



Central Academy of Technology & Arts

Cougar Chronicle

Volume 7

Issue 37

May 29, 2020

Link to CATA
Social Media Sites
Click the Crest



Instagram

Dear CATA Family,

Congratulations to Monroe Police Officer **Patrick Harris** who was named UCPS School Resource Officer of the Year! He serves CATA as our SRO!



Please see our counseling page for scholarship & award winners!

All students and parents please mark your calendar for Thursday, June 11 as the day of DROP OFF and PICK UP for 9th-12th grade. A detailed plan will be communicated next week.

The Board of Education announced last night that there would be traditional graduation ceremonies with safety procedures in place. The high school staff is working to execute plans for graduation at a later date in June. Please stay tuned.

As it pertains to capturing your students grades this semester a link will be sent to your student 's email account on Thursday, June 4th asking for your student's choice on how they want to capture their grade according to the Remote Learning Guidelines and how they'd like them to appear on their transcript. Please complete this form WITH your student. This is due to be submitted by the LAST day of school June 9th.

UCPS Remote Learning Plan: INFORMATION for all Grades: During Phase 4 students will proceed with checking in with their 1st and 2nd block classes on Mon. & Weds. and 3rd and 4th block classes on Tues. & Thurs. Fridays are Teacher Office Hours. Students are encouraged to participate in the **NEW LEARNING** 180 mins. per week/per class or 90 mins. per class/per day. **Teachers are providing ongoing feedback and giving students grades at this time who are participating in remote learning.** As a reminder, the [Empowered Family Portal](#) is available for free learning resources for all grade levels.

[Click here to review the UCPS Remote Learning Plan.](#) **Technical Support:** A Special technical support line has been established for student technical support, device troubleshooting, and maintenance issues: Student Technical support may be accessed at studenthelpdesk.ucps.k12.nc.us. Students should check their UCPS email DAILY! [Click here for the UCPS Remote Learning Page](#).

Grading Policy for Grades 9 to 12: All Students will have two options for each final course grade:

1. Numeric grade, the highest grade representing learning as of the end of the fourth term (T4) or the Average of fourth and fifth terms (T\$ & T5) (The one that is higher). OR 2. PC19 or WC19

- Students will determine how each final course grade will appear on the transcript at the end of the semester after advising from the teacher/school and in consultation with the parent/guardian.
- When students choose to report a numeric grade as the final grade on the transcript, the numeric grade will be calculated into the cumulative GPA, following the guidelines in SBE policy GRAD-009.
- When students choose to report a PC19 or WC19 as the final grade on the transcript, there is no GPA impact when using these grades.
- When students in a yearlong course choose a PC19 or WC19 for the spring portion of the course, the fall term grade will be counted into the GPA.
- Students will not receive a failing grade. LEAs/Charters will advise the use of WC19 for any student who is failing as of March 13 and was unable to improve through remote learning opportunities.
- A final grade of PC19 does award a full unit of credit for a high school course while a grade of WC19 does not award a unit of credit.
- WC19 does not equate to a failing course grade but indicates a lack of evidence of mastery of standards ad-



More Information from Page One

-Teachers will be giving grades for the fifth term until the end of the school year for those who are participating in remote learning at this time and there will be no sixth term. This means students can take the fourth term grade, take the fourth term plus fifth term average if it is higher than the fourth term grade, choose PC19 for credit if passing as of March 13, or chose WC19 if failing as of March 13 and did not participate in remote learning. We strongly encourage students to improve their grades.

2020 - 2021 Registration Update: Your school counselors "met" with you to review your course selections and this started on May 4th based on your 2nd block class. Your assigned counselor contacted you by email. Due to the school building being closed for the remainder of the school year we do need students to fill out the Virtual Registration Google Form by clicking [here](#). for any required forms needed - Waiver Form, AP Contract, Online Course Request, Peer Tutor Form, Flex Form, Yearbook Interest. Please reach out to your assigned counselor with any questions or concerns. We look forward to "meeting" with you over the next three weeks!!

Juniors & Junior Parents, Class of 2021 Information about your senior portraits: [Click Here](#) for a video from our School's Photographer, Cady Studios. Watch the entire video & fill out the contact form to receive information on how to schedule.

Juniors & Junior Parents: Attention Rising Seniors - **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.

ATTENTION JUNIORS - Common App Essay Prompts have been released. This is something you can work on now and it will make your senior year much easier. The prompts are listed in this edition.

