



Central Academy of Technology & Arts Cougar Chronicle

Volume 7

Issue 1

July 25, 2019

Summer Edition One

Dear CATA Family,

School starts on Monday, August 26, 2019. Students should arrive by 8:40 am to make the first bell of the day that signals students to move to their first class.

On Monday and Tuesday, students will report to their **Advisories** (or homerooms) first. Lists will be posted in the hall. **Attention Seniors:** Please do not

forget to go to CATAPTSO.org to order your Senior Bundle (choose a level) by Monday, July 29. You will also have the option of the BONUS activities for seniors hosted by the PTSO Senior Committee. You will have another opportunity in late September to place your order. In addition, there is an order form in this edition.

Back to School Days. Schedules, lockers, bus info, spirit wear will be available.. Information about our **attendance and tardy policies** will be sent out separately and in the August Newsletter.

Freshman Orientation will be on Monday, August 19 for ALL new NINTH grade students from 10:00 AM—12:30 PM. Students will meet in the theatre. Parents may choose to drop students off as the Freshman Orientation activities are **student only**. In addition, parents may choose to drop in to the media center between 10 and 11 to meet our PTSO parents and some staff for coffee and pastries. PTSO parents and staff will be available to answer questions and discuss both the high school and academy studies with you. Schedules and Bus Info will be given to students DURING their orientation.

New Sophomore (10th graders new to CATA) Orientation will be on Monday, August 19 from 1:30—2:30. Please meet in room 401—or what we call “the fishbowl”. Parents are welcome to drop in to the guidance office between 1:30-2:00 to ask questions about school procedures, or feel free to just drop your student off.

All current 10th—12th graders' Open House—Tuesday August 20, 9:00—12:00 PM. Get schedules, lockers, bus information, spirit wear, student section t-shirts (\$12), senior shirts and signs, and parking passes (see Priority Times below). Lockers can be rented for \$5 for the year. Any schedules/bus information NOT picked up at open house will be mailed home the following Wednesday afternoon.

Parking passes are available for **SENIORS ONLY** on 8/16 and 8/19, during office hours 9 AM to 3 PM. No schedules will be give out on these days. **Passes are sold to all students** on Tuesday 8/20 with the following sale schedule: Seniors 9-10, Juniors 10-11, Sophomores 11-12. Information about **seniors painting park spots** will be sent to senior separately. See more details about parking passes in this edition.

Parent email and phone contact information—it is vital that we have accurate information so that we can reach you concerning your students. You will receive a form for changes with the student's back to school paperwork. You may also email Mr. William Smith with any changes.

Chromebooks for ALL students at CATA—Please see important information inside.

Schedules and Schedule Changes—Please see important information inside.

CATA Summer Read—Please see important information inside.

Athletics: Please check out the [athletics page](#) in this edition for information about summer workouts, physicals, Family ID, and Important summer dates. New Freshmen and Sophomore students please check out the athletic information for those new to CATA in this edition. **Season Passes** will be on sale ... they will also be available online starting on 7/29/19: Students - \$25.00 and Adults - \$50.00. Passes are good for admission to ALL regular season HOME games

Owed Fees: Any student who owes fees will not be permitted to purchase a parking pass or items (such as homecoming and prom tickets) until all fees are paid in full to CATA. We will email invoices and send messages home over the summer.

Please take time to read over this newsletter. The newsletters will begin on a weekly basis once the school year starts so the whole CATA community can read about the great things our children and teachers are doing. 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! Ms. Merritt

CATA COUGAR SPIRIT WEAR

CATA Spirit Wear will be on sale online.
Our Band Boosters sell Cougar Spirit Wear!

Click [here](#) to purchase online.

Please call or text Mickie Carter at 980-257-4174 with questions.



College and Career Corner

Class Information from the Guidance Counselors

**Class of
2020**

Attention Seniors Class of 2020 Information Coming this Fall

Graduation is on Thursday, June 11, 2020 at 1:00 PM at the Winthrop Coliseum in Rock Hill, SC

Attention Seniors - Tuesday September 3rd at 7:00 pm (The Same Night as the Open House) in the CATA Auditorium the **Guidance Department will be hosting Senior Night**. This event is for all seniors and their parents. The purpose of CATA Senior Night is to review a packet of information that explains and guides the timeline of senior year. Seniors will also receive a copy of their unofficial transcript to use for college applications. *Beginning the week of September 5th to the end of September each guidance counselor will have an individual meeting with each of their assigned seniors—please note that seniors will receive important information that they need to have BEFORE they meet with their counselor. Your attendance at the evening meeting is strongly encouraged. Please contact your assigned counselor if you have any questions.*

PSAT: All **Juniors** and possibly, sophomores, will be taking the PSAT, on 10/16/19.

