

## Central Academy of Technology & Arts

# Cougar Chronicle

Volume 6; Issue 38, May 30, 2019

Dear CATA Family,

The **Spring 2019 Exam Schedule** is posted in this edition with important information about exam dates, times, and tips. **Attendance waiver letters** were sent home this week and last week for students with 7 or more unexcused absences in a class. All waiver letters are past due and must be turned in immediately. Students must complete **attendance recovery** who have 8 or more unexcused absences for a class or they will not

receive credit for the class. Students have been notified about recovery and must complete recovery by 6/7. Students needing to **recover absences** are expected to report to guidance after school and check in with Ms. Tweed Monday to Friday after school up until 5:00 PM. If a student has a question about recovery then direct those questions to assistant principal [Dr. Wall](#). Students with more than 7 unexcused absences who do not turn in their attendance waiver forms and who do not recover their unexcused absences will not receive credit the class.

### Exam Schedule Spring 2019

**5/31— Exam Period One, Review Period Two**

**6/3—Exam Period Two, Review Period Three**

**6/4—Exam Period Three, Review Period Four**

**6/5—Exam Period Four, Community Building**

**6/6—Make-up Exam Day**

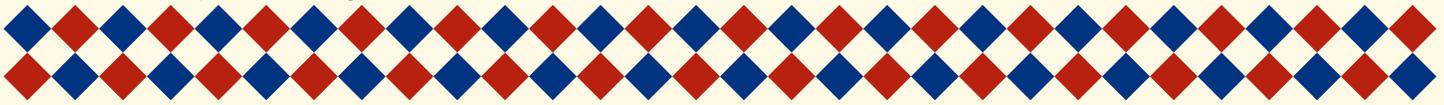
**Students requesting early dismissal any of the days during exam week** must bring a parent note to the front office before 8:40 am to receive an early dismissal pass (a parent note will be needed for each day your student is leaving early). Please remember that parent notes must include the student's full name, be written and signed by a parent, and dated. All students with early dismissal passes will be dismissed at the conclusion of the exam session, which is approximately 1:00 pm each day. No student will be dismissed prior to that time. Students must hand their dismissal pass to the adult at the door or parking lot in order to leave school. If students lose or misplace their early dismissal note they will not be given another pass unless another parent note is provided. If students do not have a dismissal note then they will attend lunch and the review session until the conclusion of school each day. **Attention students that FLEX**, you must turn in your Jiffy Pass key fob to Ms. Nahum before you leave. If it is not turned in, then you will be charged \$10 to your PowerSchool account. If you are a senior, then this means you will not be able to receive your graduation packets. **Chromebook and Charger Return:** Students have signed up to return their Chromebooks based on their exam schedules. Please contact our assistant principal, [Mr. Stewart](#) if a time is needed to sign up to return. All Chromebooks must be returned by 6/6. Charges will be assessed for missing and damaged Chromebooks and Chargers. **Seniors and parents** click [here](#) or look in this edition to see the **Spring Senior letter** with all information seniors need to know about graduation practice and the graduation ceremony. If a senior still owes fees of any type, then they will not receive their graduation and packet until all fees are paid.

Our Performing Arts Academy presents, "**A Raisin in the Sun**" on Friday, 5/31 and Saturday, 6/1 at 7 PM in the theatre. Tickets are \$5 at the door or can be purchased in advance by clicking [here](#). There will be a **Theatre Pre-screening Auditions for the 2020 Spring Musical** on 6/6 starting at 11:30 am. Prepare 16-32 bars from a musical - up-tempo or ballad and bring your sheet music. A sign up sheet will be on the theatre bulletin board this week.

**Summer Online Course Information:** If you are enrolled in a summer class make sure you have checked in with Mrs. Inuwa for your log in information. Summer Classes begin on Monday, 6/17, the Last Day to Drop Summer Classes is Thursday, 6/27, and the Last Day of Summer Classes is Friday, 8/9. If, you need to rent a Chromebook over the summer to complete your online course, then you will need to check one out through the Union County Virtual Office, located at 1218 Neal Street at the following times 6/10 to 6/13 from 9 to 11 and/or 1 to 3.

