



Central Academy of Technology & Arts Cougar Chronicle

Volume 8

Issue 4

August 13, 2020

Link to CATA
Social Media Sites
Click the Crest



Instagram



Dear CATA Family,

Our first day of school is this coming Monday, August 17. We are working diligently to ensure our students are engaged, learning, and safe. We are following the protocols set forth by the [NCDHHS](#). Click [here](#) for **UCPS information about the upcoming school year**.

Student schedule updates are on page 3. **Safety Procedures** are on page 5. **PTSO Invest in Excellence** is on page 12. **Technology help** is on page 7.

Family Contact Information: All parents should complete the CATA Contact Form with contact info. This is required. [Click here](#).

Bus Transportation Information was mailed out this week. Parents should email Ms. Tweed (tammy.tweed@ucps.k12.nc.us) if they did not sign up for, but need bus transportation. Bus riders and parents should sign up for the **Here Comes the Bus App**. This app allows you to view the real-time location of your child's school bus on your smartphone, tablet or computer. Be sure that your child is at their bus stop at least 20 minutes before the scheduled arrival time. [Bus App Letter English](#) [Bus App Letter Spanish](#)

Students who need Chromebook assistance and Internet Connectivity: Please charge and check that everything is working properly. If you have any technology issues please fill out this form: [Click here](#). In addition, any student who needs a Hotspot for Internet service please fill out this same form and the survey posted in the form. [Click Here](#) and [here](#). for directions for Chromebook Users to get started. Check out the Technology Information section on page 7.

Parking Passes have been on sale this past week. Please allow our office staff the time to process. Your pass will be given to you the first day of school as you drive into the parking lot by our SRO, Officer Harris. One cannot drive and park at the school if they have not purchased a parking pass. Parking in any lot other than the student parking lot is not permitted. The process for purchasing parking pass is on FamilyID this year, an account will need to be created if you do not already have one. [Click here for FamilyID](#). Parking passes MAY NOT be purchased by any student who has outstanding fees. After completion of the application, CATA will review your submission. The student will then receive a link to pay for the pass once the application has been approved via student UCPS email. Parking passes are \$45. If you have any questions, please email Mrs. [Andrea Nahum](#).

Our **bell schedule** for this year has changed. And our new school time is from 9:05-3:45. Students are expected to follow our daily schedule and complete 90 minutes of work per class each day. Teachers will use our Canvas platform and virtual platforms such as Zoom, Google Classroom, and Microsoft Teams.

New to CATA Orientation Video and Map: [Click here for the video](#). [Click here for the map](#).

More Important Information on the next page

All Students Do this before 8/17

- ◆ Charge Chromebook
- ◆ Check internet connections.
- ◆ Check Schedule on PowerSchool
- ◆ Make sure Canvas and Email are working
- ◆ Report any technical issues here
[Click Here for Assistance](#)
- ◆ Check to be sure you are enrolled in your Classes in Canvas
- ◆ Check virtual links for classes. (Audio/Sound)



Page One Continued & Media Center Information– The Den

Students Assigned Day at School: Students with last names **A-D** will attend school on Mondays, **students with last names E-K** will attend on Tuesdays, **students with last names L-Q** will attend on Wednesdays, **students with last names R-Z will attend on Thursdays**, and ALL students will participate in remote learning on Fridays. **Attendance** will be taken for student participation on their assigned day at school and virtually each day in Power School. School is in session and students are expected to be in class or logged into a class session at the appropriate time each day unless otherwise stated.

Summer Read: Students will participate in an online virtual summer read discussion on Friday 8/28 at 1:00 PM. Teachers will set up an online platform for book discussions. Students who attended CATA last year chose their book at the end of the year last year. Those students can check their student email for their reading assignments. The Freshman and new to CATA sophomore book is *The Boy, the Mole, the Fox and the Horse* by Charlie Mackesy.

Attendance and Absence Notes: Absence notes must be emailed and/or scanned to [Mr. William Smith](#) our data manager upon the student's return to school in order for the absence to be considered excused. Absences will be coded unexcused in PowerSchool until an email excuse is received. Please allow 24 hours for excusal notes to be coded in PowerSchool. Students may fail if they have 8 or more unexcused absences per class. Attendance is taken each class period. Students will have a chance to recover some unexcused absences.

