



Central Academy of Technology & Arts

Cougar Chronicle

Volume 9

Issue 18

November 18, 2021



Instagram

Dear CATA Family,

-Happy Thanksgiving! There will be no school from Wednesday, November 24 until Friday November 26 due to a workday and the Thanksgiving Break!

-CATA Holiday Drive: Starting Next Week our Student Council will be sponsoring our first ever CATA Holiday Drive. Our goal is to raise \$5,000 to help ten families in the Monroe area during the holidays. The business letter for this endeavor is posted [here](#) and is on **Page 10**. For twelve days starting November 22, student council members will visit first period classes to see which class can raise the most money. Each class has a \$250 goal and will be rewarded with a breakfast if they reach their goal. We will have loose change days on Friday, December 3 and 10. The classes that bring the most change will be rewarded. One can give online by [clicking here](#). We will purchase three outfits for the children, a pair on new shoes, a winter coat, toys for the kids, and a family holiday dinner. There is no better way to serve than to be nice to others and help those that need help! Please consider giving to this project!

NHS Stocking Stuffer- This week the National Honor Society is running a stocking stuffer drive during your 3rd block classes. Bring in small toys, craft items, hygiene products, and accessories suitable for anyone ages 0-18. Dollar Tree is the recommended shopping spot for this drive. The 3rd block class with the most donations per capita will win a tasty treat. See Ms. Thompson or the flyer in your 3rd block classroom with any questions. This drive is over on 11/19.

-Covered Canvas- The CATA Performing Arts Department Dance Program in cooperation with our Art Classes present Covered Canvas on Friday and Saturday, November 19-20. This is an event in which the dance is interpreted in student created art. The Art will be bid on after the show! Tickets are \$5.00 and can be purchased by [clicking here](#).

-Red Cross Blood Drive: Thursday December 2nd from 9:00 to 1:30 in Red Cross Buses behind the gym. See Ms. [Angelia Turner](#) to sign up. You must be 16 to donate. There are height and weight requirements. Scan the QR Code on this page to register.

-Class of 2022 Graduation Date: Tuesday, June 7 at 8:00 AM at Walter Bickett Stadium. [Click here](#) for the Fall Senior Letter. The **Fall Senior Letter** is posted on **Pages 8-9**.

-2022 Yearbooks are now available to order! [Click HERE](#) and search for CATA. The price is \$70 until January 1.

-Athletics: Check out the CATA Sports page in this edition on **Page 5** or go to our athletics website by [clicking here](#).

-Tickets for all CATA Home Athletics can be purchased [HERE](#).

-Spirit Wear: [Click here](#) to purchase.

-Student Life announcements on **page 2**.

-Senior Class of 2022 Information is on **Page 3**.

-Counseling Center and Career Development Coordinator Information: Announcements and information on **Page 4**.

-PTSO Information: Page 6. NEW AND UPDATED INFO!

-School Procedure Information Page 7 Media Center Information- The DEN on **Page 9**

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



Scan to schedule
an appointment.



Student Life Information



Student Life Meetings and Activities This Week

Congratulation to the **Robotics Club Team CATApillar** in their **1st place in the Union County Fall VEX Robotics Challenge**. They teamed with Parkwood High to place 1st in the Elimination Championship out of 32 teams.

Beta Club will induct new members on Monday, November 22, 2021 at 6:00 PM in the theatre. All new members for the 2021-2022 school year will be inducted. We encourage families of new members to join us for the ceremony. Snacks will be provided after the ceremony.

Fashion Club: Monday, November 22 at 4 in Rm. 616

Society of Women Engineers: Monday, November 22 at 4 PM, in Rm. 505

Yearbook Club meeting: Monday, November 22 at 4 PM in Rm. 102

Yearbook Club meeting: Tuesday, November 23 at 4 PM in Rm. 102

Fashion Club: Monday, November 29 at 4 in Rm. 616

Knitting for Good: Monday, November 29 at 3:45 in Rm. 601

Student Council Officer Meeting: Monday, November 29, 8:15 AM, Media Center

Yearbook Club meeting: Monday, November 29 at 4 PM in Rm. 102

Yearbook Club meeting: Tuesday, November 30 at 4 PM in Rm. 102

General Student Council Meeting, Wednesday, December 1, 8:15 AM, Media Center

Creative Writing Club, Wednesday, December 1, 3:45 PM Rm. 610

Speech and Debate: Thursday, December 2, 3:45 PM Rm. 601

Hands Helping Others: Thursday, December 2, 3:45 PM Rm. Ms. Hinson's Rm.

