps.k12.nc.us)

Women's Tennis – Nelson Rowell – [nelson.rowell@ucps.k12.nc.us](mailto:nelson.rowell@ucps.k12.nc.us)

Cross Country – Kim Inuwa – [kim.inuwa@gmail.com](mailto:kim.inuwa@gmail.com)

Continued ....

## Friday, October 14<sup>th</sup> is **MILITARY APPRECIATION NIGHT**

**at our homecoming  
football game!**

**Those who have served  
our nation are welcome to  
come to the game for  
free.**

**We will recognize veter-  
ans, those who have  
served, and those who are  
serving throughout the  
game.**

**We will also recognize CA-  
TA veterans and special  
guest veterans before the  
game.**



**Winter Head Coach Contact Information:**

Athletic Director: Jay Niessner – [jay.niessner@ucps.k12.nc.us](mailto:jay.niessner@ucps.k12.nc.us)

Cheerleading- Ashley Lawson – [Ashley.lawson@ucps.k12.nc.us](mailto:Ashley.lawson@ucps.k12.nc.us)

Women's Basketball – Tony Byrum – [tb93bball@yahoo.com](mailto:tb93bball@yahoo.com)

Men's Basketball – David Daniels – [david.daniels@ucps.k12.nc.us](mailto:david.daniels@ucps.k12.nc.us)

Indoor Track – Kim Inuwa – [kim.inuwa@gmail.com](mailto:kim.inuwa@gmail.com)

Wrestling – Mike Jacobus – [mike.jacobus@ucps.k12.nc.us](mailto:mike.jacobus@ucps.k12.nc.us)

Swimming – Kelly Lepsig – [Kelly.lepsig@ucps.k12.nc.us](mailto:Kelly.lepsig@ucps.k12.nc.us)

**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 part of our travel, officials, and security expenses; many expenses must be covered by fundraising, concession sales, and gate receipts.

This year we are raising money for the general athletic program, program upgrades/repairs (ex. new mower, sprinkler repairs), uniform rotation funds. Each team has an fundraising account set up to raise money for the general program as well as a team need or wish. Please consider donating. Your donations are tax deductible.

[Click here to go to athletics page to donate](#)

**CATA Spirit Wear available online and at home Football Games. Support the Band and CATA and get your spirit on.**



[To see all available spirit wear for CATA click here](#)  
**Support our athletics and our Band of Blue at once by showing school spirit!!**

**Spotlight on Instruction and Academic Opportunities****CATA Rat Rod =Academy Collaboration**

Harper Corp of America R.A.T. Rod Round-up Challenge - \$5,000 Grant. Currently students from Transportation, Information Systems, Family and Consumer Sciences, Engineering, and Art are involved in the creation of this build. This project will create a bond between academies as they strive to a common goal. The Rat Rod vehicle will consist of a minimum of 10 different parts from 10 different vehicles, and will be road legal and drivable.



Rat Rod Website coming soon...



# Parent Involvement

**PTSO** – To get involved, please send an email to [thecougarcouncil@gmail.com](mailto:thecougarcouncil@gmail.com) or call the main office and leave a message for the PTSO. **Mr. Robinson's 3rd block won the membership contest with 100% participation. We will give out another pizza party if there is another homeroom that gets 100% participation.**

**Band Booster Club** - Contact Band Booster president Aimi Gundersen to volunteer at [catabandpresident@gmail.com](mailto:catabandpresident@gmail.com)

- **Cougar Athletics** – contact Jay Niessner at <mailto:jay.niessner@ucps.k12.nc.us>
- **Performing Arts Committee** – contact the PTSO (see above) for information about how to help out

## PTSO MEETING DATES

**Meeting dates for this year: (all will be in the media center)**

**November 15<sup>th</sup> at 6:30 pm**, Pre-engineering and the IT academies will show some student work, **February 6<sup>th</sup> at 6:30 pm**, **April 3<sup>rd</sup> at 6:30 pm**

**Help our PTSO raise funds to support instruction and academies throughout 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.

