

# Central Academy of Technology and Arts

## Cougar Chronicle

Volume 4; Issue 17, December 15, 2016

### U.S. Department of Education National Blue Ribbon School

Dear CATA Family,

For one night only, join us for a night of Dance, Theater, Band and Chorus in this year's Winter Collaborative "Seasons Greetings." Performance is set for Monday, December 19th, 2016 at 7:00 pm. Tickets are \$7.00 at the door. The chorus and band had wonderful concerts this past week. Enjoy the photos in this edition.

Attendance waiver letters went home with students this week and must be completed and returned to the front office. Letters are due back by Tuesday, December 20. This is one part of our continuing push for good school attendance. The policy is in the Chronicle. In addition, if your child owes recovery time, then this must be completed by the end of the semester. Students will be notified about recovery time this week.

We have some exciting things coming up prior to the Holiday Break. Our Student Council is collecting money to send a child to Camp Victory Junction, we have one more day, so please send all of your loose change—bills are also accepted! The National Honor Society is collecting new and gently used books. Students should bring these in to Ms. Christensen in the media center.

Next Tuesday we say Happy Retirement to our long-time Collision Repair Teacher, Mr. Terry Lindley. Mr. Lindley has been at the school since the days of the Career Center and has taught hundreds of Transportation Collision students. See the Chronicle for some great photos and more information about this great teacher. We will miss him dearly and wish him the best.

Information for seniors is attached in the Fall Senior Letter in this edition. Please check this week's letter for updates. Fall Final Exams start on January 18th which gives students about two weeks once they come back from break. Teachers will be providing study guides for exams—many will likely be posted on the teacher's Canvas account for the class. The next progress reports should come out on January 4th, but please make sure you and your child are frequently checking the Parent Portal for grades. If you have questions about grades, please communicate with your child's teacher.

Please take time to read over this newsletter. The Cougar Chronicles are also available on the website. 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!

Dr. Fisenne



**Holiday Spirit Week**  
**Fri—Whoville Day**

# CATA Collision Program and School Say Farewell to Mr. Terry Lindley

Mr. Terry Lindley has been at 600 Brewer Drive for a long time! He will be retiring at the end of December. Mr. Lindley started as the first Collision Teacher at the Union County Career Center which was a vocational school for students throughout Union County Public Schools. Mr. Lindley taught hundreds of students over the years in the fine art of Collision, or Auto Body Repair. When the Union County Career Center closed its' doors and re-opened as Central Academy of Technology & Art, Mr. Lindley continued his education mission to teach Union County students a skill that would lead to a great career in the Automotive Industry. In addition to teaching, Mr. Lindley is currently the advisor for the Fellowship of Christian Athletes and certainly has become a mentor to many, many students at CATA in all academies. It is common to see Mr. Lindley out at the ballfield or in the gym enjoying a student athletic competition and cheering on his students.



Thank you Mr. Lindley—you will be missed!!



## Society of Women Engineers Converse with other Women Engineers

The Society of Women Engineers members had the opportunity to Skype a female engineer during a recent club meeting. The purpose of interviewing engineers is to introduce SWE members to the numerous fields that they can go into and ask specific questions of a female engineer in that field.

SWE Skyped Erin Davis, a Biomedical Engineer who currently works with GE Healthcare and focuses on innovating medical devices. She has been working at GE Healthcare for a year and a half after participating in a co-op with them for 3 semesters. Ms. Davis graduated from Marquette University in Biomedical Engineering with a focus in Electrical Engineering.

SWE members had the chance to ask Ms. Davis questions about her background. One member asked why she chose to focus on Electrical Engineering within her Biomedical major. Ms. Davis' responded that she thought electrical circuits were interesting and that she understood circuits better than the majority of Biomedical students in classes with her. She thought studying electrical in addition to Biomedical engineering would set her apart from other students and make her more marketable when she graduated college.

Other questions addressed her treatment as a female engineer and what working for a large corporation is like. Ms. Davis said she has had no issues with gender inequalities despite working in a male dominant field. She also described how GE is reinventing its corporation to feel like many individual small businesses in order to appeal to the millennial generation. Two examples she gave were replacing annual reviews with more real time feedback and allowing flexible vacation time. Further topics included how Ms. Davis prepared for engineering in high school and why she picked engineering for a career field.

