Dear CATA Family,

- **Coffee with Counselors:** This is a parent only event on Wednesday, 1/29 from 8-9 AM in the Counseling Lobby. Counselors will be available to chat and answer any parent questions.

- **Spring Semester Schedule Corrections:** Schedule Corrections will only be reviewed if they are submitted via the Schedule Correction Google Doc. The Google Doc will open on Monday, 1/13 and stay open until Wednesday, 1/28. Click here for the schedule correction form. Please understand that all schedule correction requests will not be honored. Counselors will communicate via email if the correction was honored and if it was not explaining the reason why.

- **Student Absent Note Policy 2nd Semester:** All parent notes for student absences must be submitted to the front office within ten days of a student absence with a valid reason. We will not excuse absences for parent notes turned in after ten days. In addition, not all student notes are approved for excused absences.

- **Attendance Policy:** This will be checked weekly. Students are not to miss more than 7 class periods per course whether the absences are excused or unexcused. Please help us improve student attendance. Please be aware of our attendance policy by clicking here.

- **New UCPS Athletic Eligibility & Attendance for fall 2020:** Beginning in fall of 2020, Union County Public Schools will enforce a previously used attendance rule as it relates to athletic eligibility. Please check out the rules in this edition. Daily attendance 85% (No more than 13 absences a semester) of the previous semester and must meet all applicable eligibility standards of the NCHSAA. This means that student attendance counts toward eligibility for the Fall of 2020 in the Spring of 2020 (This semester).

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
**Friday, January 24**— Guest Speaker, 4th period for selected students, theater or gym, 2 PM
**Monday, January 27**— Knitting for Good, 3:30, Rm. 617 (Ms. Watts); Yearbook Club, 3:30, Rm. 102 (Ms. Pentecost)
**Tuesday, January 28**— **Report Cards**; Shooting Sports Meeting, 3:30, Rm. 102 (Ms. Pentecost)
**Wednesday, January 29**— Coffee with Counselors, 8-9 AM, Guidance Suite (Parents Only); Travel Club Interest Meeting for the Spring 2021 trip to Italy, 6 PM, Rm. 208 (Foreman); Art Club, 3:30, Rm. 102 (Ms. Pentecost); 2021
**Thursday, January 30**— Speech and Debate, 3:30, Rm. 617 Watts; Future Prep SAT Class, 4:00, Rm. 401
**Friday, January 31**— NHS Officer Meeting, 8:15 AM, Rm. 609 (Ms. Jones)

**Upcoming Events— February**

2/3 to 2/7— School Counselor Week
2/3— PTSO Meeting, 5:30 PM, Media Conference Rm.
2/3— Johnson and Wales College Visit, 9:30 AM, Media Center
2/3— Spring Sports Parent Night, 6:30 PM (Theatre)
2/6— Future Prep SAT Class, 4:00, Rm. 401
2/11— Progress Reports
2/13— Future Prep SAT Class, 4:00, Rm. 401
2/15— Future Prep SAT Class Practice Test, 8 AM, Rm. 401
2/17— **NO School, Teacher Workday**
2/19— Josten’s Class Ring Orders, (All Lunches)
2/19— Josten’s Class Ring Order Parent Night, 3-5:30 PM (Outside of the main office)
2/20— Future Prep SAT Class, 4:00, Rm. 401
2/21 to 2/22— Freshman Theatre Performance Night, 7 PM (Theatre)
2/25— ACT for all 11th Graders
2/25— Spring Sports Pictures (After School)
2/26— Site Based Committee Meeting, 3:45, Media Conference Rm.
2/27— Future Prep SAT Class, 4:00, Rm. 401

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

- **Have you always wanted to travel to Italy?** Do you love pizza and pasta more than anything else? Then have a parent join us for the **Travel Club interest meeting for the spring 2021 trip to Italy.** The meeting will be held in Ms. Foreman’s room on Wednesday January 29th at 6:00.
Cougar Pride, &
Coffee with Counselors

Cougar Pride - Way to go!!!

