

Dear CATA Family,

There is information in this edition for parents and students consideration of **Plan D Remote Learning Virtual Acad**emy for the second semester. If your child will remain in or transition to the Virtual Academy (Plan D) for the second semester, you must complete the 6-12 Virtual Academy application via Scribbles. Click here or visit the UCPS homepage and click on the "I Want To" section. If you have questions, please contact Ms. Merritt. The application will be open from October 30 to Nov. 8. Please go to our Counseling section on page two for more information.

- CATA Cougar Spirit Wear is NOW AVAILABLE for sale online: Please <u>click here</u> to purchase.
- End of the Grading Period: Nov. 6 is the end of the second grading period. Parents check Power School for your child's grades and contact the teacher with questions. This is a reminder we have a third six weeks and final exams that both count 25% of the final grade.
- Fall Exam Schedule: Please see pages 10 and 11 of this edition.
- Freshman Theatre Show: "Etched" The Freshmen Theatre Students filmed a monologue show during their class time. CLICK HERE TO WATCH THE SHOW!
- Our Athletics seasons are about to get underway with Volleyball and Cross Country. Please see our athletics pages in this edition for information on all teams. We have more information on cheerleading, basketball, and swimming.
- Underclassmen Photo Retakes are Tuesday, 11/17 from 8:30-6:00 and Wednesday, 11/18 from 10:30–6:00 pm. Plan B students
 who are in the building on Tuesday or Wednesday will be called by grade level to get their picture taken if they were absent for
 the October dates. Students in the Virtual Academy can come either day during the times listed above. You will have to check in
 at the main office and be screened before heading to The Den (media center) workroom to take your picture.
- Union County Education Foundation Public Ed. Summit: You are invited to register for the first ever Public Ed Summit hosted by the Union County Education Foundation. Take a deep dive into issues and opportunities in Union County Public Schools. Each day, November 16-19, you will receive video interviews with influential UCPS professionals. Watch all videos or only one! You decide when and where to participate. <u>Registration Deadline</u>: November 13. <u>Click here</u> to register for the event 11/16 to 11/19.
- Poetry Out Loud: The annual school-wide Poetry Out Loud recitation contest will be held by video this year. If you are
 interested in submitting a video entry, please contact Mrs. Henry for competition details. Video entries must be submitted to Mrs. Henry by 11/30.
- Class of 2021 Information about your senior portraits: Class of 2021, remember to schedule your senior portraits online at <u>cady.com/schedule</u>. You can now make an appointment at either the studio at Crown Point Plaza or on 11/13 at CATA. When you go to the website, search for CATA, pick an additional scene (brick will be what is at CATA), then click continue. 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. 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. Seniors must complete this task in order to be in the yearbook.
- Yearbook Survey: Now it's round 2 of 4 with the Fall Yearbook Survey. Students are entered into a drawing for a \$10 Amazon gift card. Third period Teachers are competing for a \$10 Amazon gift card as well. Deadline for survey prizes are Friday, 11/6. The survey was sent to each student's UCPS email account.

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



College and Career Corner **Class Information from the Guidance Counselors**

Counseling Twitter @CATA Counseling Counseling Instagram @CATA.counseling

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

CATA Tutoring Times - Fall 2020

CATA will be offering tutoring times each day of the week based on subject. Approved CATA students will be providing the tutoring. If tutoring is needed, then please click the Teams link to join during the assigned times. Tutoring

- Monday 3:45 to 4:45 for Social Studies, click here to join Social Studies ٠
- Monday 3:45 to 4:45 for Math 1 & 2, click here to join Math 1 & 2 ٠
- Monday 3:45-4:45 for Math 3, Pre-Calculus, & Math 4, click here to join Math 3, 4, & Pre-Calculus
- **Tuesday** 3:45 to 4:45 for Science, click here to join Science ٠
- Wednesday 3:45 to 4:45 Math 1 & 2, click here to join Math 1 & 2 ٠
- Wednesday 3:45 to 4:45 Math 3, Pre-Calculus, & Math 4, click here to join Math 3, 4, & Pre-Calculus ٠
- **Thursday** 3:45 to 4:45 English, click here to join English
- Friday All 5 subjects will be offered from 1:30 3:30 in 2 shifts (1:30 to 2:30, 2:30 to 3:30), click the links ٠ above for the subject you need for tutoring