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

Open House—Meet the Teachers is on September 3rd. We hope to see you there!!

AP Level Classes: Announcements were made in the Spring and during registration about AP classes. It is quite typical for Fall AP classes to have summer reading or review activities for students. Please check the CATA website for information. Some teachers send an email to students, so students should check their UCPS student email as well (some teachers did this in the spring before school was out). [All students should check the CATA Website, LINK HERE](#)

Students in AP level courses should expect to take a rigorous AP-level final exam with their AP teacher prior to taking the actual AP exam. This AP level exam will count for 25% of their final grade in the AP course. This will ensure that they are preparing well enough to pass these college-level courses and exams. Teachers will discuss this more with your student at the start of each course. It is important that you and your student remember that an AP course is a college-level course, and as such, has college-level assessments.





College and Career Corner

Class Information from the Guidance Counselors

Students Schedule Update:

We are working diligently to finalize the master schedule and meet student needs and requests for the upcoming school year. During July and early August we work with incoming ninth grade schedules to complete our master schedule. During the summer, the schedule is not complete as we work up until August to finalize all courses and student enrollment in these courses. If a student can accidentally see a schedule in PowerSchool for next year, it is NOT correct or complete.

**Drafts of schedules will be available to students on Back to School days - Freshman: August 19
Sophomores, Juniors, & Seniors: August 20.**

Students will either receive the class(es) they selected during the registration process last spring or students will see **"Please See Your Counselor"** on their schedule. We will not randomly give 10-12 grade students classes they did not register for; therefore, we enter "Please See Your Counselor" as a placeholder in the event a class did not make or there is a conflict we need to discuss with the student. If a student has "Please See Your Counselor" on the schedule, there will be an opportunity for students to meet with a Guidance Counselor prior to the start of school. This dates for this are **8/21 to 8/23 in guidance from 1:00 to 3:30 PM.**

If a student does not have **"Please See Your Counselor"** on the schedule, the student received the classes he/she requested in Spring 2019. Information will be shared with students on the first day of school as to how to request a schedule change for a valid specified reason.

We ask that you please respect the process and not e-mail Guidance Counselors to inquire about schedule changes throughout the summer as Guidance Counselors do not work full time in the summer and when they are here they are working on registering and completing schedules for the incoming ninth grade students so that we can finalize our entire schedule. They look forward to filling holes in late August or responding to requests during the first five days of the semester. Please note that email requests for schedule changes will not be accepted this year. We will have an electronic form that students must complete during school hours the first five days of classes.

CATA Guidance Department

A high school guidance department can help your student with a LOT during high school—counseling during a problem/or stress, college planning, career/college questions, interview skills, problem solving with classes/teachers, friendship/social issues. Counselors also help with scheduling and what courses to take. Counselors are available to answer parent questions as well.

Please see the list of counselors by academy:

Ashley Lawson: Medical Science, Transportation & Guidance Department Chairperson

Ashley Cole : Pre-Engineering and Performing Arts (theatre & dance)

Sarah Goodwin: Information Systems (Cybersecurity, Computer Engineering, Software & Game Design) and Music Production & Recording Arts.



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](mailto:jay.niessner@ucps.k12.nc.us). Make sure to follow all of CATA's athletic teams on Twitter: [@CATA_Athletics](https://twitter.com/CATA_Athletics) **Athletic Director:** Jay Niessner – jay.niessner@ucps.k12.nc.us

News & Information:

Summer Workout Information – All summer workout information can be found on the CATA Athletics Webpage on the right hand side in either a PDF or link to a google site. If you cannot find your sport or have any questions please contact your sports coach (see list below) or Coach Niessner – jay.niessner@ucps.k12.nc.us

Physicals – The newest NCHSAA physical form for the 2019-2020 school year can now be found on the CATA athletics website under forms. [CATA Athletics Webpage](#)

FAMILY ID: If you plan to participate in Athletics during the 2019-2020 school year, 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

Important Summer Dates:

Fall Sports Parent Night – Monday July 29th @ 7:00 pm – CATA Auditorium

Season Passes will be on sale ... they will also be available online starting on 7/29/19:

Students - \$25.00, Adults - \$50.00 : Good for admission to ALL regular season HOME games

Computer Lab will be open at 6:00 pm for anyone needed to complete their FamilyID registration

1st CATA Yard Sale – Old CATA Uniforms, Football Helmets etc. will be on sale from 6:00 – 8:00 pm

First day of Fall Sports – Thursday, August 1st

Saturday, August 17th – Fall Sports Kick Off Event – Walter Bickett Stadium 6:00 pm

Fall Sports Coaches Contact Information:

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

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

Cross Country - Kim Inuwa – kimberly.inuwa@ucps.k12.nc.us

Football – Drew Hackett – drew.hackett@ucps.k12.nc.us

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

Volleyball - Stephanie Peacock – Stephanie.peacock@ucps.k12.nc.us

Women's Golf - Nelson Rowell – nelson.rowell@ucps.k12.nc.us

Women's Tennis - Terry Lewis – soldbyterrylewis@gmail.com

Winter Sports Coaches Contact Information:

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

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

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

Women's Basketball – Kevin Allran – kevin.allran@ucps.k12.nc.us

Men's Basketball – Sam Smithson – Samuel.smithson@ucps.k12.nc.us

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

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

Spring Sports Contact Information:

Athletic Director – Jay Niessner – jay.niessner@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 – Terry Lewis – soldbyterrylewis@gmail.com

Softball – Greg Peters – Gregory.peters@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



COUGAR ATHLETICS

CATA Athletic Information - Summer 2019 Incoming Freshman & Sophomores

Welcome to CATA Athletics, below is information for anyone interested in playing a fall sport here at CATA. If you are interested in playing a winter/spring sport there will be information once we start back to school.

Important Paperwork:

1. You must have a **current physical** to be able to participate in summer workouts. You **MUST** bring a copy of that physical with you to your first workout.
 - a. Workout schedules can be found on the CATA Athletics website main page and under each sport.
2. All other forms can now be found on the CATA website. Each student athlete must register with Family ID to complete the necessary forms. There is a link on the CATA website under Athletic Forms. Family ID opens on July 1st, 2019 for registration. All forms must be completed before the first day of practice/tryouts for a student to be eligible to participate.

Important Dates:

Monday, July 29th – Fall Sports Parent Night – 7:00 pm – CATA Auditorium

- 6:00 pm – computer lab is open if you need to register for Family ID – process usually takes about twenty minutes.

Thursday, August 1st – 1st Day of Fall Sports – Football, Cheerleading, Cross Country, Women's Tennis, Volleyball, and Men's Soccer

- Your Family ID Information must be completed AND approved before you can attend the first day of tryouts or workouts for your sport.

Monday, August 12th – 1st Day – Women's Golf

Fall Sports Head Coach Contact Information:

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

Football – Drew Hackett – drew.hackett@ucps.k12.nc.us

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

Cross Country – Kim Inuwa – kimberly.inuwa@ucps.k12.nc.us

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

Volleyball – Stephanie Peacock – stephanie.peacock@ucps.k12.nc.us

Women's Golf – Nelson Rowell – nelson.rowell@ucps.k12.nc.us

Athletic Trainer – TBA

Any questions please contact:

Athletic Director – Jay Niessner

Email – jay.niessner@ucps.k12.nc.us

Phone – 704-296-3088 ext. 7158



Around CATA

Monday, August 19-Freshmen Orientation, 10-12:30 PM; **New to CATA Sophomore Orientation**, 1:30– 2:30 PM (Room 401); **Parent Drop in** (PTSO members, counselor, admin, and a couple of teachers to answer questions about processes and general curriculum, 10-11 AM (Media Center) OR 1:30-2:00 PM (Guidance for new Sophomore Parents)

Tuesday, August 20-Upperclassmen Open House 9 AM to 12 :00 PM (drop-in for schedule, parking passes, lockers): **Parking Pass Sells :12th graders:** 9:00 – 10:00 AM, **11th graders:** 10:00 – 11:00 AM, **10th graders:** 11:00 to 12:00 AM (Front of School)

Monday, August 26- First Day of School; Lockers for Sale during lunches

Tuesday, September 3– Open House, 6-8 PM, Senior Night, 7:00 PM (Theatre)

Student Life

Incoming students will get to tour a Student Life fair in the first week or two of school. It is so important to get involved in something at school, whether it is a club, student council, athletics, band, or a co-curricular organization. Keep your eyes open and be open to the possibilities!!!!

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

Be in the Know by following us on Social Media

Follow CATA at @cata_monroe

Dance @CATA_DANCE

Performing Arts @CougarArts

Athletics @CATA_Athletics

Football @cata_football

Band @catabanddirect

Student Council @StucoCata

Counseling Twitter @CATA_Counseling

Counseling Instagram @CATA.counseling

Cheerleading @CATACougarCheer

Baseball @CATA_Baseball

Theatre **Instagram:** @C.A.T.A.Theatre

UCPS @UCPS_MonroeNC



Chromebooks, Yearbooks, and Summer Read

CHROMEBOOKS – 2019-2020

CATA is the school of Technology and all students are required to use their Chromebooks at school. UCPS Technology Initiative provides learning anywhere, anytime for our students. We are very excited for all of our CATA students to receive their Chromebook again to use for schoolwork during the school year. This is an amazing initiative that students in UCPS will again benefit from. Students at CATA are required to bring their Chromebook to school every day.