PTSO and Invest In Excellence: [Click here](#) to give to our PTSO annual giving campaign that provides direct resources for our school. The giving form is on page 12.

[CATA Student Handbook Link](#): Information about attendance, tardy policy, leaving school early, the dress code, and more.

AP Summer Assignments and reading: Please click [here](#) to for a list of the assignments

We will not have **locker usage** this semester. Students should keep all items in their book bags.

Athletics: Please check out the CATA Athletics page in this edition. The NCHSAA has created a schedule for all Fall, Winter, and Spring Sports. Athletics will not begin until November. [Click here](#) for the calendar. UCPS and CATA will give updates about voluntary workouts in the coming weeks. Please contact our athletic director [Jay Niessner](#) if you have questions.

Student Life Organizations and Clubs: We will have a Student Life Fair the Third week of school. All organizations will meet remotely at this time. Please [click here](#) for a list of student life organizations and check back periodically for updates and new organizations.

Class of 2021 Information about your senior portraits: Click on the link for a 90-second video from our school's exclusive photographer, Cady Studios. Watch the entire video and fill out the contact form, so you will receive information on how to schedule your senior portraits. [cady.com/2021](#)" You must fill this out to schedule your senior portraits.

Yearbooks and Spirit Wear: Stay tuned for information about yearbook purchases in the coming weeks.

Please take time to read over this newsletter. The Cougar Chronicle, in addition to our website, will be the main form of communication from school to home.

Go Cougars! Ms. Merritt



Student Schedules

Student Scheduling Update

Students and Parents should check PowerSchool for their schedules before Monday, August 17. Students will be given a hard copy schedule as they enter the building for in person learning. Students on Plan D should check daily for updates.

The Schedule Correction Google Doc is live. This form will be open until Friday, August 21st at 5:00 pm. Schedule corrections will only take place through the first five days of the semester. Click here <https://forms.gle/8tBy9vH3N5sHDdGC8>

Students will either receive the class(es) they selected during the registration process last spring or students will see "**Please See Counselor**" on their schedules. We will not randomly give 10-12 grade students classes they did not register for; therefore, we enter "**Please See Counselor**" as a placeholder in the event a class did not make or there is a conflict we need to discuss with the student. If a student has "**Please See Counselor**" on the schedule, please fill out the CATA Schedule Correction Form at the above link. The form will only accept student email addresses. Priority will be given to those students with "**Please See Counselor**" listed on their schedule the week prior to school beginning. Please be reminded that schedule corrections will take place through the first five days of the semester, until Friday, August 21st.

If you have never had access to Parent Portal for Powerschool or if you were unable to access last year please email William.smith@ucps.k12.nc.us. CATA will communicate soon and let you know when and Parent Portal returns. Please do not contact Mr. Smith about schedules.

Plan B Assigned Face to Face Instruction Days

A-D— Monday

E-K— Tuesday

L-Q—Wednesday

R-Z—Thursday

**Friday is a remote
Learning Day**

*** Some changes may be made due to scheduling and class sizes. Families will be informed if there are any changes.**



Bell Schedule, Lunches, Expectations for Daily Learning

New School Time- 9:05-3:45

1st period 9:05 to 10:35

2nd Period 10:40 to 12:10

3rd Period 12:15 to 2:10 **(Your third period teacher will tell you the lunch time)**

Lunch (one person to a table sitting facing the auditorium, café, small café, outside) Approximately 60 students in each lunch distanced in line.

Lunch Schedules and Times may vary and are subject to change

A Lunch 12:20 to 12:50

B Lunch 1:00 to 1:30

C Lunch 1:40 to 2:10

4th Period 2:15 to 3:45

Students will come to school once a week from Monday to Thursday and Friday will be an online learning day for all.

Students Assigned Day at School: Students are assigned to an attendance day based on their last names **Students with last names A-D** will attend school on Mondays, **students with last names E-K** will attend on Tuesdays, **students with last names L-Q** will attend on Wednesdays, **students with last names R-Z will attend on Thursdays**, and ALL students will participate in remote learning on Fridays.