The Skype thirty minute interview with Ms. Davis was very enlightening to SWE members. It was a great opportunity for them to have various questions answered by a professional engineer in a field a lot of the members are interested in. Ms. Davis provided lots of helpful insight about being a professional engineer and also about being a female in a typically male dominated profession.

~ Article by Elizabeth Helms, SWE Club Secretary

## NHS Writes Cards to Veterans

This month the CATA National Honor Society created special handwritten Christmas cards to distribute to veteran medical and retirement facilities around the country during the holiday season through the "Art of Encouragement" program.







## Spotlight on Instruction and Academic Opportunities

**CATA Rat Rod** Harper Corp of America R.A.T. Rod Round-up Challenge - \$5,000 Grant. Currently students from Transportation, Information Systems, Family and Consumer Sciences, Engineering, and Art are involved in the creation of this build. This project will create a bond between academies as they strive to a common goal. The Rat Rod vehicle will consist of a minimum of 10 different parts from 10 different vehicles, and will be road legal and drivable.

[CLICK HERE FOR THE RATROD WEBSITE](#)



### CATA Computer Repair

Bring your computer to room 216  
We will give you suggestions and an estimate on cost



No additional charge other than parts

we can:

- get rid of viruses, malware, adware
- optimize your computer
- install upgrades
- install hardware



## Math Lab

Bring me your math problems



with  
**Mr. Broome**  
In room 515  
every

Help solve Problems!

Monday

3:30-4:30

Wednesday

&

3:30-4:30



## LABS FOR MATH AND WRITING

*This is in addition to the existing Math Lab and individual teacher tutoring...*

**Math** is on Monday, Tuesday, and Thursday: 8:15 to 8:40 AM  
(NHS Peer Tutors) In the Media Center

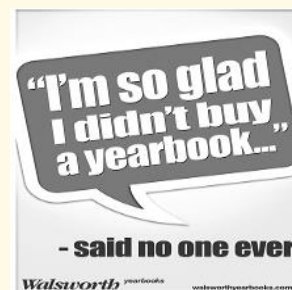
**Writing** is on Tuesdays (Ms. Foreman Rm. 208) and  
Wednesdays (Ms. Barron Rm. 110) ) from 3:30 PM to 4:30 PM



## Get Your Yearbooks!

Yearbooks are now on sale for \$75 (Price is good through January 27)!

Buy your 2017 yearbook today! Order online at [www.yearbookforever.com](http://www.yearbookforever.com). and search for CATA or bring a check (made out to Central Academy) or cash to Ms. Christensen.



## Hands Helping Others Helps Sponsor a Christmas Party for Special Needs Kids

CATA's *Hands Helping Others* club helped sponsor a Christmas Party last weekend for a dance studio based in Charlotte named "A Chance To Dance". The studio serves special needs children across the area who are interested in learning the art of dance in a friendly, safe, and loving environment. The HHO club took time out of their Saturday to present each special dancer with a hand-selected gift from their very own "wish list". Santa (Mitch Palmer) was even there to assist in the festivities.



Palmer) was even there to assist in the festivities.



## CATA Band Students Spread the Joy of Music Beyond the School Walls

December is always a very busy month in the band program, and this one has been especially busy. Band students have been staying after school for combined dress rehearsals for the upcoming Winter Concert and Winter Collaborative, preparing for All-District Band auditions, preparing for their first ever entry for the Essential Ellington National Jazz Band Competition in NYC, attending honor band clinics and having to manage the strenuous course loads of any student at CATA.

Most recently, the CATA Band of Blue and students in the Performing Arts Academy's Jazz Class went to East Elementary School to take part in their Kindergarten Reading Celebration. CATA Students helped the kindergarteners decorate their capes and had the students read to them showing off their new reading

"superpowers" and reading strategies. The event ended with the kindergarteners singing a song written by the East Elementary Kindergarten teachers accompanied by the band students. The accompaniment was written by CATA Band student James Stryka on software purchased by the Performing Arts Department.