For information about how to make sure you and your CATA neighbors are on the list to receive the newsletter, please go to the For Parents tab on our website, or [click here](#). The Cougar Chronicle, in addition to our website, will be the main form of communication from school to home. At CATA we will continue to work toward Leading the Way so that your child can lead the way in the future!

Go Cougars! Ms. Merritt



## Spring Semester Exam Dates 2018-19

### **Thursday, May 30**

1<sup>st</sup> period review 8:50 to 10:20

### **Friday, May 31**

8:50 – 12:50 1<sup>st</sup> period exams in all classes

12:50 – 1:30 lunch – in café and gym

1:35 – 3:30 2<sup>nd</sup> period review

### **Monday, June 3**

8:50 – 12:50 2<sup>nd</sup> period exams in all classes

12:50 – 1:30 lunch – in café and gym

1:35 – 3:30 3<sup>rd</sup> period review

### **Tuesday, June 4**

8:50 – 12:50 3<sup>rd</sup> period exams in all classes

12:50 – 1:30 lunch – in café and gym

1:35 – 3:30 4<sup>th</sup> period review

### **Wednesday, June 5**

8:50 – 12:50 4<sup>th</sup> period exams in all classes

12:50 – 1:30 lunch – in café and gym

1:35 – 3:30 community building activity for those students that remain at school

**Thursday, June 6** is a makeup exam day – students needing to make up an exam should report to school by 8:50 to start.

### **Exam Study Tips:**

Be on time! Students should be in their testing locations before 8:50 a.m. They will not be admitted to exams once testing has begun. Students are encouraged to sleep well each night (8 hours), and have a healthy breakfast each morning. **Students should start bringing their Chromebooks to their testing room at 8:15 AM.**

Create a study calendar and stick to it

Ask your teacher for a study guide and USE IT!!

Use your notebook to guide you through a review of the course

Attend all review sessions offered

Go to tutoring for extra support

Make a study group, assign each person a topic to re-teach, and discuss each topic

Have your parents ask you questions

Use diagrams, graphs, pictures, and drawings in your textbook to serve as a talking point for you to review

Make flashcards on your computer or phone to practice important vocabulary words

Look at your scores from the semester and identify topics you struggled in – ask your teacher or a friend for help

Stay after school to study – let an administrator know which days your study group needs to stay and study and we will arrange for you to stay to study

Rewrite important points, the act of writing or typing helps some people remember specific information

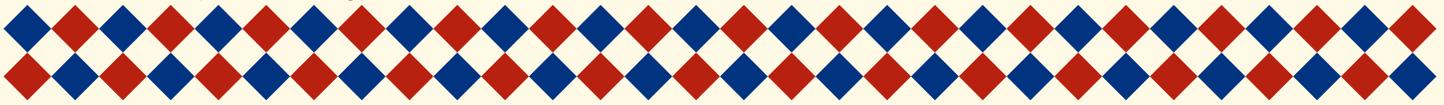
Create an acronym, or a funny saying, or song to remember specific information

Draw a quick sketch to help with definitions or concepts

Practice math problems

**Type of Exams:** We have four types of exams at the end of each semester – EOC, NC Finals, CTE State Assessment, and Teacher-Made. Teachers will address which type of exam their students will take.

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## Spring Semester Exam Dates 2018-19 Continued

### Exam Exemptions for Teacher Made Exams ONLY:

High School students will not be required to take a teacher-made final exam in a course in the following situations:

- The student has an average of **90** or above the week prior to the administration of the exam and has no more than **2 unexcused absences** in the class; or
- The student has an average of **80** or above the week prior to the administration of the exam and has no more than **1 unexcused absence** in the class.

**Attendance:** Attendance during exam days is required for all students, for both exam sessions and review sessions. Our normal school hours apply, but the schedule and lunch times are adjusted.

**June 6** is an important day for any students who have missed an exam earlier in the week due to illness. We regret that family vacation plans are not excused, and students cannot take exams early. We apologize that any requests for exceptions cannot be honored.

