



Central Academy of Technology & Arts

Cougar Chronicle

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Instagram

Dear CATA Family,

Summer Read Next Week: The goal for the summer reading program is for students to have a pleasurable and positive summer reading experience. **All incoming ninth grade students and new sophomore students read: "A Separate Peace" by John Knowles.** Next week during Cougar Time on Tuesday and Thursday, in small groups, students will have the opportunity to make connections with a teacher and their grade level peers discussing the books read over the summer. **All returning 10-12 graders [click here](#) to see which book you chose to read.**

Open House: This is scheduled for Tuesday, September 7 from 6-8 PM. Parents will come in starting at 6:00 PM and run through their students schedule. **Junior and Seniors** should come from 6-7 and **Freshmen and Sophomores** from 7-8.

Senior Night: The Counseling Department will host **Senior Night** on **September 7 at 7:00pm in the auditorium** (directly after Open House). This event is for all seniors and their families. Attendance is strongly encouraged as counselors will review important information about senior year. Topics will include college applications, scholarships/financial aid, Scoir, transcripts, letters of recommendation, and more. We will send out a sign up link for senior night early next week. There is more information on page 4. Link to sign up- <https://bit.ly/3yiMAU4>

The annual PTSO **Invest In Excellence Campaign** is underway: This 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. Please see page 6 for details and the giving form. [CLICK HERE TO INVEST!](#)**

Schedule Corrections: The **Schedule Correction** form will be open from **August 23 to August 27. [Click here for the form](#)**

Reminders: Students should arrive by 8:55 am to make the first bell of the day that signals students to move to their first class. **Please do not start dropping off students until 8:40 AM.**

Spirit Wear: The CATA Band Boosters sell all of our Spirit Wear. Go to the link for long and short sleeve shirts, tank tops, polo shirts, caps, visors, masks, stadium seats, lanyards, hoodies, sweatshirts, shorts, and joggers. [Click here](#) to purchase.

Athletic Passes are on sale: [Click HERE](#) to purchase. **Student Pass** – Good All Year – **All Sports** - \$40.00, **Parent Pass** – Good All Year – **All Sports** - \$100.00, **Season Pass** (Fall/Winter/Spring) – **Parents** - \$50.00

Athletics: Check out the CATA Sports page in this edition on page 7 or go to our athletics website by [clicking here](#). Please contact our athletic director if you have questions: [Rachael Petre](#). **Tickets:** Tickets for all CATA Home Athletics can be purchased [HERE](#).

CATA PTSO Information on page 5: Fall General PTSO Meeting on Tuesday, September 7th in the "Fishbowl" from 6:30pm - 6:45pm. This is the first classroom on the right when you walk in the building.

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 Life Information

Student Life Organizations and Clubs: We will have a Student Life Fair the Third week of school.

Cougar Mascot - The Cheerleaders are looking for a student to be our Cougar Mascot. Email our Athletic Director for more info: rachael.petre@ucps.k12.nc.us.

Seniors and Senior Parents, Class of 2022 Information about your senior portraits: Seniors, it's time to get your senior portraits and yearbook photo taken! Go online to cady.com/book22 to schedule your session! CADY has a studio at Crown Point Plaza in Matthews where your photos are taken. Every senior needs to get a picture taken with CADY so they will be in the yearbook. **Please see detailed information on page 8 about Class of 2022 Senior Portraits. Wednesday, October 20th is the second chance day for seniors to get their picture taken at CATA.**

Seniors and Senior Parents: Attention Seniors - **Senior T-Shirts, Yard Signs and Event Passes** are now available to order by clicking [here](#). 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).

Yearbooks: Students that need to pick up their 2021 yearbook can see Ms. Christensen in the Den. This current year's Yearbook information will be available in the coming weeks.

Beta Club invitations have been sent of all sophomores, juniors, and seniors. Beta Club is an awesome opportunity to give back to your community...and it looks great on college applications! Please read the invitation email for qualification requirements and the application process. Applications are due by September 3rd. If you have questions, please contact Mrs. Watts.