- Thank you to all of our students and teachers for a wonderful first semester. Let’s have a great second semester!

You’re invited to...

Coffee with Counselors

Ashley Lawson: Medical and Transportation Academies

Ashley Cole: Dance, Theatre, and Pre-Engineering Academies

Sally Goodwin: Information Systems and MPRA Academies

Counselors will be available to chat and answer any questions you may have.

January 29, 2020
8 a.m.—9 a.m.
Counseling Lobby

Coffee and light snacks will be provided.
Central Academy of Technology and Arts

College and Career Corner
Class Information from the Guidance Counselors

Counseling Twitter @CATA_Counseling
Counseling Instagram @CATA.counseling

Attention Seniors Class of 2020
Graduation is on Thursday, June 11, 2020 at 1:00 PM at the Winthrop Coliseum in Rock Hill, SC
The Fall Senior Letter is on our website. Senior students & parents click here
Sign up for College Visits Click Here
Dates for College Visits are posted in this Newsletter on the Around CATA Page
Scholarship Spotlight—Click HERE for more scholarships

ACT—All juniors will be taking the ACT on 2/25/20, a college entrance exam. In order to best prepare all juniors will work on ACT preparation during Cougar Time two times per week.

SAT—All juniors will be taking the SAT on 3/25/20.

Future Prep SAT Review/College Prep Class: The new class will begin on Thursday, 1/30 beginning at 4:00 pm to 6:30 pm. The cost is $199. Please see flier in this edition for more details. Click on the flier to register.

Spring Semester Schedule Corrections: The Google Doc will open on Monday, 1/13 and stay open until Wednesday, 1/28. Click here for the schedule correction form. Schedule Corrections will only be reviewed if they are submitted via the Schedule Correction Google Doc. Please understand that all schedule correction requests will not be honored. Counselors will communicate via email if the correction was honored and if it was not explaining the reason why.

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

**Last Week’s Results:**
- **Women’s Basketball** – Loss vs. Forest Hills
- **Men’s Basketball** – Loss vs. Forest Hills
- **Wrestling** – Team improved to 25-3 overall and 3-0 in Rocky River Matches.
- **Indoor Track & Field** – The teams heads to the JDL Fast Track to run for the Rocky River Conference Championship on Thursday night.
- **Swimming** – So far the team has 3 individuals and two relays with automatic regional times and 15 more swimmers with consideration times.

**Upcoming Events:**
- **Friday, January 24th:**
  - HOME – Wrestling vs. Montgomery Central – 6:30 pm – Senior Night
  - AWAY – Basketball @ Montgomery Central – 5:00/6:00/7:30 pm
- **Monday, January 27th:**
  - HOME – JV Basketball vs. Apprentice Academy – 5:00 pm
  - AWAY – Varsity Basketball vs. Corvian Community School – 5:00/6:30 pm
- **Tuesday, January 28th:**
  - HOME – Basketball vs. Mount Pleasant – 5:00/6:00/7:30 pm
- **Thursday, January 30th:**
  - AWAY – Wrestling vs. Mount Pleasant – 6:30 pm
- **Friday, January 31st:**
  - AWAY – Basketball vs. West Stanly – 5:00/6:00/7:30 pm
- **Saturday, February 1st:**
  - AWAY – Wrestling – Rocky River Conference Tournament – Anson High – All Day Event
  - AWAY – Swimming – NCHSAA Regionals – Greensboro Aquatics Center – All Day Event

**News & Information:**
- **Season Passes** are on sale online: Students - $25.00; Adults - $50.00. Good for admission to
- **Important Upcoming Dates:**
  - **Spring Sports:**
    - Monday, February 3rd – Spring Sports Mandatory Parent Night – 6:30 pm
    - Wednesday, February 12th – Start of Spring Sports
    - Tuesday, February 25th – Spring Sports Pictures – After School – Location TBD

Continued on the Next Page…..
UCPS Eligibility & Attendance for fall 2020:
Beginning in fall of 2020, Union County Public Schools will enforce a previously used attendance rule as it relates to athletic eligibility. In order to be eligible for interscholastic athletics participation, students must have been in:

Daily attendance 85% (No more than 13 absences a semester) of the previous semester and must meet all applicable eligibility standards of the NCHSAA.

