

Central Academy of Technology and Arts

Cougar Chronicle

Volume 4; Issue 20, January 19, 2017

U.S. Department of Education National Blue Ribbon School

Dear CATA Family,

We were glad to have some of our former transportation academy students and their automotive teacher from Forsyth Tech recently. The students and their teacher presented to Mr. Pressley's classes. The Theater III Performance of the history of Tom Jones is January 27 to 29. The cost is \$5 and begin at 7 PM on 1/27 and 1/28, and 2:30 PM on 1/29.

The link to purchase tickets is on the main website under Event Tickets. Join us for the county Poetry Out-Loud competition on 1/31 at 4:00 in the CATA Auditorium!! There will be a Shakespeare Recitation Contest open to all students on Monday, January 30, please see Mr. Robinson for details. Remember that final exams started this week on and will continue through next Monday, with Tuesday as a Make-up Exam Day. See the chronicle for the schedule and for study tips. ALL students are expected to attend their exam review periods. If you have questions about grades, please communicate with your child's teacher. Please see information about parking spaces availability the rest of the school year for students in this edition.

CATA is sponsoring a field trip to see the popular movie, "Hidden Figures," at 12:00 pm, Saturday, January 21st at the Sun Valley Movie Theater Please see Ms. White in the front office for a permission slip and details. Our Cheerleaders are hosting a fundraiser Spirit Night at Hickory Tavern In Indian Trail on February 1 and ALL are invited. Please see the ad in this edition.

If your child owes recovery time, then this must be completed by the end of the semester. Students were notified about recovery time this week. Please remember that absences not waived due to illness can cause a student to fail a course due to attendance. Times students may recover are in this edition.

Please see important information for students in all grade levels about college readiness, SAT and ACT exams and preparation programs, scholarships, college visits, and summer programs for students. Information about students applying for a scholarship from Union County Education Foundation is posted in this edition. Guidance is organizing a field trip to the CIAA tournament where students will have the opportunity to tour a college fair and meet representatives from many colleges including Historically-Black Universities. We hope that students and families will come out to see some winter athletics this season. We have some exciting matches—see the calendar on our website and support our Cougars who are working so hard! This edition contains information about the dinner and performance of BOAL on February 12. Join us on February 3rd at 6:30 for a PTSO meeting and to hear about what students in the Pre-engineering, Dance, and Medical Sciences Academies do and learn here at CATA!

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



Cougar Pride - Way to go!!!!

- ♦ Thank you to the representatives from CATA to the Superintendent's Advisory Committee for working hard to improve our school and community!
- ♦ The student council had a retreat this past week and we salute the officers and membership who work hard to plan student life events for our school.
- ♦ Congratulations to Thomas McCorkle and Trace Martin for being chosen as Blumey Critics this year. What an honor to be two of only 15 students in the region!!



THERE IS NO GREATER AGONY THAN
BEARING AN UNTOLD STORY INSIDE YOU.
Shayne Angelou

Join us in the

WRITING LAB

**CAN'T GET STARTED WRITING?
NEED HELP GETTING STARTED?
NEED A SUBJECT?
UNSURE OF YOUR GRAMMAR SKILLS?
WORRIED YOU WILL PLAGIARIZE?
CONCERNED ABOUT CITING YOUR
SOURCES?**

NO WORRIES!

Tuesdays **Wednesdays**
Ms. Foreman **Ms. Barron**
Room 208 Room 110
3:30pm – 4:30pm 3:30pm – 4:30pm



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. Please click on the link to see what items to bring.

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, and search for CATA or bring a check (made out to Central Academy) or cash to Ms. Christensen.



THE ONLY WAY TO LEARN
MATHEMATICS IS TO DO MATHEMATICS.
Paul Halmos

Math Lab

Trouble with MATH?

Bring your math problems!

Improve your math skills with

NHS Peer Tutors

Every
Monday, Tuesday and Thursday
8:15am – 8:40am
Media Center

Mr. Broome
Every Monday and Wednesday
3:30pm – 4:30pm
Room 519

DO THE MATH

Around CATA

Friday, January 20— Third Period Exam Day, Fourth Period Review

Saturday, January 21—"Hidden Figures," movie Field Trip (Ms. White)

Sunday, January 22—Shooting Sports Practice, 2 PM (Take Aim Sports)

Monday, January 23—Fourth Period Exam Day, Community Building

Tuesday, January 24—Make Up Exam Day

Wednesday, January 25— NO SCHOOL, Teacher Work Day; Site Based Team Meeting, 3:30 PM (Media Conference Rm.)