## Student Life Notes

- **Student Council's annual basketball tournament** will be held on Friday, December 16th during fourth block. Each team is to consist of 5 members. To register your team, please bring \$20 to Ms. Foreman. If your team has a faculty member on it, it will cost only \$15. Keep in mind that each team is only allowed one current/past CATA basketball player. Start registering your teams today! There are only 6 spots, so register fast! Tickets to get into the game will cost \$3 and will be on sale during all lunches starting next week.
- **Students, NHS is collecting new and gently used books** for a local elementary school. Please bring books suitable for k-5 students to your second block classes. The class with the most books (in acceptable condition) by December 20th will win a prize after break.
- The **Fashion Design Club** will begin meeting on Tuesdays. Please join us in Ms. Casey's room (room 616) Tuesdays at 3:40 pm.
- Interested in the world around you? Want to get together and learn more? Great! Come be a part of the **World Language Club!** See Ms. McAbee or Ms. Mancilla for more information.
- A new club is starting up at CATA, called **YCI Bible Studies**. Is there something you have always wanted to ask or learn about from Scripture? We are coming together one day a week digging into Scripture seeking answers and making friendships. All are welcome, so come out Friday mornings to room 525 at 8:00.
- **Travel Club** Are you interested in spending two weeks traveling through Spain and Portugal next year? If so, see Ms. Foreman if you have any questions.



## A Penny WAR for Victory Junction Camp: One More Day-Make it COUNT

- \* December 5th to December 16th. Change will be collected by grade levels during lunch.
- \* Each dollar you donate is 50 points.
- \* Each penny you donate is worth ONE point
- \* Silver change deducts points.
- \* If you want to sabotage another grade level, put your silver coins in their jar.
- \* Each nickel is minus 5 points.
- \* Each dime is minus 10,
- \* Each quarter is minus 25 points.
- \* The money that we collect will be donated to Victory Junction, a camp for children with health care needs.
- \* The winning grade level will win a special prize!

# ***Around CATA***

**Friday, December 16**—Annual Basketball Tournament, (4th Period), Home Basketball vs Union Academy, games starting at 4 PM;

**Sunday, December 18**—Shooting Sports Practice, 2 PM (Take Aim Sports);

**Monday, December 19**—**Winter Collaborative Concert, 7 PM**; Robotics, 3:30; Society of Women Engineers, 3:45; Student Council Officer Meeting, 3:40

**Tuesday, December 20**—Last day of school before Winter Break

**Wednesday, December 21 to Monday, January 2**— **NO SCHOOL**

**Tuesday, January 3**—**Students Return to School**; NHS Meetings, 8:15 AM and 3:45 PM

**Wednesday, January 4**—**Progress Reports Distributed; Winter Sports Pictures (After School)**; FCA Leadership, 8 AM;

**Thursday, January 5**—Robotics Club, 3:30 PM; Theater Special Projects, 7 PM

**Friday, January 6**— Science Olympiad, 3:30 PM ; Theatre III show--The History of Tom Jones-, 7 PM

**Saturday, January 7**—Theatre III show--The History of Tom Jones, 7 PM

**Sunday, January 8**—Theatre III show--The History of Tom Jones, 2:30 PM ;Shooting Sports Practice, 2 PM (Take Aim Sports);

## **Upcoming Events**

12/16 to 12/20—NHS Book Drive

12/16—Annual Student Basketball Tournament-Tentative

12/19—Winter Collaborative, 7 PM (Auditorium)

12/21 to 1/2— NO SCHOOL, Winter Break

1/4—Progress Reports Distributed

1/6 to-1/8—Theatre III show--The History of Tom Jones--

1/8 to 1/24— EXAMS

1/9—PTSO Executive Board Meeting

1/11—Superintendent's Advisory Council

1/11—Student Life Organization Meeting, 8:15 AM (Rm. 401)

1/12—CATA Band Booster, 6:30 PM (Band Rm.)

**1/16—NO SCHOOL, Martin Luther King Jr. Holiday**

**1/18— FIRST PERIOD EXAM DAY, SECOND PERIOD REVIEW**

**1/19— SECOND PERIOD EXAM DAY, THIRD PERIOD REVIEW**

**1/20—THIRD PERIOD EXAM DAY, FOURTH PERIOD REVIEW**

**1/23—FOURTH PERIOD EXAM DAY, COMMUNITY BUILDING**

**1/24—MAKE UP EXAM DAY, SCHOOL IS IN SESSION**

**1/25—NO SCHOOL, TEACHER WORK DAY**

1/25, Site-based Team Meeting, 3:40 PM (Media Center Conference Rm.)