Here's what you need to know from CATA at this time:

- **If you need to contact a school counselor, then there is a page in this edition for assistance.**
- **UCPS is serving free lunches to those 18 years and younger during the closure. Please look for locations in this edition.**
- **2019-2020 Yearbooks:** Yearbooks are now \$85.00. Send check or cash to Ms. Christensen in The Den or order online at yearbookforever.com (search for CATA). Stay tuned to details about distribution.

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



Around CATA, Yearbooks, & the Media Center (The Den)



Buy Your CATA Yearbook Today

Order online at <https://yearbookforever.com>, search for CATA

Underclassmen distribution details will be announced when finalized.

Copies are running out! Buy yours today!

Follow on Instagram @catalyst.yearbook

On Facebook at <https://www.facebook.com/CATAlyst.yearbook>

The Den Digest

May is...

Get Caught Reading Month—<http://www.getcaughtreading.org/about-get-caught-reading.php>, tag @cata_monroe and @librarian_deb with pictures of what you're reading while you're learning at home!

National Mental Health Awareness Month—<https://www.nami.org/Get-Involved/Awareness-Events/Mental-Health-Month>

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

Visit our website for many resources—<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>

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>



College and Career Corner

Class Information from the Guidance Counselors

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

[Attention Seniors Class of 2020– Stay tuned for updated Information](#)

Graduation Date and Ceremony: Stay tuned for updated information

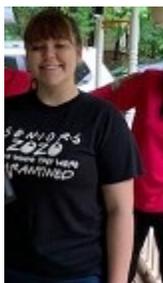
The Spring Senior Letter will come out once we have more information about graduation

[Scholarship Spotlight– Click HERE for more scholarships](#)

Testing Updates:

- **CATA's Test Prep partner, Future Prep Educational Services**, is offering online **SAT prep** options for students wishing to prep for this important test while they are at home. Future Prep currently has availability for one on one and small group tutoring through the Zoom platform. You can contact them directly at 704-307-8975 or customerservice@futureprep.com to discuss what will work best for your student.
- **Board of Education approves changes to graduation requirements for Class of 2020:** During the April 7 Union County Board of Education meeting, board members approved changes to graduation requirements for the UCPS Senior Class of 2020. The changes, which were adopted because of COVID-19 and the associated school closure, align with the amended graduation plan approved by the NC Board of Education . As part of the updated graduation requirements, UCPS high school seniors are now required to have a minimum of 22 credits by their originally scheduled graduation date. Prior to the change, current UCPS seniors would have been required to have a minimum of 28 credits to graduate with a high school diploma. Parents of high school seniors will receive more detailed information.

Scholarship & Award Winners-



Congratulations to Gabby Lowery who awarded the Girls on the Run of Union County Alumni scholarship! Way to go!

CONGRATULATIONS!

<p>Jackson Hase & Madison McBride Distinguished Athlete Award (Male and Female)</p>	<p>Catherin Alamos Semper Fidelis Award For Musical Excellence</p>
<p>Matthew Warren Scholastic Excellence Award</p>	

U.S. Marine Corps High School Awards Recipients

CONGRATS!

ACADEMIC EXCELLENCE AWARD WINNERS

Principal's Award: Marissa Clontz
 Superintendent's Award: Iyanna Brooks
 Service Learning Student Award: Brooke Lester
 Service Learning Club: Canine Club
 Yes, I Can Award: Jake Karas



College and Career Corner

Class Information from the Guidance Counselors

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

ATTENTION JUNIORS - Common App Essay Prompts have been released. This is something you can work on now and it will make your senior year much easier. The prompts are listed below -

1. Some students have a background, identity, interest, or talent so meaningful they believe their application would be incomplete without it. If this sounds like you, please share your story.
2. The lessons we take from obstacles we encounter can be fundamental to later success. Recount a time when you faced a challenge, setback, or failure. How did it affect you, and what did you learn from the experience?
3. Reflect on a time when you questioned or challenged a belief or idea. What prompted your thinking? What was the outcome?
4. Describe a problem you've solved or a problem you'd like to solve. It can be an intellectual challenge, a research query, an ethical dilemma — anything of personal importance, no matter the scale. Explain its significance to you and what steps you took or could be taken to identify a solution.
5. Discuss an accomplishment, event, or realization that sparked a period of personal growth and a new understanding of yourself or others.
6. Describe a topic, idea, or concept you find so engaging it makes you lose all track of time. Why does it captivate you? What or who do you turn to when you want to learn more?
7. Share an essay on any topic of your choice. It can be one you've already written, one that responds to a different prompt, or one of your own design.