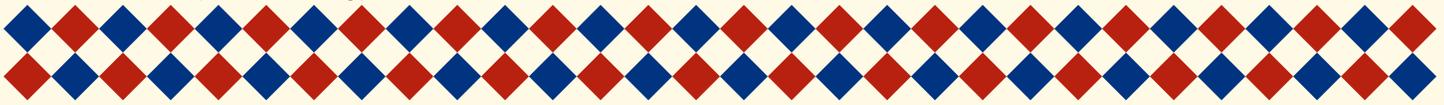
**Testing Window:** All exam testing must be completed between May 31 and June 6. This is true for ALL types of exams: EOC, NC Final Exams, CTE State Assessments, and Teacher-Made. Students may not test early, and if absent on an exam day, they must make arrangements to be at school on the make-up day in order to meet the approved testing window time-frame.

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

**Exam review:** All teachers are expected to help students with review during class time and to distribute a review guide to students prior to testing. Students should begin organizing and reviewing material.

**Academic Integrity:** Please remind students of the need to prepare well for the exams and to make sure that they make ethical decisions when taking exams. The penalty for cheating of any kind is a "0" on a final exam.

**Students will be required to turn in cell phones during testing sessions.** If they do not want to do this, they should not bring their cell phone into the school.



## Spring Senior Letter

Dear Class of 2019,

We are very proud of every one of you. This spring semester we hope you will enjoy your time with your friends, family, and teachers while maintaining high academic performance. We hope you will have fond memories of CATA and of all the people here. Congratulations on making it to this point in your academic career. We would like to provide you some updated information for of your senior year. We ask that you review the entire letter with your family. We are excited about the remainder of your senior year and want to be sure you know all necessary information and expectations.

**Graduation:** The ceremony is on Sunday, June 9, 2019 at 2:00 PM at the Winthrop Coliseum (**1162 Eden Terrace** Rock Hill, SC 29733). Please arrive no later than 1:00 to line up. Please be aware of traffic and plan accordingly to arrive on time. A map and directions will be provided for you on a later date. If you have any questions or need directions, then please visit the website ([www.winthrop.edu](http://www.winthrop.edu)).

**Graduation Practice:** Practice is on Thursday, June 6, 2019 from 2:00-4:00 PM in the gym. Please arrive no later than 1:45 PM. Please be aware that we must begin at 2:00. Please make sure to make plans to attend the entire practice. Failure to do so will result in not walking at graduation. It is your responsibility to schedule any college functions and work schedules around final exams, graduation practice, and graduation itself. You do not have to wear your cap and gown to practice. If you are speaking at graduation, then you should bring a copy of your speech so you can practice it a couple of times. You will not receive your tickets until the end of practice so make arrangements beforehand.

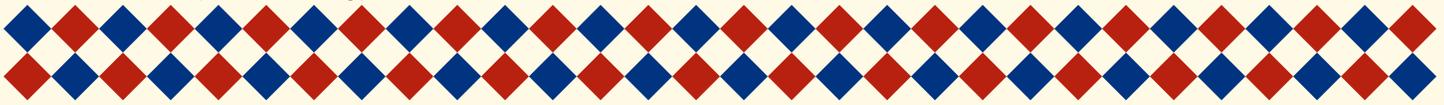
**Attire:** Students are expected to dress appropriately and professionally since this is a dignified ceremony. Students at CATA are only permitted to wear CATA issued cords, medallions, and cap and gown. No graduation regalia may be altered in any way.

**Ladies:** Ladies will need to wear an appropriate dress that is no longer than their gown or dark slacks. There should be no collar showing with the gown. Flip-flops and tennis shoes are not appropriate; however, dressy sandals are appropriate.

**Gentlemen:** dark pants, a white shirt, black or dark tie or bowtie. No tennis shoes or flip-flops will be allowed. If you have any questions about your attire, then please ask administration.