**1/26—FIRST DAY OF THE SECOND SEMESTER**

1/30—Spring Sports Parent Team Night, 7:00 (Auditorium)

1/31—Poetry Out Loud Countywide Competition, 3:30 PM (Auditorium)

2/1 to 2/8—Black History Month

2/1—Last Day for Schedule Change Requests

2/2—Report Cards Distributed

**Here is an update of the current score of the Victory Junction Coin Drive: One More Day to Go!**

—In fourth place are the juniors with -2493 points

—In third place are the freshmen with -1969 points

—In second place are the sophomores with -105 points

—And in first place are the seniors with 935 points

# Guidance News

**Seniors....Graduation—Saturday, June 10, 2017 7:30 PM at Winthrop Coliseum**

**SENIORS – did you miss Financial Aid night??** Check out CFNC's presentation [here!](#)

The link will be at the top of the page. You can learn about the FAFSA, financial aid basics, and more!

**See the Fall Senior Letter in this Edition**

**Need assistance with the FAFSA? SECU can help!**

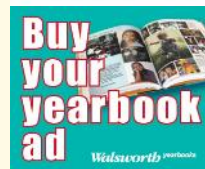
**See Your Counselor about Federal Financial Aid. Create an Account, have your parents fill out the information, and see if you qualify for MONEY**

**Raleigh, N.C.** – If you missed out on getting assistance with completing the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) on October 29<sup>th</sup> – FAFSA Day, additional help is on the way. State Employees' Credit Union (SECU) will be offering its support to college-bound students and families the week of December 5<sup>th</sup> – 9<sup>th</sup> during normal business hours in all 257 offices statewide. Branch personnel will be available throughout the week to answer questions and help with the completion and electronic filing of the FAFSA for the 2017-2018 college academic year.

The annual FAFSA event is a program offered by College Foundation of North Carolina (CFNC), the North Carolina Association of Student Financial Aid Administrators (NCASFAA) and State Employees' Credit Union. SECU's seven-year partnership with CFNC and NCASFAA to offer free volunteer assistance continues to be successful in raising community awareness, providing access and the opportunity for student families to complete the FAFSA, a required document to be considered for all federal and most state financial aid for college, career school or graduate school.

"The Credit Union's participation in the FAFSA event will help CFNC and NCASFAA serve even more North Carolina students and families," says Krista Loew, SECU Vice President of IRA Services. "SECU is committed to using its resources to help applicants better understand the process of planning for college and applying for financial aid. The Credit Union's joint collaboration with CFNC and NCASFAA is a worthy investment toward the educational and financial future of North Carolina students and we look forward to helping them complete the FAFSA."

**About SECU:** A not-for-profit financial cooperative owned by its members, SECU has been providing employees of the State of North Carolina and their families with consumer financial services for 79 years. The Credit Union also offers a diversified line of financial advisory services including retirement and education planning, tax preparation, insurance, trust and estate planning services, and investments through its partners and affiliated entities. SECU serves over 2 million members through 257 branch offices, nearly 1,100 ATMs, 24/7 Member Services via phone and a website, [www.ncsecu.org](http://www.ncsecu.org).





## Class Information and College and Career Corner

**JUNIORS**—All juniors will be taking the **ACT**, a college entrance exam, in early March. In order to best prepare all juniors will work on ACT preparation during Cougar Time two times per week.

Are you interested in taking **World Drumming** next semester? Or **Statistical Methods (STATS)** through South Piedmont Community College? If so please see Ms. Lawson ASAP to sign up!!!