Thursday, January 26— First Day of the second semester; Robotics Club, 3:30 (Rm. 118); SAT Prep Course, 4:00 (Rm. 401)

Upcoming Events

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

1/27 to-1/29—Theatre III show--The History of Tom Jones

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

1/30—Shakespeare Recitation Contest (See Mr. Robinson for Details)

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

2/1—Student Life Organization Mtg. 8:00 AM (Rm. 401)

2/2—Report Cards Distributed

2/6—PTSO Executive Board Meeting

2/6—PTSO General Meeting, 6:30 (Medical Science and Pre Engineering)

2/9—Band Boosters, 6:30 PM (Band Rm.)

2/9—BOAL Performance, at Lake Norman Charter

2/12—BOAL Dinner and Show, 5:30 PM

2/15—Early Release Day, 12:30

2/15—Buffalo Wild Wing Night, 5:00 PM (Band)

2/16—BOAL Performance, 7:00 PM

2/20—Spring Sports Pictures (After School)

2/21 & 2/23—CATA Crawl, 6:30 PM

2/24—NHS Talent Show

2/27 & 2/28—Josten's Ring Orders for Sophomores

2/28—ACT Administration for all Juniors

2/28—Josten's Ring Order Parent Night, 3:30-6:00 PM

Student Life Notes

CATA is sponsoring a **field trip to see the popular movie, "Hidden Figures,"** at 12:00 pm, Saturday, January 21st at the Sun Valley Movie Theater to explore the untold story of three African American women used as human computers to help the first American John Glenn orbit the Earth. Please see Ms. White in the front office for a permission slip and details.

2017 CIAA Education Day is on Wednesday, February 22nd, 2017!!!

This event will provide CATA students an opportunity to learn more about the CIAA Conference colleges and universities. Students will be provided packets to assist them with their college search, they will have the opportunity to walk through a college fair and on-site admissions, and they will hear presentations about College Access, Financing Your Education, Interviewing Skills, and Keys for Success. The event is open to CATA Juniors and Seniors. The sign up sheet is located in the Guidance Office. If you are interested please sign up by Thursday, January 26th. If you have questions please see Ms. Lawson.

Fall Semester Exam Dates 2016-17

Exam Study Tips:

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

- Create a study calendar and stick to it
- Ask your teacher for a study guide and USE IT!!
- Use your notebook to guide you through a review of the course
- Attend all review sessions offered
- Go to tutoring for extra support
- Make a study group, assign each person a topic to re-teach, and discuss each topic
- Have your parents ask you questions
- Use diagrams, graphs, pictures, and drawings in your textbook to serve as a
- talking point for you to review
- Make flashcards on your computer or phone to practice important vocabulary words
- Look at your scores from the semester and identify topics you struggled in – ask
- your teacher or a friend for help
- Stay after school to study – let an administrator know which days your study
- group needs to stay and study and we will arrange for you to stay to study
- Rewrite important points, the act of writing or typing helps some people remember specific information
- Create an acronym, or a funny saying, or song to remember specific information
- Draw a quick sketch to help with definitions or concepts
- Practice math problems

Wednesday, January 18

8:50 – 12:50 1st period exams in all classes

12:50 – 1:30 lunch – in café and gym

1:35 – 3:30 2nd period review

Thursday, January 19

8:50 – 12:50 2nd period exams in all classes

12:50 – 1:30 lunch – in café and gym

1:35 – 3:30 3rd period review

Friday, January 20

8:50 – 12:50 3rd period exams in all classes

12:50 – 1:30 lunch – in café and gym

1:35 – 3:30 4th period review

Monday, January 23

8:50 – 12:50 4th period exams in all classes

12:50 – 1:30 lunch – in café and gym

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

Tuesday, January 24 is a makeup exam day – students needing to make up an exam should report to school by 8:50 to start.

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

Attendance: Attendance during exam days is required for all students, for both exam sessions and review sessions. Our normal school hours apply, but the schedule and lunch times are adjusted. **January 24** is an important day for any students who have missed an exam earlier in the week due to illness. We regret that family vacation plans are not excused, and students cannot take exams early. We apologize that any requests for exceptions cannot be honored.