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



UCPS Remote Learning Guide & CATA Student Life Organization Updates

4

Phase 4: Continuation of Teaching and Learning Via Remote Learning (April 20 – June 9)

- ┆ HS and MS new instructional content began on April 20th and April 21st, respectively
- ┆ ES new instructional content began on April 23
- ┆ Goal will be to continue with the introduction of new instructional content, as well as new standards for instruction, via online and print teaching and learning

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
First Block (90mins)	Third Block (90mins)	First Block (90mins)	Third Block (90mins)	Office Hours (120 mins)
Second Block (90mins)	Fourth Block (90mins)	Second Block (90mins)	Fourth Block (90mins)	

Grades 9-12 Communication Highlights

- Schedule will begin on April 20 and assignments will be posted in Canvas by 8:00 a.m. each day.
- Students will spend no more than 90 minutes on activities per subject/course each day.
- Students receive instruction, assignments, and/or activities in each course for which they are enrolled.
- Students/parents should direct questions to teachers of the subject/course.
- Teachers will maintain “remote” office hours for a minimum of 2 hours on designated office hours days and should respond to student/parent inquiries within 24 hours to the greatest extent possible.
- Flexibility is key – instruction and activities should take into account each student’s current situation
- New standards of instruction will be introduced and students are encouraged to stay engaged and participate in the learning opportunities.
- In order to support all students, teachers will track student participation and monitor student progress through feedback. This will be done in order to make sure our teachers know which students may need additional support once UCPS has completed remote learning due to COVID-19 school closure and students and staff return to school next year.
- Grading guidelines for students in grades 9-12 have been developed and approved by the North Carolina State Board of Education.

[Most Recent Guidance Link for Remote Learning](#)
[UCPS Policy on Conferencing Platforms](#)

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

BETA Club-Due to the current situation the Beta application process will take place at the beginning of next school year. We just want to make sure parents know we are waiting until next year instead of the end of this year like we normally do.



Counseling Center Assistance & Lunches

Hello, Cougars! We want to let everyone know that we are still here to support you during this break. Our students' mental and physical health and wellbeing is always our top priority. Please know you can reach out to your counselor if you need to. We have also listed some resources in case you or anyone you know should need them. Make sure you are checking your email and school & county social media pages so you can stay informed about what is happening.

- Optum has a toll-free 24-hour Emotional Support Help Line at 866-342-6892 for people who may be experiencing anxiety or stress related to COVID-19.
- Cardinal Innovations (mental health referrals - multiple languages) 1-800-939-5911
- Mobile Crisis 1-866-275-9552
- The National Suicide Prevention Hotline (1-800-273-TALK) offers free and confidential support for people in distress, prevention and crisis resources 24/7
- Text HOME to 741741 to connect with a Trained Crisis Counselor 24/7
- Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration's (SAMHSA's) Disaster Distress Helpline: 1-800-985-5990 or text TalkWithUs to 66746 (TTY 1-800-846-8517)
- 911 when someone needs help right away because of an injury or an immediate danger

Please stay safe and know we are here for you!

The CATA Counseling Department

ashley.lawson@ucps.k12.nc.us - Medical and Transportation Academies

ashley.cole@ucps.k12.nc.us - Dance, Theatre, and Pre-Engineering Academies

sarah.goodwin@ucps.k12.nc.us - Information Systems and MPRA Academies

Health Sciences Academy at Monroe Middle
601 E. Sunset Drive
Monroe, NC 28112

Rocky River Elementary
500 N. Rocky River Road
Monroe, NC 28110

Sardis Elementary
4416 Sardis Church Road
Monroe, NC 28110

Wingate Elementary
301 Bivens Street
Wingate, NC 28174

FREE MEALS DURING SCHOOL CLOSURE

What's New?

Monday – Friday
11 a.m. – 1 p.m.
(two meals served on Friday)

Wings -
Chicken
Beef
Chicken
Veggie
Pasta



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 North Carolina High School Athletic Association (NCHSAA) has suspended all games, practices, workouts, skill development, and meetings until Monday April 6th. All athletic facilities on the CATA campus are closed to all teams. We will update you as further decisions are made.

New Athletic Attendance Eligibility Requirements: Please [click here](#) for more information. this Spring to be eligible this coming Fall of 2020.

Fall Sports - 2020

Summer Workouts will start on June 15th. Summer workout calendars & schedules will be posted after spring break, please contact your sports coach for more details.

Summer Dead Weeks NO ATHLETIC: June 29th – July 5th, July 20th – July 26th. All athletic facilities are closed during these dead weeks

Fall sports parent night – Monday, July 27th, 2020 – 6:30 pm

Fall sports will start on Saturday – **August 1st, 2020**, First week of games – **August 17th – August 22nd**

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

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

**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



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 # _____