Attention SOPHOMORES - **NC School of Science and Math (NCSSM)** is a public high school where talented students find their niche and realize their potential. Their mission is to educate academically talented students to become state, national, and global leaders in science, technology, engineering, and mathematics; advance public education in North Carolina; and inspire innovation for the betterment of humankind, through challenging residential, online, summer, and virtual learning driven by instructional excellence and the excitement of discovery. *Sophomores* that are interested in this opportunity are encouraged to apply. For more information, please visit: <http://www.ncssm.edu/>. **Deadline to apply: January 15, 2017.**

CLASS OF  
**2018**

CLASS OF 2019

Class of  
**2020**

**Perry Outreach Program** - The Perry Initiative has partnered with medical centers, universities, and high schools to offer the Perry Outreach Program for *high school females*. During these day-long programs, students are able to perform mock orthopedic surgeries and conduct bio-mechanical engineering experiments, while also hearing from prominent women engineers and surgeons in the field. This **FREE** program will be offered in Winston-Salem on **February 18th** at Wake Forest University from 4:30 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. To be eligible, students must be high school girls in grades 10 and up with an expressed interest in engineering, orthopedic surgery and/or medicine. For more information, and to apply, please visit: <http://perryinitiative.org/curriculum/pop/>. **Approximate deadline: January 17, 2016.**

**Attention Sophomores & Juniors** - We are once again teaming up with Future Prep to offer a **6 week SAT prep course!** Students will learn global and section-specific strategies while reviewing all three areas of the NEW SAT, with a special focus on the essay. There will be a full-length practice test and students will use the Official SAT Study Guide published by CollegeBoard. This course will prepare students for the March 11th SAT and will begin on **Thursday, January 26, 2017** and will run each Thursday **until March 2, 2017**. Students will meet from 4:00 p.m. - 6:30 p.m. on those days. The practice test will be held from 8:30 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. on Saturday, January 28, 2017. This course is being offered for \$199. Please visit: <http://www.futureprep.com/satregister.php?class=Jan%2026%204pm%20Central%20Academy> or call (704)307-8975 to register!

## Schedule Changes

The Guidance Office will begin taking 2nd Semester Schedule Changes on Tuesday, January 3rd. The forms are located on the School Counseling Website under the Registration Tab

### Summer Opportunities for all Students

Students - Does this cold weather have you thinking about the summer?? If so, you should check out our [Summer Opportunities](#) page to check out summer camps and programs that will be offered this upcoming summer. Registration deadlines will be here before you know it, and some camps fill up on a first come, first served basis, so check out these opportunities today!

### College and Scholarship Spotlight

#### UNC Greensboro Teacher Education Fellows Scholarship:

This program awards a \$20,000.00 scholarship distributed incrementally over four years of study at UNCG. In addition to scholarships, the UNCG Teacher Education Fellows Program includes a variety of other benefits, including integrated seminars, early internships, networking events, community engagement opportunities, and leadership development. Fellows also live in relative proximity to one another as part of the Residential Colleges or Lloyd International Honors College. Additionally, Fellows study abroad during their sophomore year as part of the global focus of the program. To learn more, please visit: <http://utlc.uncg.edu/teacher-education-fellows>. **Deadline: January 1, 2017.**

#### Elon University Teaching Fellows Program:

This is a four year program designed to prepare future teachers who think critically and embrace diversity, who are leaders within and beyond the classroom, and who will participate meaningfully in a global society. This program carries a \$5,500 scholarship that is renewable annually. Students can also retain the Presidential (\$6000) or Elon Engagement Scholarship (\$3500) if previously awarded. In addition, program related costs for study abroad airfare are covered, along with two required winter term courses (American History Study Tour and The Washington Center Academic Seminars). For more information, please visit: [http://www.elon.edu/e-web/academics/education/teaching\\_fellows/default.xhtml](http://www.elon.edu/e-web/academics/education/teaching_fellows/default.xhtml). After applying to Elon University, students can then apply for the Teaching Fellows Program. **Deadline: January 10, 2017.**

#### GE-Reagan Foundation Scholarship Program:

The GE-Reagan Foundation would like to reward college-bound seniors who embody the characteristics of former president Ronald Reagan at school, in the community, in the workplace, and at home. Recipients of this scholarship will receive a \$10,000 scholarship that will be renewable for up to three additional years (for a total of \$40,000). Students who demonstrate exemplary leadership, drive, integrity, and citizenship are encouraged to apply. To be eligible, applicants must: 1). Demonstrate the previously listed characteristics at school, in the workplace, and in the community; 2). Have a minimum 3.0 GPA; 3). Be a U.S. citizen; 4). Be a current high school senior; and 5). Plan to enroll full-time at an accredited four-year or university to pursue a Bachelor's degree in the upcoming school year. For more information, and to apply, please visit: <http://www.reaganfoundation.org/GE-RFScholarships.aspx>. **Deadline: January 5, 2017.**

### College Presentations: Juniors or Seniors

The following colleges plan to visit at the dates and times listed. If you are interested in attending one of these information sessions, please sign up in the Guidance Office.