Students will follow their schedule in person and/or virtually each day. The schedule is below. If students are at home, then this is the suggested schedule.

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
Group 1 (At School)	Group 1 (Remote Learning)	Group 1 (Remote Learning)	Group 1 (Remote Learning)	Remote Learning for all Students
Group 2 (Remote Learning)	Group 2 (At School)	Group 2 (Remote Learning)	Group 2 (Remote Learning)	
Group 3 (Remote Learning)	Group 3 (Remote Learning)	Group 3 (At school)	Group 3 (Remote Learning)	Teacher Planning
Group 4 (Remote learning)	Group 4 (Remote Learning)	Group 4 (Remote Learning)	Group 4 (At School)	Office Hours

9:05 to 10:35: Complete Activities/Assignments for 1st Block Class (may include live or on-demand teacher instruction)

10:40 to 12:10: Complete Activities/ Assignments for 2nd Block Class (may include live or on-demand teacher instruction)

Lunch based on the time you would eat lunch at school during third block.

12:15 to 2:10: Complete Activities/ Assignments for 3rd Block Class (may include live or on-demand teacher instruction). Take note of the time your teacher would have scheduled for lunch.

2:15 to 3:45: Complete Activities/ Assignments for 4th Block Class (may include live or on-demand teacher instruction)



School Protocols Safety

Click [here](#) for state Guidelines

- ◆ Each teacher will answer health screening questions and have their temperature taken each day.
- ◆ Each student must answer a series of health questions and have their temperature taken each day.
- ◆ If your child is sick or exhibiting the following symptoms then please do not send them to school.
 1. Fever of 100.4 or above
 2. New cough
 3. New trouble breathing, shortness of breath or severe wheezing
 4. New Chills
 5. New Muscle Aches
 6. Sore Throat
 7. Diarrhea
 8. New loss of smell, taste, or change in taste
 9. Have been within 6 feet of a person with a lab confirmed case of the current novel virus for at least fifteen minutes, or had direct contact with their mucus or saliva, in the past 14 days
 10. These protocols may also call for additional measures to be put in place based on future guidelines.
- ◆ Please do not come to school if you are awaiting a test result for the current novel virus or are living with someone who has the virus even if you have tested negative. Learn remotely until your family member is cleared.
- ◆ We will have a separate nurses station for students who exhibit symptoms at school.
- ◆ Everyone at school must wear a mask and keep physical distance of six feet apart or more. Students will be provide washable masks they must keep clean and can wear their own masks.
- ◆ Our hallways will have a marked one way walking pattern
- ◆ Student desks will be sanitized and students will rotate the desks and work stations used.
- ◆ UCPS will provide masks that are washable
- ◆ Students are encouraged to bring their own personal hand sanitizer
- ◆ **Students may not enter the building until 8:35 AM**
- ◆ **All students will go directly to their first period classes**
- ◆ A student may eat breakfast but will be distanced in line and in the dining area.
- ◆ We will have distancing measures for the line and eating at lunch.
- ◆ We will dismiss by car rider, bus rider, and student driver and students must exit the building.
- ◆ All students should follow the directions of coaches if they are an athlete.
- ◆ All Student Life Organizations will meet remotely (Clubs)
- ◆ Morning Protocols
- ◆ **Bus Lot:** Students must stay on the bus and be dismissed one at time and then stand on the marked areas outside of the school for health questions and temperature checks.
- ◆ **Student Parking Lot:** Students must stay in their cars when prompted and stand wait for a school official to ask questions and take their temperature. When students pass the health check and temperature test then they will go directly to first period or breakfast.
- ◆ **Car Riders: Students must stay in their cars** when prompted and wait for a school official to ask questions and take their temperature. When students pass the health check and temperature test then they will go directly to first period or breakfast.
- ◆ All IEP and 504 meetings will be held virtually



College and Career Corner

Class Information from the Guidance Counselors

[Counseling Twitter @CATA_Counseling](#)
[Counseling Instagram @CATA.counseling](#)

Scholarship Spotlight– Click [HERE](#) for more scholarships
 Please click here for all information from our [Counseling Department](#)



UCPS | SCOIR
 Upper County Public Schools

UCPS is now using Scoir!