Union County Public Schools is providing a very important update about instructional models. In an effort to plan for second-semester classes, teaching schedules and more, UCPS is launching a Virtual Academy Application for middle and high school students. If your child will remain in or transition to the Virtual Academy (Plan D) for the second semester, you must complete the 6-12 Virtual Academy application via Scribbles. The application period will open Friday, Oct. 30 and close Sunday, Nov. 8 at 11:59 p.m. I. f your child will remain in or transition to Plan B for inperson learning at school, two days a week, there is no action for your family. Under Plan B, students are expected to attend school (in person) on their assigned day. Students who do not attend school will be



marked absent. To access Scribbles, click here or visit the UCPS homepage and click on the I Want To section. If you have questions, please contact Ms. Merritt.

CATA Guidance Department

A high school guidance department can help your student with a LOT during high schoolcounseling during a problem/or stress, college planning, career/college questions, interview skills, problem solving with classes/teachers, 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 friendship/social issues. Counselors also help with (Cybersecurity, Computer Engineering, Software & Game Design) and Music Production & Recording Arts



@UCPSCollegePrep

@UCPSCollegePrep



COUGAR ATHLETICS

If you have questions about athletics or want to volunteer to help with athletics, please send an email to Athletic Director, <u>Coach Jay Niessner</u>. Make sure to follow all of CATA's athletic teams on Twitter: **@CATA_Athletics**

<u>News & Information: Click here</u> for NCHSAA 2020-21 Sports Seasons News & Information:

Parent Check List for Athletics: The following need to complete prior to starting a sport at CATA:

- FamilyID Completed & Approved: Link Click Here
- CATA Virtual Athlete/Parent Preseason Meeting Sign Off Completed Link Click Here
- **Contact** your student's coach. We need to know how many kids are trying out for sports (especially indoor sports) due to limitations on our numbers. Coaches Contact information can be found below

Virtual Athlete/Parent Preseason Meeting: Due to limitations on gatherings, we will not be holding any in person preseason meetings. All students interested in participating should follow the link below to our virtual meeting and complete the sign off. This must be done before starting a sport. This only needs to be completed ONE time for the 2020-2021 school year. Teams will hold virtual parent nights after teams are selected. Link: <u>https://forms.gle/b46cVRwuYxuBSfSr7</u>

UCPS Eligibility – Attendance Matters: 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.
- 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.
- 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.

Important Upcoming Dates:

 November 4th – Start of Volleyball & Cross Country Season Volleyball – 4:30 – 6:30 pm – Wednesday & Thursday (Tryouts) Cross Country – Start of season (no tryouts) 4:30 - Dark
 November 12th – 14th – Cheerleading Tryouts Check with Coach Lawson for more information
 November 23rd – Start of Swimming Season Tuesday, November 24th – Bryce Family YMCA – 8:00 – 9:15 pm Please contact Coach Goodwin for more information
 December 7th – Start of Basketball Season Tryouts – Monday & Tuesday 12/7 & 12/8

CLICK HERE FOR 2020-21 SPIRIT WEAR

Athletics Coaches Contacts and Important Dates are on the next page.



COUGAR ATHLETICS

Athletic Department Contact Information:

Athletic Director - Jay Niessner - jay.niessner@ucps.k12.nc.us Administrator over Athletics – Dr. Josh Wall – josh.wall@ucps.k12.nc.us **Baseball** – Aaron Hammers – aaron.hammers@ucps.k12.nc.us **Cheerleading -** Ashley Lawson – Ashley.lawson@ucps.k12.nc.us Cross Country - Kim Inuwa – kimberly.inuwa@ucps.k12.nc.us Football – Shane Griffin – Edward.griffin@ucps.k12.nc.us Men's Basketball – Sam Smithson – Samuel.smithson@ucps.k12.nc.us Men's Golf - Mike Jacobus - mike.jacobus@ucps.k12.nc.us **Men's Soccer** - Jay Niessner – jay.niessner@ucps.k12.nc.us **Men's Tennis** – Terry Lewis – soldbyterrylewis@gmail.com **Softball** – Aaron Hammers – aaron.hammers@ucps.k12.nc.us **Swimming** – Sally Goodwin – sarah.goodwin@ucps.k12.nc.us Track & Field – Kim Inuwa – kimberly.inuwa@ucps.k12.nc.us Volleyball - Stephanie Peacock – Stephanie.peacock@ucps.k12.nc.us Women's Basketball – Kevin Allran – kevin.allran@ucps.k12.nc.us Women's Golf - Nelson Rowell – nelson.rowell@ucps.k12.nc.us Women's Soccer – Jay Niessner – jay.niessner@ucps.k12.nc.us **Women's Tennis** - Terry Lewis – soldbyterrylewis@gmail.com Wrestling – Mike Jacobus – mike.jacobus@ucps.k12.nc.us

Adjusted Sports Season's 2020-2021:

Volleyball: November 4th – January 9th Cross Country: November 4th – January 9th Swimming: November 23rd – January 28th Men's & Women's Basketball: December 7th – February 19th

Basketball Cheer: November - February Men's Soccer: January 11th – March 12th Football: February 8th – April 9th Football Cheer: February – April Men's & Women's Golf: March 1st – April 30th Men's Tennis: March 1st – April 30th Softball: March 1st – April 30th Women's Soccer: March 1st – April 30th Baseball: April 12th – June 11th Women's Tennis: April 12th – June 11th Track & Field: April 12th – June 11th Wrestling: April 12th – June 11th



The Den Digest (Media Center) & The Career Development Corner

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/

Want to check out a book? Login to Destiny and put one on hold. We will deliver it to you!

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

science teacher. You can still get a calculator if you are in the virtual academy.

https://forms.gle/UopHczyHpjzf6QBb8

Remember that you can still access e-books and other resources through our online catalog https://search.follettsoftware.com/metasearch/ui/105625

November is:

November 3rd: Election Day-remember to make a plan and cast your vote! November 8-14: World Kindness Week

> National Book Awards Week Children's Book Week

Career Development Corner

SPCC Update/Calendar Reminders: November 16th – SPCC Registration for Spring courses begins

> All students will register during this period – new and returning students. Make sure you are following SPCC procedures and guidelines for registering for courses. This registration period is only for spring courses; students will register for summer courses at a later date. Please contact your CA-TA Counselor or Megan Watkins, SPCC Career Coach @ (704) 290-5087 for more information.



December 11th – Initial UCPS deadline for completing SPCC registration for spring courses

All students are strongly encouraged to have completed the application, enrollment, and registration process for Spring 2021 CCP courses by this date. Completing the previous items by this date will help to ensure your course materials are purchased and prepared for you in a timely manner.

December 9th - 18th (Monday - Friday) - ***Fall textbook drop-off***

Students, who took CCP classes fall semester, will need to turn in their textbooks to the CCP Book Room at Rocky River Elementary, Tr. 1. Students, who still have textbooks from previous semesters, should also return their textbooks during this time (see map below). Textbook drop-off instructions are below:

 Once students/parents arrive at Rocky River Elementary, park and walk up to the Career and College Promise (CCP) Book Room, Trailer 1. You will see a red tent, and the door will be open (See the map below).

Walk up to the door and place textbooks on the table by the door. If there is a student dropping off a textbook at the door, please form a line by standing on the marked X's on the sidewalk.



PTSO- The Cougar Council

Website- <u>CATA PTSO- The Cougar Council</u>

Website- CATA Performing Arts Parent Committee

Click HERE- PTSO APPLICATION/INVEST IN EXCELLENCE FORM

Click HERE- Online Invest in Excellence Donation Website

HELLO CATA FAMILIES!! Please visit our CATA PTSO website <u>www.cataptso.org</u> for information including Invest in Excellence, PTSO Membership and more. Feel free to reach to us at <u>catacougarcouncil@gmail.com</u> with any questions, ideas or suggestions. We know this year will look very different for us all which is even more reason to get involved and stay informed.