## Central Academy of Technology & Arts

### Cougar Council (PTSO) Bylaws

[Click HERE for the LINK](#)

Scroll down to see the **PROPOSED CHANGES**

## Connecting Families

The Cougar Council is trying to make it easier for families to connect with each other based on their student's academies, geographic location, sports played, clubs involved with, etc. We realize that since our school covers the entire county it can sometimes be hard to make connections with other families. If you are interested in participating, please fill out the form using the link below. Please know that your information will only be shared with other CATA families who are in the directory. This is a great place to go for contacts if you need to find someone to carpool with or just to network with other parents in your student's academy.

<https://goo.gl/forms/MNtCiIKqJRia6pNP2>



# CATA Fishing Club

## Article as written on the Scholastic Angler's Website 2016-2017

Central academy fishing is perhaps the fastest growing and developing school fishing team of all. Thus far, they field 10 student-anglers who have been present and accounted for both the initial scholastic anglers workshop series and the first regular season event for the scholastic anglers tournament series. Though some student-anglers come and go for various reasons and prior obligations, they are all on the same page and have one common goal in mind. Central academy works well together as a school fishing team as well as individual student-anglers. Either way, they are certain to make a strong run for the big prize this school year and scholastic anglers season. As the regular season rolls on, they continue For additional information, please contact 704-315-7071 or stay tuned to [www.scholasticanglers.com](http://www.scholasticanglers.com)



**SCHOLASTIC ANGLERS CHALLENGE SCHOOL OF THE YEAR STANDINGS AS OF MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 26, 2016: Top four so far!**

1.....	Central Academy Fishing.....	3225
2.....	Sun Valley Fishing.....	2225
3.....	Union Academy Fishing.....	2075
4.....	Marvin Ridge Fishing.....	1825



## Late Morning Bus Notifications

Late morning bus notifications will be posted on our school's Twitter Account. Click [here](#) if you do not have Twitter, follow @cata\_monroe, or go to the CATA website, scroll down and click on the Twitter bird symbol.

**Parent email and phone contact information**—it is vital that we have accurate information so that we can reach you concerning your students. **Email** [Mr. William Smith](#) with any changes.

Support the **Wolfe School**, a school for students with very special needs, by brining in the following items for Box tops for Education: Bring items to the guidance suite.



**SEE U  
AT THE POLL!**  
VOTE NOVEMBER 8, 2016

### Chromebook roll Out—2016-2017

**Please remember to pay your technology FEE of \$25**

**The required technology user fee (\$25) for your student.** 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***

**Friday, October 7– Spirit Day (Safari Day); PRE ACT (All 10th Graders),** NHS Retreat, 3:30 –7:30 PM

**Sunday, October 9–** Shooting Sports Practice, 2 PM (Take Aim Sports); Union County College Fair, 2-4 PM, Union County Agricultural Center

**Monday, October 10– Spirt Day (Character Day);** Student Council Officer Meeting 3:30 (Media Center), Robotics Club, 3:30 (Rm. 118); BETA Club Mtg. 8:15 AM and 3:30 PM (Media Center); Society of Women Engineers, 3:45 PM (Rm. 525);

**Tuesday, October 11– Spirit Day (Pajama Day);** Band Chili's Restaurant Night, Monroe

**Wednesday, October 12– NO SCHOOL ,** teacher workday

**Thursday, October 13– Spirt Day (Decades Day)** Robotics Club, 3:30 (Rm. 118); FCA Mtg, 8 AM (Gym); Band Booster Club Mtg, 6:30 (Band Rm.) SAT Prep Course, 4:00 PM (Rm. 401)

**Friday, October 14–Spirit Day (Color Wars) ; PEP RALLY!**

**Saturday, October 15, Homecoming Dance, 8-11 PM (Gym) ; SAT Practice Test 8:30 AM 1:00 PM**

## **Upcoming Events**

10/7—PRE ACT (All 10th Graders)

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

10/9—Union County College Fair, 2-4 PM (Union County Agricultural Center)

10/10—End of Grading Period

10/10 to 10/15—Homecoming Week

10/10-10/21– Breast Cancer Awareness-Pink Sale

10/11—Chili's Night Fundraiser for Band, Monroe Location

10/12—NO SCHOOL, Teacher Workday

10/13—CATA Band Boosters, 6:30 PM Band Rm.)