**Past due fees:** Past due fees must be paid before students may participate in Prom or Graduation. Please make online technology payments through the Central Academy Website, and make all other payments at the school with the bookkeeper. Dr. Wall and other staff will be calling about past due fees in an attempt to settle all fees by the end of April. Students will not receive graduation packets, which include tickets if past due fees are not paid. Any unpaid fee owed to the school or school system must be paid by Wednesday, June 5 to be allowed to participate in a graduation ceremony. We are contacting parents and want to try to resolve fee issues as quickly as possible.

**Continued on the Next Page.....**



## Spring Senior Letter Continued

**Tickets:** Tickets will be on sale beginning **May 6– June 5** before/after school in the main office, and will be available to be purchased online on the school website: Each senior will receive four (4) free tickets with the opportunity to buy extra tickets at \$10.00 a ticket. Students can pre-purchase as many tickets as they need (go to the CATA website, click on “Event Tickets” on the right tab starting May 6).

**Tickets will also be sold at the door for \$10 per ticket** before the graduation ceremony. Everyone (including children) must have a ticket to enter the arena. Students will not receive their tickets until the end of Graduation practice. Students owing fees will not receive tickets until fees are paid (see above). Please keep your receipt for the tickets in case there are any questions. Students can pay cash/check to pay for the tickets, or order online as shown above.

Graduating from high school is dependent upon earning the number and type of credits needed to earn a diploma. Participating in the graduation ceremony is a privilege, one that your family will truly value as they have spent a lot of time supporting you in your academic studies.

### Extra Information about graduation day:

Graduates must park at the back of the coliseum – this will be designated on the directions you receive and signs will be up at the coliseum. Guests must park at the front of the coliseum. If any of your guests a handicap accessible entrance at the front of the coliseum – cars can drive up to this entrance to drop their guest off and CATA staff will assist them in getting into the coliseum while the driver parks the car.

Winthrop Coliseum will have police officers and security at the graduation event. Please remind your guests that no noisemakers are permitted in the coliseum. The officers represent Winthrop and will enforce the Winthrop rules. Guests to the ceremony should plan on arriving 30 minutes to an hour in advance to allow for traffic. Winthrop will close the doors to the coliseum once the graduation ceremony begins, so all guests need to be in place prior to the 2:00 start time.

Students should not bring any valuables with them, including phones, into the coliseum, as there will be no place for them to store valuables. Please leave them with your parents.

A professional photographer will take pictures of the graduates receiving their diploma. Students will receive information on how to order the pictures in their Senior Envelope that they get after the ceremony. Only graduates and staff are permitted on the arena floor.

At the end of the graduation ceremony all seniors will proceed out of the coliseum and will use the coliseum tunnel to exit at the back of the coliseum, where they will receive their actual diploma, final transcript, picture information, and other important items. An official transcript in a sealed envelope will be in the packet. It is YOUR responsibility to mail it to your college. It is REQUIRED by your college for admission. **Please make plans to meet your families by walking around the outside of the coliseum toward the front. There are plenty of places to take pictures outside of the arena. Guests and graduates will not be able to stay inside the coliseum for pictures.**

## College and Career Corner

Class Information from the Guidance Counselors



**Attention Seniors - Check out the Spring Senior Letter by clicking [here](#).**

**Seniors– Graduation is at the Winthrop University Coliseum on Sunday, June 9 at 2:00 PM**

**Seniors Slide Show**, Please take a moment to look for a photo of you and your senior friends to play on the slide show during graduation. Keep in mind these photos need to be school appropriate or else they will not be shown, and all students in the photo should be a CATA senior.

**Senior Slide Show**– Click here to upload pictures.



### **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.



## 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** **Please follow the CATA Twitter & Facebook feeds for the latest updates due to weather and rescheduled events.** **Athletic Director:** Jay Niessner – [jay.niessner@ucps.k12.nc.us](mailto:jay.niessner@ucps.k12.nc.us)

**Physicals** – The newest NCHSAA physical form for the 2019-2020 school year can now be found on the CATA athletics website under forms.