- **Global Gap Year at UNC Chapel Hill - January 12, 2017 @ 11:00 a.m.\***
- **Campbell University - February 13, 2017 @ 11:00 a.m.**

*\*Only for seniors that applied early action and juniors that are interested*

**Seniors – Your NEW Scholarship Newsletter is available! Find a copy [here!](#)**

## 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

[Kendall Cameron](#): Pre-Engineering and Performing Arts (theatre & dance)

[Melody Carr](#): Information Systems (CyberSecurity, Computer Engineering, Software & Game Design) and Music Production & Recording Arts.

A letter was sent home with Seniors in Pre-engineering, Theatre, and Dance today letting them know that Ms. Cameron's last day will be 12/15 as she is taking a job closer to home. We are currently in the hiring process for a new counselor. Any recommendation request for Ms. Cameron will only be accepted through 12/8. In order to best meet the needs of all students we are asking that you address any general needs after December 15<sup>th</sup> to the following counselors:

**Pre-Engineering Academy Students, Scholarships, AP Testing** – Ms. Ashley Lawson  
([ashley.lawson@ucps.k12.nc.us](mailto:ashley.lawson@ucps.k12.nc.us))

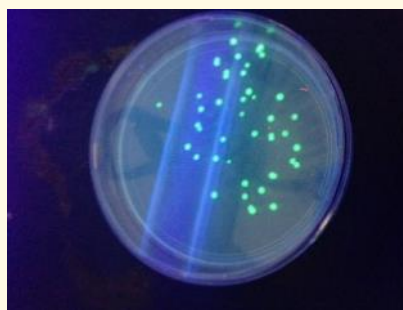
**Dance and Theatre Performing Arts Academy Students** – Ms. Melody Carr  
([melody.carr@ucps.k12.nc.us](mailto:melody.carr@ucps.k12.nc.us))

## Cougar Pride - Way to go!!!!

- ◆ Congratulations to our Chorus and Band Programs for wonderful Winter Concerts!
- ◆ Our newly formed CATA Winter Guard will give their first performance of the year on Wednesday, January 11 at the 6 PM home basketball game. Come out and see the hard work the students have put into this new program.

## WE'VE GOT GLOWING BACTERIA IN MS. TURNER'S CLASS!

Mrs. Turner's Medical Intervention class is studying the benefits of bacteria--not something you hear very often. Bacteria are a very helpful tool in genetic engineering and the production of medication. Genetically engineered bacteria can be used as tiny living pharmaceutical factories and can produce many medications and drugs that help maintain health and homeostasis in the human body. Scientists use the tools of molecular biology to "cut and paste" genes of interest into bacterial plasmids. These plasmids can then be inserted into bacteria through the process of bacteria transformation. In this experiment, the class used bacterial transformation to insert the genetic information necessary to produce another protein, green fluorescent protein, into the cells. Since this new protein glows a bright green, it is easy to gauge the success of the experiment and see the process of transformation work!





# Parent Involvement

**PTSO** – To get involved, please send an email to [thecougarcouncil@gmail.com](mailto:thecougarcouncil@gmail.com) or call the main office and leave a message for the PTSO.

**PTSO MEETING DATES** (all will be in the media center)

February 6<sup>th</sup> at 6:30 pm, April 3<sup>rd</sup> at 6:30 pm

**Help our PTSO raise funds to support instruction and academics throughout CATA!**

Shop at Harris Teeter. Simply link your HT card to CATA. You do need to re-link after August 1st each year. **CATA school # is 3612.**

**Band Booster Club** - Contact Band Booster president Aimi Gundersen to volunteer at [catabandpresident@gmail.com](mailto:catabandpresident@gmail.com)

- **Cougar Athletics** – contact Jay Niessner at <mailto:jay.niessner@ucps.k12.nc.us>
- **Performing Arts Committee** – contact the PTSO (see above) for information about how to help out

## Connecting Families

The Cougar Council is trying to make it easier for families to connect with each other based on their student's academies, geographic location, sports played, clubs involved with, etc. We realize that since our school covers the entire county it can sometimes be hard to make connections with other families. If you are interested in participating, please fill out the form using the link below. Please know that your information will only be shared with other CATA families who are in the directory. This is a great place to go for contacts if you need to find someone to carpool with or just to network with other parents in your student's academy.