10/15—Homecoming Dance, 8-11 PM (Gym)

10/18—Underclassman photo retakes

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

10/17 to 10/28—Benchmark I Window

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.)

10/27—New Supt. Listening and Learning Tour, Monroe High (5-6 Community) (6-7 Staff)

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

11/1—Progress Reports

11/1-11/30—American Indian Heritage Month

11/8—NO SCHOOL, Teacher Workday, ELECTION DAY

11/10—CATA Band Boosters, 6:30 PM, Media Center

11/10—Powder Puff Games

11/11—NO SCHOOL, Veterans Day



## Student Life Notes

- **Student Life Meetings** for advisers and organization presidents are on the first Wednesday of each month. The next meeting is on **Wednesday, November 2, at 8:20**. Meetings are in room 401
- **Fellowship of Christian Athletes:** Everybody come join us on Thursdays from 8 until 8:40 in the gym.
- Attention **Beta Club** members! The October meeting date has been changed to Monday, Oct. 10 in the media center before and after school. If you are a new member and need to pay the \$15 dues, Oct. 10 is the deadline. Also, if you are ordering a Beta t-shirt this year, you need to pay on or before Monday.
- The **NHS Retreat** is Friday, October 7 from 3:30 to 7:30 PM
- **Powder Puff** is November 10-Information in the coming editions.
- **Homecoming Week** is 10/7 to 10/15
- See the **Spirit Days** for homecoming week in the ad below.
- The **Homecoming Dance** is Saturday, October 15 from 8-11 in the gym. You can buy tickets at lunch, see the ad in this edition.

Have you Purchased Your  
**Yearbook?**  
Now offering  
**Easy Payment Plan**

**Three Payments of \$25**

- October
- November
- December

All Payments Must Be Paid Before Winter Break

Bring Installment Payments to Mrs. Pentecost  
Bring Full Payment to Ms. Christensen



Our Beginning Teachers collaborating on instructional strategies!



# Spirit Week!!!

Oct 7th - Oct 14th

**Friday 7th - Safari Day** 🐘 🦒  
Dress as either tour guides/animals

**Monday 10th - Character Day**  
Power Duo/ Group 🦸 🦹

**Tuesday 11th - Pajama Day**  
Wear your favorite pajamas! 🧺

**Thursday 13th - Decades Day**

9th - 50's Greasers/Preps	10th - 60's Psychedelic
11th - 80's Pop/Madonna	12th - 70's Disco
Staff - Roaring 20's	

**Friday 14th - Color Wars**

9th - Maroon	10th - Navy
11th - White	12th - Black

## Harvest Moon Homecoming Dance

### Saturday, October 15, 8-11



**Tickets sold at lunch**  
**\$25 for 2 tickets**  
**\$15 for 1 ticket**  
**CATA Main Gym**



## Voter Registration

**Register to vote! If you have questions please ask Mr. Wall**



## Attendance Letters and Recovery

-Attendance at school is a priority. It is so important to be present in order to learn and to gain opportunities for mastering coursework. This is also a very important life lesson for our children to learn—in life we have expectations of going to work and working to the best of our ability, and this good life habit starts with attendance at school.

- To ensure maximum student attendance we will be contacting students and parents when students reach 3, 6, and 8 absences.

-According to UCPS attendance policy students should not miss more than 7 classes in each class. The goal is to not miss ANY school, but if a student has a valid reason, such as an illness or other excused absence, they can have up to 7 absences and still pass the class.

-It is important that excuse notes be written and turned into the office within 3 days after an absence. After the three days, then the absences are recorded as unexcused permanently.

- At each absence threshold (3,6,8) CATA staff will make the determination if the student needs to begin the recovery process to make up absences and notify parents and students on how to make up time missed from school. Recovery should be done during the semester and in the two week time span given or the student will not be allowed to recover the absences at a later date.