Testing Window: All exam testing must be completed between January 18 and January 24. This is true for ALL types of exams: EOC, NC Final Exams, CTE State Assessments, and Teacher-Made. Students may not test early, and if absent on an exam day, they must make arrangements to be at school on the make-up day in order to meet the approved testing window time-frame.

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

Exam review: All teachers are expected to help students with review during class time and to distribute a review guide to students prior to testing. Many teachers may have distributed these prior to the holiday break, and 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.

Central Academy of Technology & Arts

Presents

BOAL

Click on the flyer
for advanced
tickets



February 12 & 16

600 Brewer Drive Monroe, NC 28112

A performance will also be held at Lake Norman Charter February 9.

Lake Norman Charter will be performing with us @ CATA Feb 16.

The Cast and Crew of Boal are Headed to SETC!

ALL Proceeds will help to keep the costs down for each student traveling to Kentucky!
For advance tickets go to: <http://cata.seatyourself.biz/>. For more information call: (704) 296-3088.

Dinner Theatre Sunday, February 12 (at CATA)

Auguste's Favorites

- Pajenda Black bean pork loin stew served on Brazilian rice, and blanched thinly sliced collards garnished with fresh orange slices (Vegetarian option available)
- Hearts of palm, cherry tomatoes, purple onions in lime vinaigrette

Ania and Annie's favorites

- Chicken Shish Kabab with saffron rice pilaf (falafel vegetarian option)
- Flat bread with cucumber yogurt sauce
- Tomato, feta and cucumber salad with organic lemon vinaigrette

Jason's Backyard BBQ

- BBQ Pulled Pork Sliders
- Slaw, onions and Pickles
- Mac and cheese

Assorted Beverages and Desserts

Thur, 2/9 - Show only - at Lake Norman Charter

Sun, 2/12 - Dinner Theatre - at CATA
Lake Norman Charter performs with us.

Thur, 2/16 - Show only - at CATA.



Get your dinner
theatre ticket early
as seating is limited!

RSVP Required by 2/8

<http://cata.seatyourself.biz/>
or call: (704) 296-3088

Dinner 5:30 - Show 7:00 pm Dinner and Show = \$30.00 - Just show = \$10.00 VIP seating for Dinner guests ONLY!



This show contains inflammatory language as well as material that some may find disturbing.
"I'll fight for you" written by the 2015 CMU Pre-College Boal Company. Used with permission

BOAL

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 or in the Guidance Office Lobby. Schedule Changes will end on Wednesday, February 1st. Changes are limited to necessary changes where courses are available.

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 – Wins vs. West Stanly & Butler. Team went 4-1 @ West Duals this past weekend

Men's Basketball – Lost vs. Pageland Central & Mt. Pleasant

Women's Basketball – Lost vs Pageland Central & Mt. Pleasant

Upcoming Events:

Friday, January 20th:

AWAY – Basketball – Forest Hills

4:30 JV Boys Start

HOME – Wrestling – Mt. Pleasant

6:30 pm – Senior Night

AWAY – Swimming – Wingate

University – 7:30 pm

Saturday, January 21st:

AWAY – Swimming – West

Cabarrus YMCA 6:00 pm

AWAY – Wrestling – Monroe

Duals – All Day Event

Tuesday, January 24th:

HOME basketball – Parkwood – 4:30 – JV Boys Start

Thursday, January 26th:

HOME Basketball – West Stanly – 4:30 JV Boys Start

AWAY Wrestling – Parkwood – 6:30 pm

AWAY Indoor Track – Cuthbertson – 3:45 pm

Friday, January 27th:

AWAY – Basketball – Monroe High – 4:30 JV Boys Start

Saturday, January 28th

AWAY – Wrestling – Rocky River Conference Tournament – Monroe High School – All Day Event - \$8.00 Admission

Make Up Games & Schedule Changes:

Basketball:

Thursday – January 26th – HOME vs. West Stanly 4:30 JV Boys Start

Tuesday – January 31st – AWAY vs. West Stanly 4:30 JV Boys Start

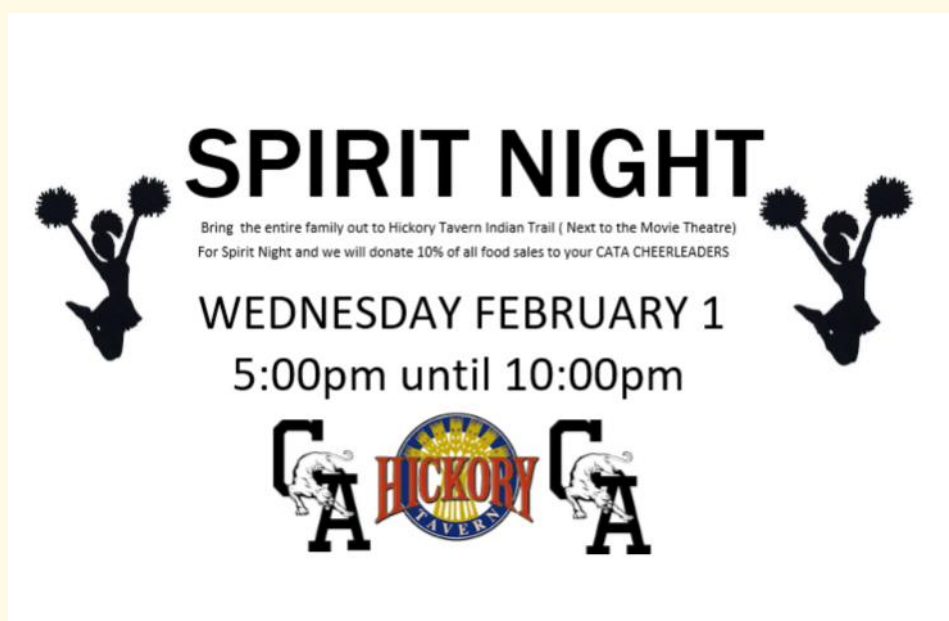
Other News:

NOVANT Survey:

NOVANT Health the provider of UCPS athletic trainers has sent out its annual survey. Parents and Student athletes who participated in a **Fall** or **Winter** Sport are encouraged to complete the survey and provide feedback for NOVANT Health.

Parent Survey: <https://www.research.net/r/NHsmpa>

Athlete Survey: <https://www.research.net/r/NHmsa>



Cougar Athletics

Other News Continued:

- ♦ Spring Sports Mandatory Parent night will be **Monday, January 30th @ 7:00 pm** in the CATA Auditorium.
- ♦ Spring sports start on **Monday, February 13th**. 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.

Winter Head Coach Contact Information:

Athletic Director: Jay Niessner – jay.niessner@ucps.k12.nc.us

Cheerleading- Ashley Lawson – Ashley.lawson@ucps.k12.nc.us

Women's Basketball – Tony Byrum – tb93bball@yahoo.com

Men's Basketball – David Daniels – david.daniels@ucps.k12.nc.us

Indoor Track – Kim Inuwa – kim.inuwa@gmail.com

Wrestling – Mike Jacobus – mike.jacobus@ucps.k12.nc.us

Swimming – Kelly Lepsig – Kelly.lepsig@ucps.k12.nc.us

Spring Head Coach Contact Information:

Athletic Director & Women's Soccer: Jay Niessner – jay.niessner@ucps.k12.nc.us

Track & Field – David Daniels – david.daniels@ucps.k12.nc.us

Track & Field – Kim Inuwa – kim.inuwa@gmail.com

Softball – Doug Mayhew – doug.mayhew@ucps.k12.nc.us

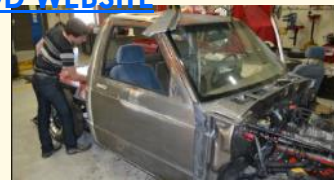
Baseball – Aaron Hammers – aaron.hammers@ucps.k12.nc.us

Men's Golf – Mike Jacobus – mike.jacobus@ucps.k12.nc.us

Men's Tennis – Ken Neese – keneese@gmail.com



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

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

See the Fall Senior Letter in this Edition



College and Scholarship Spotlight

National Beta Scholarship Program: National Beta will award scholarships ranging from \$1,000 to \$15,000 to outstanding senior Beta Club members. Seniors that are active Beta Club members and are registered with national headquarters by June 30th are eligible. Selection is based on numerous factors, such as: academic excellence, demonstrated leadership, commendable character, school and community service, and National Beta Involvement. For more information, and to apply, please visit: <http://www.betaclub.org/scholarship>. **Deadline: January 26, 2017.**