NEW - MORE FREE MONEY FOR THE SCHOOL:

Publix Partners has contributed \$37.7 million to more than 4,600 schools across the Southeast and YOU can help CATA receive some of those funds. Participating is easy, simply create or sign into your Publix account (www.publix.com/myaccount/register), click My Publix Partners at the top, and Central Academy of Technology & Arts as your school. That's IT! Then enter your phone number or use pay with the Publix app every time you check out. They'll give back to CATA just for shopping at Publix (it does not cost you any more to support CATA). This is NEW so if you shop at Publix, please take a few minutes to sign up - thank you so much!



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

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



Yearbooks, Senior Tributes, Technology Assistance,

- Yearbooks are on sale for \$75.00. Reserve your copy today! Order online at <u>https:// yearbookforever.com/</u>. Search for CATA.
- Class of 2021 Senior Tributes
 CLICK HERE: If you would like to purchase a senior tribute for the yearbook, then click the link for pricing and to learn about the process!



SCHEDULE YOUR SESSION TODAY!



Senior Pictures

Seniors, time is running out to schedule your senior portraits! You can sign up for a session at the studio in Matthews or for the Friday, November 13th session at the school but you MUST make an appointment for either place.

All senior pictures must be taken by December 1st in order to be included in the yearbook. After you get your photos taken, don't forget to go online and select the pose you'd like in the yearbook.



SCHEDULE YOUR SENIOR PORTRAITS cady.com/schedule SCHEDULE HOW IN OVERSCHOOLS

<u>Technology Help Desk– Mr. Eddins</u> <u>Click Here for Assistance Form</u>

Email James.eddins@ucps.k12.nc.us

<u>Links</u>

UCPS Technology Help Desk UCPS Technology Chromebook Start Up Link Canvas Help Help Desk for Students: Monday 8:30AM – 10:AM Tuesday 12PM – 1:30PM Wednesday 8:30AM – 10AM Thursday 12PM – 1:30PM





School Safety, Attendance and Notes, Parking Passes, Bus Information

School Protocols Safety– <u>Click Here</u> Click <u>here</u> for state Guidelines

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.

Parking Passes 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. <u>Click here for</u> <u>FamilyID</u>. 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. <u>Andrea Nahum</u>. Bus Info: Parents should email <u>Ms. Tweed</u> 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 a their bus stop at least 20 minutes before the scheduled arrival time. Bus App Letter English Bus App Letter Spanish

Attendance and Absence Notes:

Absence notes must be **emailed** and/or scanned to





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.

Fall Exam Schedule-continued on the next page

Monday, December 14

1st period review 9:05 to 10:35 (This is a regular day of school for all Plan B and Plan D students)

Tuesday, December 15

9:05 – 1:05 1st period STATE exams in EOC and CTE Classes on site. For State Exams Plan B and Plan D must come to school. 9:05 AM to 11:05 AM- 1st period Teacher Made Exam Window- All Virtual

1:05 - 1:35 lunch – in café and gym

1:45 – 3:45: 2nd period review Plan B and Plan D

Wednesday, December 16

9:05 – 1:05 2nd period STATE exams in EOC and CTE Classes on site. For State Exams Plan B and Plan D must come to school. 9:05 AM to 11:05 AM- 2nd period **Teacher Made Exam** Window- All Virtual

1:05 - 1:35 lunch – in café and gym

1:45 – 3:45: 3rd period review Plan B and Plan D

Thursday, December 17

9:05 – 1:05 3rd period STATE exams in EOC and CTE Classes on site. For State Exams Plan B and Plan D must come to school. 9:05 AM to 11:05 AM- 3rd period Teacher Made Exam Window- All Virtual

1:05 - 1:35 lunch – in café and gym

1:45 – 3:45: 4th period review Plan B and Plan D

Friday, December 18

9:05 – 1:05 4th period STATE exams in EOC and CTE Classes on site. For State Exams Plan B and Plan D must come to school. 9:05 AM to 11:05 AM- 4th period Teacher Made Exam Window- All Virtual

1:05 - 1:35 lunch – in café and gym

1:45 – 3:45: Bus riders will sit in the gym or café until time to leave school with masks and distance.