-There are UCPS limits on how many classes can be recovered. Recovery will be held on Tuesdays and Thursdays after school with Ms. Riley, or with the student's individual teacher. Students are expected to work on content during recovery time. This plan is in place so that your student makes up content close to the date it was delivered in class.





## Referendum Overview

Quality schools are essential to the residents of Union County. Our community recognizes that in order for students to receive an excellent education, they must have safe schools and a positive learning environment.

On Nov. 8, Union County residents will vote on \$54 million in school bonds. The bond package would provide funding for six school renovation/addition projects and a new transportation facility.

This bond is needed to address safety repairs, stability, the removal of long-term use of mobile classrooms in our schools and build a new transportation facility.

Funding would help **Union County Public Schools** prepare for growth, increase capacity at several schools and move students into brick and mortar classrooms. The bond will add an additional 88,400 square feet to **Union County Public Schools**.

## List of Bond Projects

### Monroe High



Add eight classrooms, two teacher workrooms and two teacher offices. Remove/Repurpose mobile units. Increase student capacity to 1,500 (Maximum).  
► \$3,452,760

### Piedmont High



Add four classrooms, two teacher offices and teacher workrooms. Increase student capacity to 1,600 (Maximum).  
► \$2,148,384

### Porter Ridge Middle



Add 15 classrooms, expand Media Center, add two teacher workrooms. Remove/Repurpose mobile units. Increase student capacity to 1,600 (Maximum).  
► \$6,272,514

### Porter Ridge High



Add four classrooms and expand cafeteria. Increase student capacity to 1,800 (Maximum).  
► \$1,496,196

### Western Union Elementary



Add eight classrooms, expand cafeteria, add two teacher workrooms. Remove/Repurpose mobile units. Increase student capacity to 804 (Maximum).  
► \$3,882,437

### Sun Valley High



Add 10 classrooms, auditorium renovation, new athletic stadium, expand administrative office area, add teacher workrooms, expand cafeteria and kitchen, new chorus room, HVAC and plumbing upgrades, ADA renovations. Remove/Repurpose mobile units. Increase student capacity to 1,800 (Maximum).  
► \$24,364,734

### Transportation Facility



Build a new transportation facility with adequate service bays and maintenance areas to accommodate entire UCPS bus fleet.  
► \$12,000,000

[www.ucps.k12.nc.us](http://www.ucps.k12.nc.us)



**Total Bond** ► 54 Million  
**\*Est. Tax Increase** ► \$.16/1k

\*Source Union County BOCC

**SEE U AT THE POLL!**  
VOTE NOVEMBER 8, 2016

Link to the Bond Website for more Information

<http://www.ucpsbond2016.com/>



## How do I get to the Union County Public Schools mobile app?

The free app is available in the App Store or Google play store.

If you have the current UCPS app, simply update your app to the current version.

## Getting Started

When you first download the app it will prompt you to select which schools you'd like to follow and areas of interest. If for some reason the prompt is skipped or it does not appear the end-user may do the following:

- Scroll to the second screen and click the Settings icon.
- At the top, click on Follow Schools.
- Select Union County Public Schools and the schools you wish to follow.
- On the next screen you will be prompted to select what information/categories you wish to receive on your mobile device. If you click Receive Inbox Messages under Notifications, you will receive individualized messages from your school(s).
- After you have made all of your selections, please hit the back arrow in the upper left corner of the screen and proceed with using the app.

Based on your choices in the steps above, you will only see information you have selected.

## App Features

**Top Stories:** Feature stories from the school(s) you are following and the district will be pulled into Top Stories and you can click on the actual story and select View on the Web for the full content



**Activity Stream:** Pulls in social media feeds, calendar events and announcements



**Notifications:** Schools have the ability to send messages through the mobile app directly to your device and you will be notified with a red circle and number reflecting the total amount of notifications pending



**News:** Is a compilation of everything placed on your school(s) webpage



**Parent Info:** Directs the user to common resources for parents and students

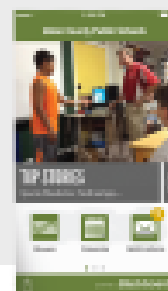


**Directory:** Provides access to school contact information



**Settings:** Allows users to customize their school and category selections at any time

• Reset App Defaults allows the user to "refresh" the mobile app



## FAQs

Q: If I have the previous UCPS mobile app on my phone, do I need to download the new app?