East Carolina University College of Education Scholarships: ECU's College of Education offers numerous scholarships, ranging from \$250 to \$7,000 per year! To get started, students must first complete a general application. From there your application will be applied to all scholarships that you qualify for. At that point, you may also discover other scholarships that you may wish to apply for but also have additional criteria (like an essay or additional questions). For more information, and to apply, please visit: <http://www.ecu.edu/cs-educ/outreach/scholarships.cfm>. **Deadline: January 30, 2017.**

Henry S. and Carolyn Adams Scholarship: Foundation For The Carolinas is awarding a \$4,000 scholarship to high school seniors in Union County. To be eligible the student must be a legal resident of Union County, have a minimum GPA of 3.0, and demonstrate a substantial need for financial assistance. This student must be nominated by their principal. For more information please visit: <https://fftc-scholarships.communityforce.com> **Deadline: March 3, 2017.**

National Beta Scholarship Program: National Beta will award scholarships ranging from \$1,000 to \$15,000 to outstanding senior Beta Club members. Seniors that are active Beta Club members and are registered with national headquarters by June 30th are eligible. Selection is based on numerous factors, such as: academic excellence, demonstrated leadership, commendable character, school and community service, and National Beta Involvement. For more information, and to apply, please visit: <http://www.betaclub.org/scholarship>. **Deadline: January 26, 2017.**

Polly Holliday Award Theatre Scholarship: This \$1,000 scholarship will be awarded to a high school student in the Southeastern Theatre Conference Region who is planning to attend a regionally accredited college or university in the SETC region (Alabama, Florida, Georgia, Kentucky, Mississippi, North Carolina, South Carolina, Tennessee, Virginia, or West Virginia) with the intent of majoring in Theatre Arts. This award is based on financial need, talent, and the potential for academic success in college. For more information, and for details on how to apply, please visit: <http://setc.org/scholarships-awards/undergraduate-studies/polly-holliday-award/> **Deadline: January 28, 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.

- **Campbell University - February 13, 2017 @ 11:00 a.m.**

Monroe-Union Breakfast Rotary Club: The Monroe-Union Breakfast Rotary Club will award scholarships to seniors from Union County high schools. The scholarships will be awarded based on the applicant's service to people, the community, and the environment. These are no academic or needs-based scholarships. Students must complete the application form and write a 250-300 word essay answering the question: "What have you done in the area of service to people, the community, and the world to deserve this scholarship?" **Turn in the completed application form and essay to Ms. Cole in the guidance office by January 31.** The scholarship committee will determine which applicant(s) will be sent to the MUBRC for further review. The MUBRC will select one or two students from each school to visit the Rotary Club and give a 10-minute presentation about his or her service work. The MUBRC scholarship committee will then determine the awards and they will be given out at their award banquet in May. **Deadline: January 31, 2017**

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

Class Information and College and Career Corner

"2017-2018 CTE Internship"

Attention Rising 12th graders, if you have taken at least two Career & Technical Education (CTE) courses, and are interested in participating in a CTE Internship next school year, stop by the guidance office and pick up an application from Mrs. Webb. If you have any questions, please contact Sarah Webb at sarah.webb@ucps.k12.nc.us.

Summer Opportunities for all 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!

CLASS OF
2018

CLASS
OF 2019

Class of
2020

JUNIORS—All juniors will be taking the **ACT**, a college entrance exam, on February 28, 2017. In order to best prepare all juniors will work on ACT preparation during Cougar Time two times per week.

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!

Below is the link to a **FREE online tutorial for the SAT** that ALL of our HS students should be taking advantage of! Get College Ready by preparing for the SAT—an important college entrance exam. Need help paying for the SAT? You may qualify for a fee waiver—contact your counselor.. <https://www.khanacademy.org/test-prep/sat>

Parent Involvement

PTSO – To get involved, please send an email to 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 6th at 6:30 pm, April 3rd at 6:30 pm

JOIN US ON 2/6 TO HEAR ABOUT ACADEMY LEARNING IN MEDICAL SCIENCE, DANCE, AND PRE-ENGINEERING!! This is an opportunity to hear about what your students learn and do in their academy. Don't miss out!! (4/3 will feature Transportation and Information Systems)

Help our PTSO raise funds to support instruction and academies 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
- **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/MNtCilKqJRia6pNP2>

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.