<https://goo.gl/forms/MNtCiIKqJRia6pNP2>

**amazon.com**  
Smile

You shop. Amazon gives.

**CATA's Link**

**<https://smile.amazon.com/ch/26-1542614>**

**Central Academy of Technology & Arts PTSO has linked up  
with Amazon Smiles.**

**This is a simple and easy way to raise money for our school!**

***AmazonSmile is a simple and automatic way for you to support CATA every time you shop, at no cost to you. When you shop at smile.amazon.com, you'll find the exact same low prices, vast selection and convenient shopping experience as Amazon.com, with the added bonus that Amazon will donate 5% of the purchase price to CATA.***

Use your existing account on Amazon.com and AmazonSmile. Your shopping cart, Wish List, wedding or baby registry, and other account settings are also the same.

### Attendance Letters and Recovery

-Attendance at school is a priority. It is so important to be present in order to learn and to gain opportunities for mastering coursework. This is also a very important life lesson for our children to learn—in life we have expectations of going to work and working to the best of our ability, and this good life habit starts with attendance at school.

- To ensure maximum student attendance we will be contacting students and parents when students reach 3, 6, and 8 absences.

-According to UCPS attendance policy students should not miss more than 7 classes in each class. The goal is to not miss ANY school, but if a student has a valid reason, such as an illness or other excused absence, they can have up to 7 absences and still pass the class.

-It is important that excuse notes be written and turned into the office within 3 days after an absence. After the three days, then the absences are recorded as unexcused permanently.

- At each absence threshold (3,6,8) CATA staff will make the determination if the student needs to begin the recovery process to make up absences and notify parents and students on how to make up time missed from school. Recovery should be done during the semester and in the two week time span given or the student will not be allowed to recover the absences at a later date.

-There are UCPS limits on how many classes can be recovered. Recovery will be held on Tuesdays and Thursdays after school with Ms. Riley, or with the student's individual teacher. Students are expected to work on content during recovery time. This plan is in place so that your student makes up content close to the date it was delivered in class.

**CATA Spirit Wear available online. Support the Band and CATA and get your spirit on.**



[To see all available spirit wear for CATA click here](#)

**Support our athletics and our Band of Blue at once by showing school spirit!!**



**Parent email and phone contact information**—it is vital that we have accurate information. **We sent a parent contact UPDATE Sheet with report cards on 12/8.** Please complete it. After that you can Email [Mr. William Smith](#) with any changes.

Support the **Wolfe School**, a school for students with very special needs, by bringing in the following items for Box tops for Education: Bring items to the guidance suite.



## 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**

### Last Week's Results:

**Wrestling** – Defeated Metrolina & Providence Day School, Team finished first at the Bishop McGuiness Tournament

**Men's Basketball** – Lost vs. Cuthbertson, Win vs. Covenant Classical

**Women's Basketball** – Lost vs Cuthbertson, Win vs. Covenant Classical

**Swimming** – Men's & Women's Team Combined for the first place finish at the first meet of the season.

### Upcoming Events:

#### Friday, December 16<sup>th</sup>

HOME Basketball vs. Union Academy – JV Boys start at 4:30 pm

#### Saturday, December 17<sup>th</sup>

AWAY Wrestling – Statesville High School – All Day Event

#### Monday, December 19<sup>th</sup>

AWAY Basketball – Piedmont – 4:30 JV Boys Start

Over Winter Break:

#### Thursday, December 29<sup>th</sup>

AWAY Basketball – Porter Ridge – 6:00 & 7:30 pm – Varsity Only

#### Wednesday & Thursday – December 28<sup>th</sup> & 29<sup>th</sup>

AWAY Wrestling – Holy Angles Tournament – Bojangles Coliseum – All Day Event

### Other News:

Workouts for spring sports have started, and will continue through December & January, please contact your spring sport coach for more information. Head coaches contact information is below.