Minority Student Union: Friday, December 3 at 8:30 AM, Media Center

Maker Club: EVERY FRIDAY, at 4:00 PM in Room 525



Blood Drive Central Academy of Technology & Arts

American Red Cross Bus
600 Brewer Drive
Monroe, NC 28110

**Thursday, December 2nd
9:00 a.m. to 1:30 p.m.**

To schedule a life saving appointment, please see Mrs. Turner!

Streamline your donation experience and save up to 15 minutes by
visiting RedCrossBlood.org/rapid to complete your
pre-donation routine and health history questions, on the day of
your appointment.

Give Something that Means Something

1-800-RED CROSS | RedCrossBlood.org | Download the Blood Donor App

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**2022 Yearbooks
Now on Sale!**

Yearbooks are on sale for \$70.00
The price increases to \$80 on 1/1/2022
Missed Sr Tribute Deadline? Limited space still
available, contact Ms. Christensen.
Photos and message due by 11/19/2021

NHS PRESENTS
2021 Stocking Stuffer Drive for Union County Christmas Bureau
November 15th - November 19th
Bring Stocking Stuffers to **3rd Block Class!**

Must be suitable for kids 0-18 years
~and~
Small enough to fit in stockings!
(Dollar Tree is highly recommended)
Class with most donations get Krispy Kreme!



Senior Class of 2022 Information



Parents we have sold all of our senior tribute spaces! All senior tribute images and text are due to be sent to Ms. Christensen by Friday, November 19th

HO HO HO! Happy Holidays Seniors! Get ready to be merry and bright! Our Senior Holiday Parade will be on Monday, December 13. Seniors, come out to the student lot after school to decorate your vehicles with season's greetings. There will be prizes for the best decorated cars, games, and fun with your senior friends. ***SENIOR PASSHOLDERS*** will receive a festive drink and treat. *SeniorsGiving* will continue at this event, so bring new, unwrapped toys, gloves, mittens, socks, etc. to fill stockings for local families in need. We cannot wait to celebrate the holidays with you!

Class of 2022 Graduation Date: Tuesday, June 7 at 8:00 AM at Walter Bickett Stadium. **[Click here](#)** for the Fall Senior Letter.

Senior Cap and Gown Orders: Jostens was on campus last week during lunches taking orders for Graduation products, caps and gowns, and ring orders. Each senior was emailed a link to order through their UCPS Account as well along with an informational form. Please **[click here](#)** to order if you did not purchase items at school. Caps and gowns are required for the graduation ceremony.

Seniors and Senior Parents, Class of 2022 Information about your Senior Portraits: Seniors, it's time to get your senior portraits and yearbook photo taken! Go online to **cady.com/book22** to schedule your session! CADY has a studio at Crown Point Plaza in Matthews where your photos are taken. Every senior needs to get a picture taken with CADY so they will be in the yearbook.

1. CADY has a studio at Crown Point Plaza in Matthews.
 2. When you go to the website, search for Central Academy, pick an additional scene, and then click continue.
 3. 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.
 4. Your session fee (sitting fee) is the fee you are paying for the photographers to take your picture and there are a lot of different priced options with multiple locations, dedicated photographers, makeup artists, etc. This fee DOES NOT pay for any of the photos that you might want. You will have to purchase your photos after you receive your proofs.
 5. Make sure to remove any pre-checked items you do not want such as double proofs, retouching, etc.
 6. Select your date and time, create an account, and pay the sitting fee.
 7. Show up for your appointment date and time you selected to get your pictures taken.
 8. 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.
 9. Remember, we want 100% of our seniors represented in this book but we can't do it without you.
 10. Yearbook and senior tribute orders can be placed once school starts in the fall. The yearbook is always at its lowest price the first week of school so order early to get the best deal!
- If you have questions about senior pictures, please contact CADY Studios. If you have questions about other issues, contact Ms. Christensen at **deb.christensen@ucps.k12.nc.us**.



College and Career Corner

Information from the Counseling Department

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



[Please click here for all information from our Counseling Department](#)

[Click here to sign up for CATA College Visits](#)

[Scholarship Spotlight– Click HERE SCHOLARSHIP PAGE](#)

[CATA Counseling Canvas Page– Click HERE](#)

Click on the Pictures and Ads for more information



Free Speech Essay Contest for Juniors and Seniors. This involves a scholarship. [Click here](#) if you are interested. [Click here](#) to apply.

NC Governor's School: If you are interested, then please contact [Ms. Goodwin](#) in the Counseling Center for more information.