A: No, you do not need to download the app from the store again; you can simply update your app.

Q: Do I need to purchase this app?

A: No, this app is free for users.



[www.ucps.k12.nc.us](http://www.ucps.k12.nc.us)

Follow us on Social Media #UCPSNC #TeamUCPS

# Dr. Houlihan Launches Listening and Learning Tour

Monroe, NC—Since his first day on the job, Dr. Andrew Houlihan has made engagement a priority. To date, Superintendent Houlihan has visited more than 30 schools and met with UCPS and county leaders. As part of his 90-day entry plan, Dr. Houlihan is launching a Listening and Learning Tour. Beginning Sept. 21, the Superintendent will hold a series of meetings throughout Union County to meet with employees and community members.

"I have truly enjoyed visiting our schools and getting to know school leaders and teachers," Houlihan said. "I want to learn more about UCPS and what we can do as a community to better serve our schools, teachers and students."

There will be two key questions presented at each meeting—What's working well in UCPS and what opportunities are there for growth to make our school system the best?

Feedback from the Listening and Learning Tour will inform the district's Strategic Plan and other initiatives.

The schedule of meetings is listed below. At each location, Dr. Houlihan will meet with employees from 5 – 6 p.m. and community members from 6 – 7 p.m.

For updates about the meetings, follow us on Twitter, Facebook and Instagram @UCPS\_MonroeNC. Community members may also submit feedback to [superintendent@ucps.k12.nc.us](mailto:superintendent@ucps.k12.nc.us).

**CATA is in the Monroe Cluster and will participate on October 27**



## +LISTENING +LEARNING TOUR

**You are invited to join Dr. Houlihan  
for conversations about  
Union County Public Schools.**

Our Superintendent will visit all clusters to hear from employees and community members about how we can work together to make UCPS a better school system.

Porter Ridge High	9 / 21	Marvin Ridge High	11 / 3
Sun Valley High	10 / 10	Forest Hills High	11 / 10
Weddington High	10 / 18	Cuthbertson High	11 / 14
Parkwood High	10 / 20	Piedmont High	11 / 16
Monroe High	10 / 27		

At each location, Dr. Houlihan will meet with employees from 5 – 6 p.m., and community members from 6 – 7 p.m.



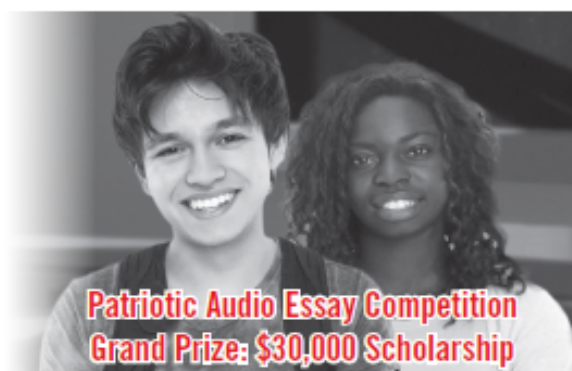


# Voice of Democracy

2016 - 17 Theme

**"My Responsibility To America"**

Student Entry Deadline: November 1, 2016



**Patriotic Audio Essay Competition**  
**Grand Prize: \$30,000 Scholarship**

## WHAT IS THE VOICE OF DEMOCRACY PROGRAM?

Since 1947, the Voice of Democracy has been the Veterans of Foreign Wars' (VFW's) premier scholarship program. Each year, almost 40,000 high school students compete for more than \$2 million in scholarships and incentives. Students compete by writing and recording an audio essay on an annual patriotic theme. This year's theme is, *My Responsibility To America*.