The policy will begin being enforced for the 2020-21 school year and will use attendance from the 2nd semester of the 2019-20 school year to determine attendance eligibility for fall and winter sports.

PowerSchool defines daily attendance as being present 2 blocks. Absences recovered through attendance recovery will not change the attendance record and therefore will impact opportunities including the ability to participate in interscholastic athletics. Attendance in 2 full blocks will count as a day attended. Further the 2 blocks DO NOT have to be consecutive. A student could attend 1st block and then be out with a doctors appointment 2nd and 3rd and be in 4th to complete the day.

Schools will have the opportunity to submit a hardship request based on a legitimate circumstance, such as a medical condition, which may have created an attendance hardship.

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 – Drew Hackett – drew.hackett@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 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
New Performing Arts Committee of the PTSO Website

https://cataperformingarts.org/

We need parent volunteers to serve as leaders in the areas of: event flyer creation, hospitality/food, sponsorships, fundraising, social media/public relations, and ticket sales. Please click here for details about each category. By signing up you want to volunteer to be the lead in this area and facilitate other parent volunteers. This is helpful to our teachers, and students. Thank you for the support!

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The Den Digest

January is...

**National Hobby Month**—Want to learn a new hobby? Come by and see what we have to help get you started!

**National Puzzle Day**—January 29th, did you know we have puzzles in The Den? Stop by and pick one to work on today!

**Need help with research?** Learn how to search the many databases available to students. Stop by The Den today to get help.

**Stop by The Den today!** We are your go-to place for checking out books, magazines, a quiet place to read, supplies to work on projects in our space, and help with research/citing sources.

Visit our website for many resources: [https://sites.google.com/a/ucps.k12.nc.us/cata-media-center/](https://sites.google.com/a/ucps.k12.nc.us/cata-media-center/)

We have a special section just on Evaluating News Resources: [https://sites.google.com/a/ucps.k12.nc.us/cata-media-center/online-resources/identifying-fake-news](https://sites.google.com/a/ucps.k12.nc.us/cata-media-center/online-resources/identifying-fake-news)

Check the bias of the news media with the Interactive Media Bias Chart 5.0—[https://www.adfontesmedia.com/interactive-media-bias-chart/?v=402f03a963ba](https://www.adfontesmedia.com/interactive-media-bias-chart/?v=402f03a963ba)
**2019-2020 Yearbooks**

Yearbooks are $75.00 until November 30th when the price increases to $85.00. Send check or cash to Ms. Christensen in The Den or order online at [yearbookforever.com](http://yearbookforever.com) (search for CATA). **Time for ordering books with name stamps is running out.**

**Parking Passes— We are very limited in space at this time**

- ALL past due student fees must be paid before you are permitted to purchase a parking pass—this includes the 2016-2017 AND 2017-2018 technology fees, media center fees, cafeteria, and any fees owed to CATA.
- ALL Students, MUST print and bring ALL required documents with you along with the cash (exact amount) or check for $40 made payable to Central Academy of Technology & Arts. Any incomplete application packets will delay the process and you canNOT reserve your parking spot until all documents and check are turned in. Please make sure to have your parent sign the registration forms. They are available on the CATA website under “Students”. [Click here for the link](#).
- All remaining sports will be sold in number order.
- **If you pay with cash, you MUST have exact change.**

Parking passes are not guaranteed available throughout the school year. Once we sell out we will start a waiting list. Students obtaining their license during the school year are not guaranteed a spot, and may have to wait until the following year to drive. We will have a waitlist for those students bringing in all appropriate documentation.

**CATA COUGAR SPIRIT WEAR**

CATA Spirit Wear will be on sale online. Our Band Boosters sell Cougar Spirit Wear! [Click here to purchase online](#). Please call or text Mickie Carter at 980-257-4174