Attention Juniors and Seniors. Invitations to join National Honor Society and/or Rho Kappa Social Studies Honor Society have gone out. Please check your email and follow the instructions if interested. Contact Ms. Thompson with any questions or concerns.

Technology Help Desk– Mr. Eddins

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

Help Desk Hours for Students: Room 519

Monday 9AM – 10:30AM

Tuesday 12:30PM – 2PM

Wednesday 9AM – 10:30AM

Thursday 12:30PM – 2PM

Friday 9AM – 10:30AM





Items to Remember

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 up to three unexcused absences per class. Parents will receive notification upon the 3rd, 6th, and 8th unexcused absence.



Parking Passes— are now being sold on a first come first served basis. After we run out of spots, then students will be put on a waiting list. The process for purchasing parking passes will be on the online platform “**FamilyID**” An account has to be created if you do not already have one. Parking passes MAY NOT be purchased by any student who owes outstanding fees. After completion of the application, CATA will review your submission. The student will then receive a spot number and a link to pay for the pass once the application has been approved via the email provided in the registration form. Passes are \$45. Link for the application: <https://bit.ly/3s9faWh>



CATA Student Handbook Link:

Information about attendance, tardy policy, leaving school early, the dress code, and more. [Click here](#)



Bus Transportation:

Parents should email [Ms. Tweed](#) if they 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](#)



Early Dismissal: If a student driver needs to be dismissed early from school, a parent note must be emailed to [Mr. William Smith](#), our data manager prior to the start of the school day in order for the student to receive an early dismissal pass. The emailed parent note must contain the date, student's full name, the time that the student needs to be dismissed from school and the parent's phone number. Any student being picked up early from school by someone other than a parent, must follow the same protocol stated above while giving permission for someone else to pick up the student. Email the Mr. William Smith. In the event that a parent does not email a note, the parent must call the school to speak to someone in the front office.



Breakfast and Lunch: All breakfast and lunch meals are free to students this year! Students can purchase ala carte items if they would like. This includes premium chicken items, cookies, chips, sodas and water. To add money to their student's account they can visit k12paymentcenter.com



College and Career Corner

Class Information from the Counseling Department

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

[Please click here for all information from our Counseling Department](#)

[Click here to sign up for CATA College Visits](#)

[Scholarship Spotlight– Click HERE SCHOLARSHIP PAGE](#)

[Please click here for all information from our Counseling Department](#)

[CATA Counseling Canvas Page– Click HERE](#)

Student Schedules/Schedule Corrections

he **Schedule Correction** form will be open from **August 23 to August 27**. [Click here for the form](#)

Senior Night

The Counseling Department will host **Senior Night** on **September 7 at 7:00pm in the auditorium** (directly after Open House). This event is for all seniors and their families. Attendance is strongly encouraged as counselors will review important information about senior year. Topics will include college applications, scholarships/financial aid, Scoir, transcripts, letters of recommendation, and more.

After senior night, throughout the month of September, counselors will meet individually with every senior to discuss their senior year and post-high school plans. Seniors will receive information during senior night that will be important for their individual counselor meetings. Again, attendance is strongly encouraged. Please contact your assigned counselor with any questions. We will have limited space and senior families will need to sign up. We will send out a link to sign up later in August.

CATA Counseling 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 Cole](#) : Pre-Engineering and Performing Arts (theatre & dance) & Guidance Department Chairperson

[Sarah Goodwin](#): Information Systems (Cyber Security, Computer Engineering, Software & Game Design) and Music Production & Re-cording Arts

[Stephanie Graham](#): Medical Science, Transportation (Auto Technology & Collision Repair)



Hello and **Welcome** CATA Families!

Attention CATA Families: PTSO will hold it's **Fall General PTSO Meeting** on Tuesday, September 7th in the "Fishbowl" from 6:30pm - 6:45pm. This is the first classroom on the right when you walk in the building. This is being held during open house and senior night to make it most convenient for all our families.