## WHY SHOULD I ENTER?

Prizes and scholarships can be awarded at the Post, District, state and national level. Department (State) winners receive an all-expense paid trip to Washington, D.C., Feb. 25 - March 1, 2017, to tour the city, be honored by the VFW and its VFW Auxiliary and receive their portion of \$153,000 in national awards, the top scholarship being \$30,000.

## THE RULES

### Who can enter?

The Voice of Democracy is open to students in grades 9-12 by the Nov. 1 deadline, who are enrolled in a public, private or parochial high school or home study program in the United States, its territories and possessions. Although U.S. citizenship is not required, students must be lawful U.S. permanent residents or have applied for permanent residence (the application for which has not been denied) and intends to become a U.S. citizen at the earliest opportunity allowed by law. Foreign exchange students, students age 20 or over, previous Voice of Democracy first place state winners, GED or Adult Education Students are ineligible.

### What do I need to enter?

Record your original 3-5 minute (+ or - 5 seconds max.) essay on an audio CD or a flash drive. One student per CD or flash drive. When burning your CD, make sure that "Create Audio CD" option (or similar) is selected so the program can properly convert your sound file and burn it to CD. After it has finished, be sure to play back your audio CD on a system other than your computer, such as a standard radio or car CD player, to verify that the conversion/burning process was successful. You will submit the recording, typed essay and this completed entry form. Provide these items to your school/group competition or local VFW Post for judging. In addition you can submit your emailed entry form, essay, and audio file to the VFW Post upon approval. You must be the sole author of your essay. The recording must be in your own voice and in English. Hearing/speech impaired students should email the Voice of Democracy National Office at [kharmer@vfw.org](mailto:kharmer@vfw.org) for special instructions. No music, singing, poetry or sound effects are allowed. The body of the essay must not identify you in any way, (including, but not limited to your name, school, city, state, race, or national origin) although the recording & typed essay should be labeled with your name, to show ownership. You may enter only one competition at one Post (if otherwise eligible) per year. At any time during the contest, additional participant personal information could be requested by the VFW, including but not limited to a photograph, SSN, or biographical information.

## 2016-17 OFFICIAL ENTRY FORM VOICE OF DEMOCRACY COMPETITION

MUST BE COMPLETED BY ALL CONTESTANTS

Name: First, M.I., Last

Address

City, State, Zip

( )

Phone

E-mail

Date of Birth (mm/dd/yy)

Grade in School

School Name, City, State

Teacher's name and E-mail (if applicable)

First Name You'd Like on a Name Badge

Jacket Size

**TO BE COMPLETED BY STUDENT'S PARENT/GUARDIAN**  
(required even if student is 18 or over)

Parent/Guardian Signature

Date

( )

Parent/Guardian's Daytime Phone

Parent/Guardian's E-mail

**I HAVE READ AND UNDERSTAND THE D.C. NATIONAL FINALS RULES (ON OPPOSITE SIDE)**

I certify that I am the sole author of the enclosed audio/essay entry and that I have only entered the competition once yearly if otherwise eligible.

I understand that if it is found that I have entered any other Post's competition or used this essay for another VFW competition, I face elimination from the competition and will return any and all prizes or incentives awarded.

Signature of Student Participant

Date



# Voice of Democracy

2016 - 17 Theme

## "My Responsibility To America"

Student Entry Deadline: November 1, 2016

### OFFICIAL RULES FOR STUDENTS ADVANCING TO NATIONAL LEVEL

If selected as a first-place state winner, I have the consent of my parent/guardian and school to attend the Voice of Democracy National Finals in Washington, D.C. Feb 25-March 1, 2017 as a guest of the VFW National Organization.

I understand that state winners who do not attend as stated above will forfeit all rights to compete in the National Finals and will be replaced by their state's second place winner.