Congrats to Hayden **Eggleston** and **Leah Haney** for being our nominees for the Belk Scholarship at Davidson College

Our Parade Princess **Emilee Batchelor** will represent CATA in the Union County Christmas Parade!



CATA Counseling 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 Cole](#) : Pre-Engineering and Performing Arts (theatre & dance) & Guidance Department Chairperson

[Sarah Goodwin](#): Information Systems (Cyber Security, Computer Engineering, Software & Game Design) and Music Production & Re-cording Arts

[Stephanie Graham](#): Medical Science, Transportation (Auto Technology & Collision Repair)



COUGAR ATHLETICS

Athletics website: <https://www.ucpsathletics.com/centralacademy>

If you have questions about athletics or want to volunteer to help with athletics, please send an email to Athletic Director, Coach [Rachael Petre](#). Make sure to follow all of CATA's athletic teams on Twitter: **@CATA_Athletic**

News & Information

Last Week's Results

Wednesday, Nov 9: 3A NCHSAA Soccer 4th Round: CATA 0 - Hickory 2

Upcoming Events:

Friday, Nov 19: (A) Swim @ MAC 10 AM; (A) JV Wrestling @ Parkwood 5:00 PM

Saturday, Nov 20: Winter Sports Pictures - 9:00AM; (A) Men's Basketball Scrimmage @ Concord 2:00 PM

Monday, Nov 22: (A) JVMBB, VWBB, VMBB @ Sun Valley 4:30/6:00/7:30 PM

Tuesday, Nov 23: (H) JVMBB, VWBB, VMBB vs. Porter Ridge 5:00/6:00/7:30 PM; (A) Track @JDL 4:00 PM

Tuesday, November 23: Indoor Track at H.O.T. @JDL track, 4:00 PM

Wednesday, Nov 24: (A) Wrestling @ Brandy Tournament

Tuesday, Nov 30: (H) JV Men's, Men's and Women's Basketball vs. Christ the King, 5:00/6:00/7:30

Wednesday, December 1: (H) Men's and Women's Basketball vs Apprentice Academy, 6 PM/7:30 PM

Thursday, December 2: Wrestling, Tri Meet vs East Rowan and West Stanley, at West Stanley, 5:30 PM

Friday, December 3: (A) Women's Basketball @Chestnut Park (Concord Carolina Courts), 5 PM

Friday, December 3: (H) Wrestling Quad Match: Sun Valley, Cuthbertson, Brad. Prep, 6:00 PM

News & Information

CATA Men's Soccer: A big CONGRATS to the Men's Soccer team as they finished their successful season. The team's accomplishments this season included: 1st elite 8 appearance in school history, first conference championship since 2015, First playoff appearance since 2016, most wins since 2014, & 3rd most wins in a season. Way to go Coach Niessner & the Varsity Men's soccer team!

Physicals: The newest NCHSAA [physical form](#) for the 2021-2022 school year is on our athletics website under forms

New Coach: We are excited to announce Anthony Ramirez as CATA's new baseball. Coach Ramirez is a CATA grad and has been part of the CATA baseball program previously as an assistant coach.

Coaches/Bus Drivers Needed: CATA is still looking for Cheerleading, Football, and Softball coaches. Additionally, we are in need of some CDL Bus Drivers for our sports teams. Please have anyone interested email our athletic director, Rachael Petre.

FAMILY ID: If you plan to participate in Athletics during the 2021-2022 school year, then you need to register with Family ID. You only have to register once and you are good for the entire school year. Same email & password as last year, if you are new to CATA you will need to create a new account. The link to the CATA Family ID page can be found under FORMS on the CATA Athletics Website [HERE](#).

Tickets: Tickets for all CATA Home Athletics can be purchased [HERE](#). We will not be taking any cash at the gate. You can purchase tickets at the gate for all home events using a debit or credit card.

Season Sports Passes - Go to [CATA Athletics Website](#) for Season Pass Information Student All Sports Pass - \$40, Parent All Sports Pass - \$100, Parent Winter Season Pass - \$50, Parent Spring Season Pass - \$50

Winter Contact Information:

Cheerleading – TBA

Indoor Track & Field – Kim Inuwa –
kimberly.inuwa@ucps.k12.nc.us

Women's Basketball – – Dwight Miller-
dwrightmllr57@gmail.com

Men's Basketball – – Marcus Winnegan-
mwinnegan86@gmail.com

Swimming – Sally Goodwin –
sarah.goodwin@ucps.k12.nc.us

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

Spring Contact Information:

Baseball – TBD

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

Men's Tennis – Terry Lewis –
soldbyterrylewis@gmail.com

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

Track & Field – Kim Inuwa –
kimberly.inuwa@ucps.k12.nc.us

Women's Soccer – Jay Niessner –
jay.niessner@ucps.k12.nc.us



Hello CATA Families!