RECOVERY TIMES

- Students may check in the front office at 7:30 AM and sit in the guidance suite or the front office until time for first period.
- Students can make up time each day after school from 3:30 PM to 6:30 PM, and later if we have an athletic event. Students can make up the time after school with Ms. Riley, in the office, or with a teacher each day.
- Students can make up time on Saturday, January 21 at CATA from 8 AM to 12 Noon with Mr. Recher in room 525. Students must be on time.
- Students can make up time on the workday on Wednesday, January 25 from 9:00 AM until 3:00 PM.

STUDENT PARKING SPACES



AVAILABLE

29 SPOTS LEFT: ONCE GONE, THEN WE HAVE NO MORE PARKING AVAILABLE .
PLEASE OBTAIN FORMS AND PAY FEES IN THE FRONT OFFICE BEFORE SCHOOL.

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!!



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



CATA Computer Repair

we can:

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



No additional charge other than parts

UCPS International Baccalaureate Programme

The window for applications for all current sophomores to the International Baccalaureate Programme at Marvin Ridge High School opens on **January 26th** and closes on **February 9th**. If any sophomore is interested in this program you are encouraged to attend the informational meeting in the auditorium at MRHS on **January 30th** from 6:30-7:30.

When the application opens, it will be available on the [MRHS IB Webpage](#) which can be accessed by visiting a link on the academics page of our school website. The application outlines the steps for applying and requires some general information, short response questions, letters of recommendation from teachers, and a transcript. All the necessary forms will be included in the application. Students who apply are also required to complete writing prompts on Saturday February 18th at 8 a.m. in the MRHS Media Center. Further information is provided in the application.

The IB Programme is a 2 year commitment to an entire program of studies that focuses on learning and skill development while also seeking to promote global mindedness and character development. The curriculum focuses on helping students learn how to learn. Instead of a single assessment at the end of a course, students complete several assessment components over the 2 year program that will be evaluated towards earning an IB Diploma.

While anyone can apply, we believe the following items predict a higher likelihood of success in this rigorous program:

- **Courses:** To be most successful, students should have completed the following courses: Math 2 Honors or Pre-Calculus, English 2 Honors or Advanced Inquiry, Chemistry Honors, and 3 sections of a single foreign language. If a student wishes to apply but does not meet one of these requirements, he or she may be accepted contingent on completing the course during the summer before enrollment.
- **GPA:** Currently, we do not have a minimum GPA requirement, but GPA is one of the numerical values we use in evaluating candidates. Most candidates who apply have over a 4.0 GPA because we require that students take honors courses when available to be best prepared for the rigors of the program.

Qualities: Students who most enjoy the program are those who love to learn, want to improve their communication skills (writing and speaking), prefer a smaller learning community, and have effective time-management skills.

Students who are accepted into the program must complete a transfer request to attend MRHS for instruction and will be required to provide their own transportation. If you have any specific questions please see Ms. Lawson in the guidance office.

A word is dead
When it is said,
Some say.
I say it just
Begins to live
That day.

-Emily Dickinson



Union County Schools
County-Wide
Poetry-Out-Loud
Recitation Competition
Central Academy of
Technology and Arts
Auditorium

Tuesday, January 31
4:00 p.m.

All are welcome to this
free event!

Participating schools:
CATA, Cuthbertson,
Monroe, Sun Valley,
and Weddington

**Poetry
Out-
Loud!!!**

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). 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.

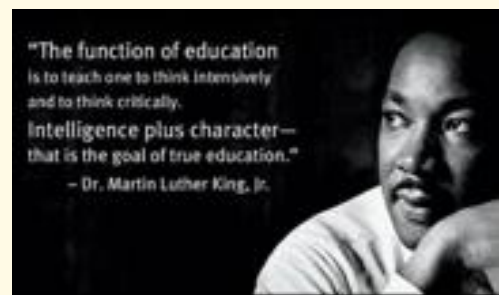
Gentlemen: dark pants, a white shirt, black or dark tie or bowtie, and dark shoes (brown, tan, black or navy). No tennis shoes or flip-flops will be allowed. If you have any questions about your attire, then please ask administration.

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.

Continued.....



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,

[Union County Education Foundation Scholarship](#)

A college education changes everything. That's why every spring we award individual college scholarships to UCPS seniors across the county. Some of them are the first in their families to attend college, some have already overcome significant life challenges, and all are the best and brightest young people. Winners have a chance to honor a former teacher.



Click [HERE](#) to apply. Deadline Friday, February 24, 2017 at midnight.