In the event my audio essay is selected for entry into the National Voice of Democracy Competition, I do hereby for myself, for my heirs, executors, administrators and assigns; waive, release and discharge all rights and claims which I have or which may hereafter accrue against the Veterans of Foreign Wars of the United States (VFW) and/or the several Departments (state organizations) of the Veterans of Foreign Wars and their respective officers, agents, successors and assigns from any damages which may be sustained by me in connection with my participation in or association with the VFW Voice of Democracy Competition and/or arising out of my travel to and during the Competition. In the event of sickness, accident or injury in connection with the Competition, I consent to and accept the services of a duly licensed medical, surgical or dental specialist selected on my behalf and for such treatments, as they may deem necessary. I understand that VFW will not be liable for such treatment. I further understand that the Veterans of Foreign Wars of the United States retains non-exclusive rights to use my tape, essay and likeness in the promotion and execution of the organization's programs and activities.

### TO BE COMPLETED BY THE VFW POST

I certify that this student has an authorized entry in our VFW Post Level Voice of Democracy Competition.

Post Commander's/Chairman's Signature \_\_\_\_\_ Post # \_\_\_\_\_

VFW Auxiliary President's/Chairman's Signature (if applicable) \_\_\_\_\_

Post Address \_\_\_\_\_

City, State, Zip \_\_\_\_\_

No. of students participating \_\_\_\_\_

No. of winners advanced to District \_\_\_\_\_

Am't. of Post/Aux. scholarship awards \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Am't. of Post/Aux. additional expenses (banquet, pins, etc.) \$ \_\_\_\_\_

### TO BE COMPLETED BY THE VFW DISTRICT

I certify that the student named in the previous section is the duly selected winner of the Voice of Democracy Contest District Competition and is our sole entry into the Department finals.

District Chairman's Signature \_\_\_\_\_ Dist. # \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City, State, Zip \_\_\_\_\_

( ) \_\_\_\_\_

Phone \_\_\_\_\_ E-mail \_\_\_\_\_

### TO BE COMPLETED BY THE VFW DEPARTMENT CHAIRMAN

I certify that the student named in the previous section is the duly selected first-place winner of the Voice of Democracy Department Competition, is our sole entry into the National judging and will attend the National Finals in Washington, D.C.

Department Chairman's Signature \_\_\_\_\_

( ) \_\_\_\_\_

Daytime Phone \_\_\_\_\_ E-mail \_\_\_\_\_

The winner ☐ has been ☐ will be (check one) notified that they are the first-place Department winner on \_\_\_\_\_. Note: National Headquarters will contact your winner after this date to make travel arrangements for them to be in Washington, D.C.

### WHERE DO I SUBMIT MY ENTRY?

All entries begin at the local VFW Post level. The only exception is where schools/classes/youth groups have large numbers of students and wish to conduct their own competition, submitting one winner for each 15 students to the local VFW Post. Individual students may submit their entry directly to the Post. This VFW Post should be within your local area and within your U.S. state of residence. One winner for every 15 entries from each Post advances to District and one District winner advances to the state (Department) competition. State winners are invited to Washington, D.C. where their audio essays compete in the finals competition. If you need help finding a participating VFW Post in your area, follow these instructions: First, visit this website <https://www.vfw.org/oms/findpost.aspx> to "Find A VFW Post." Be sure this Post is within the state you reside in. If you do not have success in finding a Post, or if you have trouble getting in touch with them, you can contact your VFW Department (state) office to see if they can offer any information or assistance. You can visit this link <https://www.vfw.org/ContactUs/> and look to the extreme far right side of that webpage (see the second grey box) for "VFW State Contacts" to get your VFW state office's phone number and e-mail. Some Departments have websites you can visit by visiting this link <https://www.vfw.org/Contacts/VFW-State-Department-and-District-Websites/>. If you still need assistance, please e-mail us here at VFW National Headquarters: [kharmer@vfw.org](mailto:kharmer@vfw.org)

### WHAT IS THE DEADLINE FOR MY ENTRY?

All entries competing at the Post level must be in the hands of that VFW Post by midnight, Nov. 1, 2016. It is the responsibility of the student to meet this deadline by submitting their entry to the proper location by ensuring it is a participating Post.

### WHAT ARE THE JUDGING CRITERIA?

Originality is worth 30 points:

Treatment of the theme should show imagination and human interest.

Content is worth 35 points:

Clearly express your ideas in an organized manner. Fully develop your theme and use transitions to move smoothly from one idea to another.