Monday, December 21- Make-up Exams

9:05 – 1:05 Make-up STATE exams in EOC and CTE Classes on site. For State Exams Plan B and Plan D must come to school. 9:05 AM to 11:05 AM- Make-up Teacher Made Exam Window- All Virtual

1:05 - 1:35 lunch – in café and gym

1:45 – 3:45: Bus riders will sit in the gym or café until time to leave school with masks and distance.

Exam Information

All students who take STATE EOC or CTE Exams must take their exam in the school building. If a student does not complete their final State exam (EOC or CTE) or teacher made exam within the five-day window they will receive a final grade of 0 and it will be averaged into their final grade. Mask, social distance, and room capacity rules will apply. Student drivers must park in their assigned student parking lot spot. If you have not purchased a parking spot then you need to have a parent bring you to and pick you up from school. Please do not drive to school without a parking pass.

List of At School STATE Exams

CTE STATE Exams Advanced Manufacturing (Bernhard) Apparel & Textile Production I (Casey) Audio Engineering Technology I (King) Audio Engineering Technology II (King) Automotive Service I (Page & Pressley) Automotive Service and Suspension (Page) Business Law Honors (Union County Virtual) Career Management (Union County Virtual) Collision Repair Fundamentals (Aldridge) Electronics DC (Hansen) Foods and Nutrition (Casey) Health Science I (Allran and Black) PLTW Human Body Systems (Turner) PLTW Introduction to Engineering Design (Hidalgo) PLTW Introduction to Engineering (Humphries) PLTW Medical Intervention (Turner) PLTW Principles of Biomedical Sciences (Turner) Principles of Business & Finance (Union County Virtual) Robotics Engineering (Bernhard)

EOC State Exams

Biology English II Math I Math III

.....continued on the next page

All students who have **Teacher Made Exams** will take their exams virtually. If your student has a problem with an exam, then they need to do the following

- Email the teacher
- Call the school immediately and ask for one of the assistant principals Dr. Wall or Mr. Stewart
- Teacher made exams will be posted on Canvas or on a link to Canvas. The teacher will communicate to students and parents exam links and expectations.

Exam Exemptions for Teacher Made Exams ONLY: Students will be notified by their teacher on Monday, 12/14. 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 in the building during exam days is required for all students who are taking EOC and CTE Exams. Students who are taking teacher made exams should take their exam from home. Our normal school hours apply, but the schedule and lunch times are adjusted. December 21 is an important day for any students who have missed an exam earlier in the week due to illness. If missing the exam is due to Covid-19, the school will communicate a plan with each individual student and family. 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.

Dismissal: All students who drive to school and those who have parents drive them to school should plan to leave school around 1:05. Those students may eat lunch then go home or go directly home. **The only students who should remain on campus are bus riders.** Bus riders will go to their appropriate review session classes after lunch. All other students (car drivers and car riders should log into review sessions virtually). Students who ride buses who plan to leave early instead of waiting on the bus need to have a note they give to their teacher and the teacher will give the student a specific color pass to leave each day.

<u>Exam Study Tips:</u>

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.

- · 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 virtual study group, assign each person a topic to re-teach, and discuss each topic
- Have your parents ask you questions
- We know studying with classmates virtually can be different but still effective.
- · 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 three types of exams at the end of each semester – EOC, CTE State Assessment, and Teacher-Made. Teachers will address which type of exam their students will take.

Testing Window: All exam testing must be completed between December 15 and December 21. This is true for ALL types of exams: EOC, 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 on canvas to students prior to testing. Teachers will have virtual review sessions for each class as stated in the schedule above. 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.