Along with PTSO plans for the year, we will be voting on the 2021-2022 Budget. You can find a copy of the proposed budget to review on our website <http://www.cataptso.org> under important announcements. We invite all parents to attend and hope to see you there.

The 2021-2022 school year is here, and we are SO excited to see what this year brings. Your CATA PTSO has been hard at work welcoming our new staff and teachers, meeting new families, and getting plans together for the year ahead. None of this could be done without your support.

As Ms. Merritt has shared with you, we streamline all our fundraising efforts into our **Invest in Excellence campaign**. This is our simple, one-time straightforward way for individuals, families, and businesses to invest in the excellence of CATA. 100% of the money donated is invested in CATA.

Below you will find the link to the **Invest in Excellence** page on our website and the flyer is included in the Chronicle. For your convenience, we have 2 easy ways to pay. You can pay with your credit card online or you can print out the flyer and send in a check. Remember, just like last year, your Invest in Excellence donation includes your PTSO Membership! But don't worry, you also have the opportunity to purchase the PTSO Membership separately if you wish – we want EVERY family to be part of the PTSO this year.

Click Here to Invest in Excellence: <https://cataptso.org/shop/>

Want to get more involved? When you fill out the online form or send in the flyer, we also have an opportunity for you to tell us how you'd like to volunteer. As we have programs, projects, or events where we need help, this will be the first list we reach to.

We are always open to new ideas and know each family at CATA makes a difference. Please feel free to reach out at any time – we'd love to hear from you, our email is catacougarcouncil@gmail.com.

We truly are wishing all our students and family an amazing year!

CATA PTSO

Website: www.cataptso.org

Facebook: @catacougarcouncil

Twitter: @CATA_ptso

Email: catacougarcouncil@gmail.com



Invest in Excellence PTSO Fundraising Campaign

[CLICK HERE TO INVEST ONLINE](#)

OR Click on the Letter to go to the ONLINE Site



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 CATA 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.
 - Teacher and Staff Appreciation Events
 - Student Academic Achievement and Activities
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.
 - School wide and academy specific needs for students, teachers and classrooms
 - Past funds have included: Improved Signage on Campus, Privacy Window Wraps for Classrooms, Broadcasting Room Equipment, Science Lab Materials, Dance Floor
 - One-time 100% donation with all funds going directly to the school.

PLEASE FILL OUT THIS FORM AND RETURN TO THE FRONT OFFICE OR VISIT www.cataptsso.org TO PROCESS ONLINE

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

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

• \$25 • \$75 • Other _____

• \$50 • \$100 • Corporate Matching Available

No, I cannot participate in Invest in Excellence but would like to join CATA Cougar Council PTSO \$10

Yes, I would like to volunteer, please check the committee or activity in which you are interested in helping:

____ Beautification ____ Scholarship/Grants ____ Fundraising ____ Hospitality

____ Membership ____ Senior Committee ____ Performing Arts

PAYMENT: \$ _____ Check # _____ Pay Online

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

Questions on Invest Donation, Corporate Matching or PTSO Membership? Email us at catacougarcouncil@gmail.com.



COUGAR ATHLETICS

If you have questions about athletics or want to volunteer to help with athletics, please send an email to Athletic Director, Coach [Rachael Petre](#). **Tickets:** Tickets for all CATA Home Athletics can be purchased [HERE](#).

Make sure to follow all of CATA's athletic teams on Twitter: [@CATA_Athletics](#)
Athletics website: <https://www.ucpsathletics.com/centralacademy>

Upcoming Events:

Friday, August 27: AWAY- Tennis @Butler 4:00PM; AWAY- Volleyball @Carolina Courts vs. Queens Grant 4:00PM

Saturday, August 28: AWAY- XC @ Metrolina Carolina Kick Off Invite 7:00 AM

Tuesday, August 31: HOME - XC vs. Monroe & W. Stanly 4:30 PM; AWAY- Soccer @ Piedmont 5:30PM; AWAY- Volleyball @ Piedmont 4:30/5:30 PM; AWAY- Tennis @ Piedmont 4:00PM