UCPS has chosen SCOIR to help you navigate the college selection and application process!

Scoir helps you do this and more!

- ✓ Research colleges and save them as favorites
- ✓ Track all college applications
- ✓ Take virtual college visits
- ✓ Request letters of recommendation

Students - check your UCPS email on August 3rd for an invitation to Scoir!

 Scoir student experience video
<https://bit.ly/Scoir4students>

 Download the Scoir student app!

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

[Ashley Cole](#) : Pre-Engineering and Performing Arts (theatre & dance)

[Sarah Goodwin](#): Information Systems (Cybersecurity, Computer Engineering, Software & Game Design) and Music Production & Recording Arts



College and Career Corner

Class Information from the Guidance Counselors

[Counseling Twitter @CATA_Counseling](#)
[Counseling Instagram @CATA.counseling](#)



COUNSELING DEPARTMENT PROCEDURES

To ensure the safety of students and staff we are implementing the following procedures for the 2020-2021 school year.



MEETING BY APPOINTMENT ONLY

Email your counselor to schedule an in-person or virtual appointment. If a student is in crisis they will need permission from their teacher to visit a counselor.



SAFETY MEASURES

One student in a counselor's office at a time
 Masks are required
 Remain 6ft apart
 Entrance doors will remain shut

REASONS TO CONTACT US

COUNSELORS
 Ms. Lawson, Ms. Cole, Ms. Goodwin

To discuss academic, social/emotional, and career questions. This includes, but is not limited to: Class selection, college/career choices, scholarships, and friendship/relationship/family issues.

CAREER DEVELOPMENT COORDINATOR
 Mrs. Corbett

To discuss career fields and job qualifications. To discuss internship options within the county. Students enrolled at SPCC can discuss class options. Students interested in SPCC can discuss how to get enrolled.

COUNSELING SECRETARY
 Mrs. Tweed

The first person you see when entering our office. Mrs. Tweed can provide transcripts and bus passes. She can help with most school-related questions and can help students determine if they should meet with a counselor.

Technology Help Desk– Mr. Eddins

[Email James.eddins@ucps.k12.nc.us](mailto:James.eddins@ucps.k12.nc.us)

Help Desk for Students:

Monday 8:30AM – 10:AM
 Tuesday 12PM – 1:30PM
 Wednesday 8:30AM – 10AM
 Thursday 12PM – 1:30PM

Links

[UCPS Technology Help Desk](#)
[UCPS Technology](#)
[Chromebook Start Up Link](#)
[Click Here for Assistance Form](#)





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. Make sure to follow all of CATA's athletic teams on Twitter: [@CATA_Athletics](https://twitter.com/CATA_Athletics)

The NCHSAA has created a schedule for all Fall, Winter, and Spring Sports. Athletics will not begin until November. [Click here](#) for the calendar. UCPS and CATA will give updates about voluntary workouts in the coming weeks. Please contact our athletic director [Jay Niessner](#) if you have questions.

A huge thank you to **CATA junior Connor Drake** for our new athletic equipment storage boxes. Connor made these for his Eagle Scout project. Can't wait to put them to use!



Fall Sports Coaches Contact Information:

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

Cross Country - Kim Inuwa – kimberly.inuwa@ucps.k12.nc.us

Football – Shane Griffin-shane.griffin@ucps.k12.nc.us

Men's Soccer - Jay Niessner – jay.niessner@ucps.k12.nc.us

Volleyball - Stephanie Peacock – Stephanie.peacock@ucps.k12.nc.us

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

Women's Tennis - Terry Lewis – soldbyterrylewis@gmail.com

**CATA COUGAR
SPIRIT WEAR**
CATA Spirit Wear will
be on sale online
soon. We will keep
you updated.

Winter Sports Coaches Contact Information:

Cheerleading – Ashley Lawson – Ashley.lawson@ucps.k12.nc.us

Indoor Track & Field – Kim Inuwa – kimberly.inuwa@ucps.k12.nc.us

Women's Basketball – Kevin Allran – kevin.allran@ucps.k12.nc.us

Men's Basketball – Sam Smithson – Samuel.smithson@ucps.k12.nc.us

Swimming – Sally Goodwin – sarah.goodwin@ucps.k12.nc.us

Wrestling – Mike Jacobus – mike.jacobus@ucps.k12.nc.us

Spring Sports Contact Information:

Baseball – Matt Garcia – matthew.garcia@ucps.k12.nc.us

Men's Golf – Mike Jacobus – mike.jacobus@ucps.k12.nc.us

Men's Tennis – Terry Lewis – soldbyterrylewis@gmail.com

Softball – Aaron Hammers – aaron.hammers@ucps.k12.nc.us

Track & Field – Kim Inuwa – kimberly.inuwa@ucps.k12.nc.us

Women's Soccer – Jay Niessner – jay.niessner@ucps.k12.nc.us





The Den (Media Center) & Battle of the Books

The Den Digest

The CATA Media Center website has been transformed into a Virtual Learning Commons. Check out the website and see what is offered. Find links to databases, research help, reading lists, how to evaluate news sources and more.

<https://sites.google.com/a/ucps.k12.nc.us/cata-media-center/>

Remember that you can still access e-books and other resources through our online catalog

<https://search.follettsoftware.com/metasearch/ui/105625>

Please remember to finish your summer reading book so you're ready to discuss when we return to school.

CDC Information About the Coronavirus—<https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/index.html>

August Dates:

National Back to School Month

8/9—National Book Lovers Day

8/9-8/15—Assistance Dog Week

Click on the AD to sign up!

JOIN THE CATA BOB TEAM!

BATTLE OF THE BOOKS

Fill out the interest form here:
<https://forms.gle/5s4EcxfeCqwr6wGN6>



PTSO- The Cougar Council

Website- [CATA PTSO– The Cougar Council](#)

Website- [CATA Performing Arts Parent Committee](#)

The Cougar Council is Central Academy's Parent-Teacher-Student Organization (PTSO). The PTSO works to support the teachers, administrators and students. We provide teacher appreciation luncheons and celebrate their birthdays monthly, recognize student achievements, offer scholarships to seniors, and recognize our bus drivers, custodial, and lunch staff. Contact catacougarcouncil@gmail.com for more information about getting involved.

Click **HERE- [PTSO APPLICATION/INVEST IN EXCELLENCE FORM](#)**

Click **HERE- [Online Invest in Excellence Donation Website](#)**

Please consider supporting CATA by linking to these companies when you are shopping next time!

-Harris Teeter Together in Education (link to CATA using code 3612)

-Amazon Smile (<https://smile.amazon.com/ch/26-1542614>)

- ◆ Family Membership \$10.00 (student membership is included in the family membership).
- ◆ Student membership is \$5.00 (for students whose family have not joined but they would like to).
- ◆ Seniors whose family have become a member may apply for 1 of 6, \$500 scholarships offered by the PTSO for our students.

Senior T-Shirts, Yard Signs and Event Passes are now available to order through the PTSO website <http://www.cataptso.org>. This is a great way to show your CATA Senior Spirit and enjoy special treats throughout the year. If you have any questions, please reach out to PTSO (catacougarcouncil@gmail.com). An order form is in this edition on the last page. The PTSO will communicate how passes will be used this year . See the order form on page 11.

Important CATA Web Links

[Staff Directory](#)

[CATA PTSO– The Cougar Council](#)

[CATA Performing Arts Parent Committee](#)

[CATA Band and Boosters Website](#)

[The Den– Media Center Virtual Learning Commons](#)

[CATA Counseling Center](#)

[CATA Student Handbook](#)

[UCPS Program of Studies](#)



CLASS OF '21 ORDERS



CATA Seniors Class of 2021 Senior Package Form



Senior Events, T-Shirts, Yard Signs and more! In addition to offering senior t-shirts, yard signs and senior week activities, the PTSO Senior Events Committee has planned BONUS activities to make Class of 2021 a year of special memories. These bonus activities may include an ice cream social, dessert bar and other random surprise events during the school day. Entrance into these particular BONUS Senior Events require a Senior Pass. We are offering all senior programs separately or bundled with a \$5-\$10 discount for your convenience.