Thank you for your continued support of our programs and events! Our senior committee is rocking the senior events (stay tuned for even more to come), our families have helped our hospitality team celebrate CATA teachers and staff (thank you), and most recently our parents helped filled baskets we'll be given to our custodians - our behind the scenes heroes (so many great things were sent in)!

We are SUPER excited to announce that we're **partnering with Kendra Scott** and will have our 2nd annual Kendra Scott Fundraiser THIS WEEK. Please see the details below. You can RSVP now and then start shopping Saturday & Sunday. Don't miss this great opportunity to buy gifts and give back!

Also check out our **"Thanksgiving Pie"** Sign Up Genius below. We're gearing up to give all of our teachers and staff a special surprise before break and need your help!

As we move into the holidays, we wish everyone a safe and healthy season.

CATA PTSO Website: www.cataptso.org **Facebook:** @catacougarcouncil **Twitter:** @CATA_ptso
Email: catacougarcouncil@gmail.com

This year CATA PTSO will be sending all of our teachers & staff home with their very own Thanksgiving Pie! If you'd like to participate, the sign up is below. Thank you for helping make this holiday so special for them.

CATA PTSO - Grateful for You Pies!

<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/30e0e4babaa2aa31-grateful>

Kendra Scott Fundraiser THIS WEEKEND!

Just in time for the holidays! Join us at Kendra Scott - Southpark Mall, or shop online to support CATA PTSO. 20% of proceeds will be donated back to the school! Shop this weekend, November 20th or 21st, in store or online. Full details are below. This is a GREAT way to check some gifts off your list and support CATA at the same time!

<https://kendragivesbackcataptsofundrais.splashthat.com/>

Mention "CATA Gives Back" in-store or use code GIVEBACK-AVIJZ at checkout on www.kendrascott.com.

When: 11.20-11.21

Where: Kendra Scott Southpark Mall or

Online: www.kendrascott.com



Items to Remember

Attendance and Absence Notes: Absence notes must be emailed and/or scanned to [Mr. William Smith](#) our 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 up to three unexcused absences per class. Parents will receive notification upon the 3rd, 6th, and 8th unexcused absence.



Parking Passes– are now being sold on a first come first served basis. After we run out of spots, then students will be put on a waiting list. The process for purchasing parking passes will be on the online platform “**FamilyID**” An account has to be created if you do not already have one. Parking passes MAY NOT be purchased by any student who owes outstanding fees. After completion of the application, CATA will review your submission. The student will then receive a spot number and a link to pay for the pass once the application has been approved via the email provided in the registration form. Passes are \$45. Link for the application: <https://bit.ly/3s9faWh>



CATA Student Handbook Link: Information about attendance, tardy policy, leaving school early, the dress code, and more. [Click here](#)

-CATA Honor Code: Created by Faculty and now in use and on display in each class. [Click here to view.](#)

-CATA Dress Code and Tardy Policy: Parents and Students please review: [Click here](#) and go to pages 21-23.

Technology Help Desk

Justin.Penegar@ucps.k12.nc.us

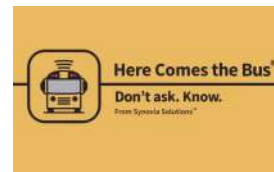
Help Desk Hours for Students: Room 519

Monday 9AM – 10:30AM
Tuesday 12:30PM – 2PM
Wednesday 9AM – 10:30AM
Thursday 12:30PM – 2PM
Friday 9AM – 10:30AM



Bus Transportation:

Parents should email [Ms. Tweed](#) 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 at their bus stop at least **20 minutes** before the scheduled arrival time. [Bus App Letter English](#) [Bus App Letter Spanish](#)



Early Dismissal: If a student driver needs to be dismissed early from school, a parent note must be emailed to [Mr. William Smith](#), our data manager prior to the start of the school day in order for the student to receive an early dismissal pass. The emailed parent note must contain the date, student's full name, the time that the student needs to be dismissed from school and the parent's phone number. Any student being picked up early from school by someone other than a parent, must follow the same protocol stated above while giving permission for someone else to pick up the student. Email the Mr. William Smith. In the event that a parent does not email a note, the parent must call the school to speak to someone in the front office.