**FAMILY ID:** If you plan on participating in Athletics during the 2019-2020 school year you need to register with Family ID. You only have to register once and you are good for the entire school year. Please click all sports that you might even think about playing next school year and you will be good to go. The link to the CATA Family ID page can be found under **FORMS** on the CATA Athletics Website. Family ID will go live on **July 1<sup>st</sup>, 2019** for next school year.

**Please contact individual coaches about summer workout schedules.**

### Fall Sports Coaches 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)

**Cross Country** - Kim Inuwa – [kimberly.inuwa@ucps.k12.nc.us](mailto:kimberly.inuwa@ucps.k12.nc.us)

**Football** – Drew Hackett – [drew.hackett@ucps.k12.nc.us](mailto:drew.hackett@ucps.k12.nc.us)

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

**Volleyball** - Stephanie Peacock – [Stephanie.peacock@ucps.k12.nc.us](mailto:Stephanie.peacock@ucps.k12.nc.us)

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

**Women's Tennis** - Terry Lewis – [terry.lewis@kw.com](mailto:terry.lewis@kw.com)

### Winter Sports Coaches 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)

**Indoor Track & Field** – Kim Inuwa – [kimberly.inuwa@ucps.k12.nc.us](mailto:kimberly.inuwa@ucps.k12.nc.us)

**Women's Basketball** – TBD

**Men's Basketball** – Sam Smithson – [Samuel.smithson@ucps.k12.nc.us](mailto:Samuel.smithson@ucps.k12.nc.us)

**Swimming** – Sally Goodwin – [sarah.goodwin@ucps.k12.nc.us](mailto:sarah.goodwin@ucps.k12.nc.us)

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

### Spring Sports Contact Information:

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

**Baseball** – Aaron Hammers – [aaron.hammers@ucps.k12.nc.us](mailto:aaron.hammers@ucps.k12.nc.us)

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

**Men's Tennis** – Terry Lewis – [terry.lewis@kw.com](mailto:terry.lewis@kw.com)

**Softball** – Greg Peters – [Gregory.peters@ucps.k12.nc.us](mailto:Gregory.peters@ucps.k12.nc.us)

**Track & Field** – Kim Inuwa – [kimberly.inuwa@ucps.k12.nc.us](mailto:kimberly.inuwa@ucps.k12.nc.us)

**Women's Soccer** – Jay Niessner – [jay.niessner@ucps.k12.nc.us](mailto:jay.niessner@ucps.k12.nc.us)

## ***Around CATA***

**Friday, May 31**—Exam Period One, Review Period Two; A Raisin in the Sun Play, 7 PM (Theatre)

**Saturday, June 1**—A Raisin in the Sun Play, 7 PM (Theatre); Student Council Inductions, 12:00 PM (Media Center)

**Monday, June 3**—Exam Period Two, Review Period Three

**Tuesday, June 4**—Exam Period Three, Review Period Four

**Wednesday, June 5**—Exam Period Four, Community Building; Graduation Speaker Practice, 1:30 PM (Theatre)

**Thursday, June 6**— Make-up Exam Day; End of Grading Period and Last Day of School; **Graduation Practice, 2:00 PM (Gym)**

**Friday, June 7**—Required Teacher Workday; Theatre Specialization Project, 7 PM (Theatre, Stivaletti)

**Sunday, June 9**—Graduation, 2 PM (Winthrop University Coliseum)

**Thursday, June 13**—Tentative Report Card Pick Up

## **Student Life**

Our student life organizations are listed on our website. [Click here.](#)

### **Be in the Know by following us on Social Media**

Follow CATA at @cata\_monroe

Dance @CATA\_DANCE

Performing Arts @CougarArts

Athletics @CATA\_Athletics

Football @cata\_football

Band @catabanddirect

Student Council @StucoCata

Counseling Twitter @CATA\_Counseling

Counseling Instagram @CATA.counseling

Cheerleading @CATACougarCheer

Baseball @CATA\_Baseball

Theatre **Instagram:** @C.A.T.A.Theatre

UCPS @UCPS\_MonroeNC