Delivery is worth 35 points:

Speak in a clear and credible manner.

*The National Association of Secondary School Principals (NASSP) has again approved this contest for its National Advisory List of Contests and Activities.*



Veterans of Foreign Wars & VFW Auxiliary  
National Headquarters  
Kansas City, Missouri  
816.756.3390 ext.6117  
E-Mail: [kharmer@vfw.org](mailto:kharmer@vfw.org)  
[www.vfw.org](http://www.vfw.org)

Revised 6/2016

### LOCAL VFW POST INFORMATION :

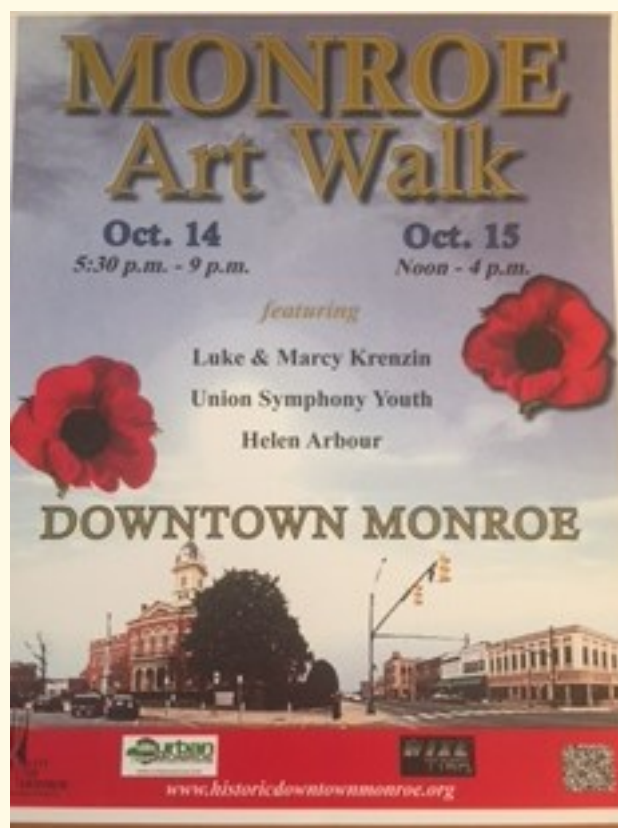
CONTACT: \_\_\_\_\_

PHONE: \_\_\_\_\_ BEST TIME TO CALL : \_\_\_\_\_

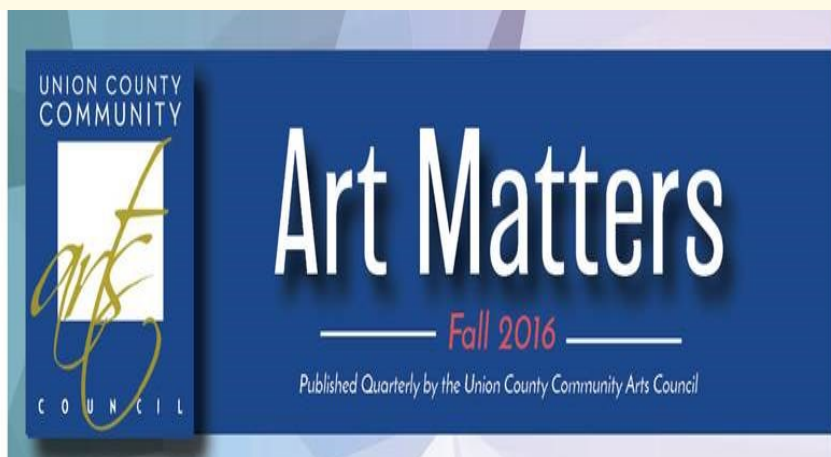
ALTERNATE CONTACT: \_\_\_\_\_

PHONE: \_\_\_\_\_ BEST TIME TO CALL : \_\_\_\_\_

## Community and the Arts



## Our Performing Arts Wall of Fame



Click on the Arts Matters  
Picture to the left to see the  
Union County Community Arts  
Council Fall Newsletter