PACKAGE PRICING:

Senior Items	Basic	White	Maroon	Navy
Senior Event Pass		✓	✓	✓
PTSO Membership		✓	✓	✓
Senior Class T-Shirt	✓		✓	✓
Yard Sign	✓			✓
PACKAGE PRICING	\$ 25	\$ 35	\$ 45	\$ 60

SENIOR YARD SIGN



SENIOR CLASS T-SHIRT

(black long sleeve t-shirt w/ red text & white scratch)



ORDER FORM:

PLEASE FILL OUT THE INFORMATION BELOW AND RETURN THIS FORM TO THE FRONT OFFICE OR THE DEN/MEDIA CENTER OR VISIT WWW.CATAPTSO.ORG

PACKAGE	AMOUNT	QUANTITY	TOTAL
Basic	\$25		\$
White	\$35		\$
Maroon	\$45		\$
Navy	\$60		\$
Add On To Package Above			
Class Shirt	\$10		\$
Yard Sign	\$20		\$
Event Pass	\$30		\$
TOTAL PAYMENT:			\$

To place your order:

Order by July 15th for Open House Pick Up

ONLINE (available now): Order your package online at www.cataptso.org using your credit/debit card. Please note there will be a 3% transaction fee. Once you have paid you will be directed to an online form to fill out the required student information to complete the order.

OR

IN PERSON (available once the building re-opens): Fill out the information below and submit this form with your cash or check payment (checks made payable to CATA PTSO) to the Front Office or The Den/Media Center.

Name of 2021 Senior: _____

Cell Phone: _____ T-Shirt Size (if ordering above): _____

Parent Name: _____

Parent Email: _____

Package Type: _____ Payment: \$ _____ Online Cash Check # _____



PTSO Invest In Excellence



CATA Invest in Excellence & Parent Teacher Student Organization (PTSO) Membership



Dear Parents and Students - 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. Please join the PTSO, consider donating to our Invest in Excellence campaign and look to volunteer with one of our committees.

1. The Cougar Council, PTSO is responsible for many activities at CATA. In past years we have sponsored events which support all members of our CATA family. We look forward to your membership and support.
 - Recognizing academic achievement through the Student Academic Recognition Program (STAR)
 - Showing Teacher and Staff Appreciation through events & luncheons

2. Invest in Excellence at CATA campaign is a simple, one-time straightforward way for individuals and businesses to invest in the excellence of CATA. 100% of the money donated is invested in CATA. You are making an investment in your child's future. The campaign runs year-round. Invest in Excellence donation includes PTSO Membership.
 - Improved Signage to recognize Central Academy of Technology and Arts on campus and off
 - Individual Academy Funds to specific needs for students, teachers and classrooms
 - Past funds have included: Broadcasting Room Equipment, Science Lab Materials, Handheld Teaching Tools
 - One-time 100% donation with all funds going directly back to the school.

PLEASE FILL OUT THE INFORMATION BELOW AND RETURN TO THE FRONT OFFICE OR THE DEN/MEDIA CENTER

Parent or Guardian Name: _____

Student Name (s): _____

Grade Level (s): _____ Academy: _____

E-Mail Address: _____

Home Phone: _____ Cell Phone: _____

Check here to be automatically linked to Harris Teeter VIC card Together In Education program

Please check the committee or activity in which you are interested in helping:

____ Hospitality ____ Performing Arts ____ Membership ____ Fundraising ____ Communication

Yes, I want to Invest in Excellence at CATA (includes PTSO Membership)

\$25 \$75 Other _____

\$50 \$100 Corporate Matching Available

Yes, I want to join CATA Cougar Council PTSO (membership only - no Invest in Excellence donation)

\$10

TOTAL Payment: \$ _____ Check # _____ Pay Online

PAYMENTS online at www.cataptso.org (3% convenience fee will be applied) OR Make Checks Payable to CATA PTSO