Wednesday, Sept 1: HOME - Volleyball vs. Corvian 4:30/5:30PM; HOME - Tennis vs. Sun Valley 4:00PM

Thursday, Sept 2: AWAY - Tennis @ W. Stanly 4:00PM; AWAY- Volleyball @ Christ the King 4:30/6:00 PM; AWAY- Soccer @ Salisbury 5:30 PM; HOME - JV Football vs. Providence Day School 6:30PM

News & Information

Physicals: The newest NCHSAA [physical form](#), for the 2021-2022 school year is on our athletics website under forms.

FAMILY ID: If you plan to participate in Athletics during the 2021-2022 school year, then you need to register with Family ID. You only have to register once and you are good for the entire school year. Same email & password as last year, if you are new to CATA you will need to create a new account. The link to the CATA Family ID page can be found under FORMS on the CATA Athletics Website [HERE](#).

Season Sports Passes - Go to [CATA Athletics Website](#) for Season Pass Information. Student All Sports Pass - \$40
 Parent All Sports Pass - \$100, Parent Fall Sports Pass - \$50, Parent Winter Season Pass - \$50, Parent Spring Season Pass - \$50

Fall Contact Information:

Cheerleading - Victoria Zeiher – victoria.zeiher@gmail.com

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

Winter Contact Information:

Cheerleading – Victoria Zeiher – victoria.zeiher@gmail.com

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

Women's Basketball – – Dwight Miller- dwrightmlr57@gmail.com

Men's Basketball – – Marcus Winnegan- mwinnegan86@gmail.com

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

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



Men's Soccer beat Piedmont 3-0 this past week. Way to go Cougars!

Spring Contact Information:

Baseball – TBD

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



Senior Portraits and the DEN

It is now time to schedule your senior portraits through CADY. You must have your portrait taken by CADY to be in our yearbook.

1. CADY has a studio at Crown Point Plaza in Matthews.
 2. When you go to the website, search for Central Academy, pick an additional scene, and then click continue.
 3. On the next page you will see prices for session (sitting) fees. If you want the basic \$30 option then scroll to the bottom of the page and select simple session.
 4. Your session fee (sitting fee) is the fee you are paying for the photographers to take your picture and there are a lot of different priced options with multiple locations, dedicated photographers, makeup artists, etc. This fee DOES NOT pay for any of the photos that you might want. You will have to purchase your photos after you receive your proofs.
 5. Make sure to remove any pre-checked items you do not want such as double proofs, retouching, etc.
 6. Select your date and time, create an account, and pay the sitting fee.
 7. Show up for your appointment date and time you selected to get your pictures taken.
 8. After your pictures are taken you'll receive a portfolio in the mail. Keep anything you'd like to purchase and return everything else in the enclosed postage-paid envelope.
 9. Remember, we want 100% of our seniors represented in this book but we can't do it without you.
 10. Yearbook and senior tribute orders can be placed once school starts in the fall. The yearbook is always at its lowest price the first week of school so order early to get the best deal!
- If you have questions about senior pictures, please contact CADY Studios. If you have questions about other issues, contact Ms. Christensen at deb.christensen@ucps.k12.nc.us.

CADY IT'S TIME TO SCHEDULE YOUR
CADY.COM **SENIOR PORTRAITS**

DON'T GET LEFT OUT OF YOUR SENIOR YEARBOOK!
 SCHEDULE YOUR SESSION ONLINE TODAY AT
CADY.COM/BOOK22

The Den Digest

Check out the Virtual Learning Commons 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/>

Want to check out a book? Login to Destiny and put one on hold or stop into the media center and check one out.

Need a calculator? Fill out this form and have your parent/guardian sign. We will give the calculator to your math or

science teacher. <https://forms.gle/UopHczyHpjzf6QBb8>

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

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

Summer Reading groups meet next Tuesday and Thursday. You still have time to finish your book! Check your email for your room location to discuss your book.