Breakfast and Lunch: All breakfast and lunch meals are free to students this year! Students can purchase ala carte items if they would like. This includes premium chicken items, cookies, chips, sodas and water. To add money to their student's account they can visit k12paymentcenter.com

Dear Class of 2022,

We are very proud of every one of you. We hope you will have fond memories of CATA and of all the people here. Congratulations on making it to this point in your academic career. We would like to provide you some updated information for your senior year. We ask that you review the entire letter with your family to familiarize yourselves with the information and expectations.

Graduation: The ceremony is on Tuesday, June 7, 2022 at 8:00 AM at Walter Bickett Stadium. The address is 704 Washington Street, Monroe NC 28112. Please arrive no later than 7:00 AM 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. We will send more specific information about graduation day in the Spring Senior Class of 2022 Letter.

Graduation Practice: Practice is on Monday June 6, 2022 from 2:00-4:00 PM in the gym and or Walter Bickett Stadium/ Education Center (Students will be notified of the location in the Spring Senior Letter). Please arrive no later than 1:45 PM. Be aware 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. **Graduation Practice is required.**

Attire: All students should be in their caps and gowns with comfortable shoes. Students may wear clothes for hot weather within the school dress code. Graduation Caps and Gowns may not be altered.

Senior Cap and Gown Picture: The above described dress code is what you are expected to wear at the senior cap and gown picture in April or May in the gym or outside. This occurs during second block and you must be present and in appropriate attire to be included in the picture (be here by 10:20 am if you flex first period). The exact date of the picture will be put in the Spring Senior Letter.

Senior Week is May 16 to 20: We will be sending more information about Senior Week in the coming months.

Senior Academic Signings: Each academy will continue with the tradition of seniors signing for their plans for college, military, or career. The Signings will be on May 16 and 17 and all grade levels will attend their Academy Signings. Signings will also include scholarship recognitions, Academy and Department Awards as warranted. Parents will be invited to attend. We will list a specific date and time for each academy in the Spring Senior letter.

Graduation Speeches: Each academy has one senior give a speech at graduation. A committee of the faculty and staff of Central Academy chooses the individuals for graduation speeches. Students may audition for consideration in May. 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 past year technology payments through the Central Academy Website, and make all other payments at the school with the bookkeeper. Dr. 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 information will come out at a later date.

Everyone (including children) must have a ticket to enter the stadium.

Students will not receive their tickets until the end of Graduation practice.

Students owing fees will not receive tickets until fees are paid.

Please keep your receipt for the tickets in case there are any questions.

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, technology, property fees. Any unpaid fee owed to the school or school system must be paid by Wednesday, June 1 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.

Ms. Vicki Merritt, Principal

The Den Digest

- Check out the [Virtual Learning Commons](#) and see what is offered. Find links to databases, research help, reading lists, how to evaluate news sources and more.
- Want to check out a book? Login to Destiny and put one on hold or stop into the media center and check one out.
- Need a calculator? [Click HERE](#) and have your parent/guardian sign. We will give the calculator to your math or science teacher.
- Remember that you can access e-books and other resources through our online catalog by [Clicking HERE](#)
- Interested in joining a Battle of the Books team? Fill out the interest form at <https://bit.ly/HBOB2122>. Learn more by clicking here: <https://bit.ly/CATAHBOB>.



Principal: Vicki Merritt

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Monroe, NC 28112
Phone: 704-296-3088
Fax: 704-296-3090
ucps.k12.nc.us/cata

November 22, 2021

To Whom It May Concern:

The student council of Central Academy of Technology & Arts in Monroe, North Carolina, is sponsoring our first annual Children's Holiday Drive to help children and their families who are having extreme financial difficulty this year. The purpose of the letter is to reach our goal of \$5,000 from our student body and area businesses to help children from the Monroe Cluster elementary schools. We need your assistance in any way possible. Remember, all donations are tax deductible! Our donation drive for this project begins Monday, November 22 and ends December 10, 2021. Please make all checks payable to Central Academy of Technology & Arts and make memo it is for the Children's Holiday Drive.

Each child and family receives:

- Three new outfits
- A new pair of new shoes
- A new winter coat
- A new book bag and school supplies for the child
- Toys for the children of the family
- Toiletries and other family supplies
- Christmas Dinner for the family

(This is about \$500 worth for each family)

Thank you for your compassion and support!

Central Academy of Technology & Arts Student Body President, Carrington Newsome

Central Academy of Technology & Arts Principal, Ms. Vicki Merritt

Union County Public Schools
400 North Church Street • Monroe, NC 28112 • Phone: 704.296.9898 • Fax: 704.289.9182 • www.ucps.k12.nc.us

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