Spring Sports Mandatory Parent night will be **Monday, January 30<sup>th</sup> @ 7:00 pm** in the CATA Auditorium.

Spring sports start on **Monday, February 13<sup>th</sup>**. All paperwork must be turned into Coach Niessner prior to trying out for a spring sport. If you have already played a sport this year, you should check with Coach Niessner to make sure that your physical does not expire.



# Cougar Athletics

## Winter Head Coach 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)

Women's Basketball – Tony Byrum – [tb93bball@yahoo.com](mailto:tb93bball@yahoo.com)

Men's Basketball – David Daniels – [david.daniels@ucps.k12.nc.us](mailto:david.daniels@ucps.k12.nc.us)

Indoor Track – Kim Inuwa – [kim.inuwa@gmail.com](mailto:kim.inuwa@gmail.com)

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

Swimming – Kelly Lepsig – [Kelly.lepsig@ucps.k12.nc.us](mailto:Kelly.lepsig@ucps.k12.nc.us)

## Spring Head Coach Contact Information:

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

Track & Field – David Daniels – [david.daniels@ucps.k12.nc.us](mailto:david.daniels@ucps.k12.nc.us)

Track & Field – Kim Inuwa – [kim.inuwa@gmail.com](mailto:kim.inuwa@gmail.com)

Softball – Doug Mayhew – [doug.mayhew@ucps.k12.nc.us](mailto:doug.mayhew@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 – Ken Neese – [keneese@gmail.com](mailto:keneese@gmail.com)



## Fall Senior Letter

Dear Class of 2017,

Congratulations on making it to this point in your academic career. We are proud of you and encourage you to finish your journey strong. We would like to provide you some preliminary information this fall for your senior year.

**Graduation: The ceremony is on Saturday, June 10, 2017 at 7:30 PM at the Winthrop**

**Coliseum (1162 Eden Terrace, Rock Hill, SC 29733).** Please arrive no later than 6:30 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)). We will send more specific information about graduation day in the Spring Senior Class of 2017 Letter.

**Graduation Practice:** Practice is on Friday, June 9, 2017 from 2:00-4:00 PM in the gym. Please arrive no later than 1:45 PM. Be mindful 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 (or dark slacks) that is no longer than their gown. There should be no collar showing with the gown. Shoes should be brown, tan, black, or navy since the robes are navy. 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, and dark shoes (brown, tan, black or navy). No tennis shoes or flip-flops will be allowed.

If you have any questions about your attire, then please ask administration.

**Senior Cap and Gown Picture:** The above described dress code is what you are expected to wear at the senior cap and gown picture on Tuesday, April 25 in the gym. This occurs during second block and you must be present and in appropriate attire to be included in the picture (be here by 10:00 am if you flex first period).

**Senior Week is May 22-26:** We will be sending more information about Senior Week in the coming months.

**Senior Awards Ceremony:** The ceremony is on Friday, May 26 at 9:00 AM in the auditorium. All seniors are expected to attend.

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**Graduation Speeches:** Each academy has one senior give a speech at graduation. A committee of the faculty and staff of Central Academy choose the individuals for graduation speeches. Students may audition for consideration to this committee in May in the media center conference room. Please pay attention for the audition date in the announcements.

**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. Mr. Wall and other staff will be calling about past due fees in an attempt to settle all fees by the end of January.

**Tickets:** Tickets will be on sale beginning May 8– May 26 before/after school in the main office, and will also be available to be purchased online: Each senior will receive four (4) free tickets with the opportunity to buy extra tickets at \$7.00 a ticket. Students can pre-purchase as many tickets as they need (go to the CATA website, click on “online school payments” on the right tab starting May 8).

Tickets will also be sold at the door 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 below).

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. Please take time to ensure that you are eligible to graduate by earning the credits needed. Please take time to ensure that you are able to participate in the graduation ceremony by making good choices for the remainder of your senior year and by making sure that you have taken care of all financial responsibilities. Specifically, students must pay all fees owed to the school in order to be permitted to participate in graduation ceremonies. This includes fees such as (but not limited to) cafeteria, media center, textbook, athletic, transcript, technology, property fees. Any unpaid fee owed to the school or school system must be paid by Wednesday, June 7 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.

Dr. Kim Fisenne, Principal,