Parents—both you and your child will be required to sign a Chrome book Student /Parent Agreement. **EVERY student will receive a form on the first day of school.** The form will be due back the next morning (Tuesday 8/27). Students will not be able to receive a chrome book on Tuesday 8/27 unless the form is signed.

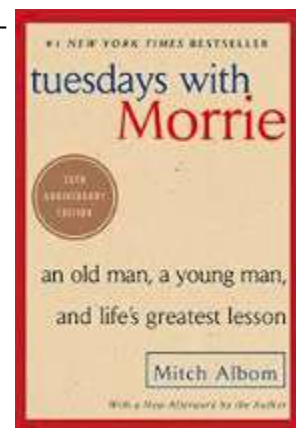
There is NO technology fee this year!

2019-2020 Yearbooks

Yearbooks will be on sale when school starts and students will receive an order form the first day at school. Online sales will be available then as well. Pricing and details for senior ads will also be available. ALL senior ads must be purchased and paid for before the December break. There will not be any late ad sales. The yearbook staff has planned another exciting book so remember to buy one in August!

CATA Summer Read- CATA supports reading! The CATA community – staff and students – are reading this summer. The goal for the summer reading program is for students to have a pleasurable and positive summer reading experience. Learning to read texts without structured assignments and being able to communicate and make connections with others about the reading is an essential skill. **All incoming ninth grade students will read: “Tuesdays with Morrie” by Mitch Albom**

When students return in the fall during Cougar Time, in small groups, students will have the opportunity to make connections with a teacher and their grade level peers. The CATA Summer Read is an annual tradition and each spring faculty pitch books and students get to pick their top three. Each student is eventually paired up with one of their book preferences (we usually have about 18-20 different books being read) and everyone gets to read and share. Next spring your student will get this same opportunity!



All 10th, 11th, and 12th grade students should be reading their book selection. If you forgot your book, check your student UCPS email from last Spring, or call the school– we have the list. If you are a new sophomore, then please call the school for a list of books you are able to choose to read.



New Family Information

- School day hours: 8:50-3:30 (Class starts at 8:50, students should all **arrive by 8:40** when the first bell rings to move to class.) If you are dropping your student off by car, you should arrive between 8:20—8:30 to ensure that your child can get to class on time.
- Lunches are determined by your 3rd block teacher. Don't worry—you will meet people to sit with.
- Upon arrival on the first day of school, all students will report to Advisory first. Advisory assignments will be posted at the front of the school.
- Set uniforms are not required for PE classes, but a dress code is strictly enforced. This will be discussed during the first day of class. Sneakers, athletic shorts, and t-shirt are required every day.
- Lockers are not required, but you may rent a locker for \$5.00. **PE Lockers are required.** Your PE teacher will provide information. NO students may leave their belongings out in the PE locker room—ALL belongings must be secured with a school-issued lock. Students will be charged for missing locks.
- Supply lists will be posted on Teacher's Public Canvas pages on Thursday 8/22.
- Attendance is taken during each class, and it is vital that you are present at school every day for every class. If you must make doctor appointments during the school day, be sure to do so at different times of the day so you don't miss too many days in one class.
- Attendance matters for participation in extracurricular activities, credit for courses, and affects eligibility for sports. **Students too sick to come to school may not be on school grounds for extracurricular events that day.** Absence notes MUST be turned in within three days.
- Every teacher will have a web page (on Canvas) for students and parents to access with course information.
- All students will receive a student login/password to the Parent Portal so that they can see their grades. This will become active on Monday, September 9.
- Students are expected to check their school email account daily as both teachers and administration use this to communicate with students.

Volunteering at Central Academy:

We are happy to have our parents volunteer for events, field trips, and other school activities. Please click [here](#) to fill out an application to volunteer.





Student Section and Parking Passes

The Student Section at CATA is the...

BLUE CREW

Every year a new Blue Crew shirt is designed and voted on by students. Purchase the 19-20 Blue Crew Shirt by going to [our online link.](#)



Shirts cost **\$12** and will be available for pick up on August 9th if ordered online.

Student Section Shirts will be sold at Freshman Orientation and at the Upperclassmen Open House

Parking Passes

Seniors Only – Parking passes will be on sale on 8/16 and 8/19 for Seniors ONLY on a first come first served basis during office hours, 89AM to 3 PM. Information about painting spaces will be sent later.

All students – Seniors, 9-10:00, Juniors 10:00—11:00, and Sophomores 11:00 to 12:00 **only on Tuesday 8/20.**



- ALL past due student fees must be paid before you are permitted to purchase a parking pass—this includes the 2016-2017 AND 2017-2018 technology fees, media center fees, cafeteria, and any fees owed to CATA.
- ALL Students, MUST print and bring ALL required documents with you along with the cash (exact amount) or check for **\$40** made payable to Central Academy of Technology & Arts. Any incomplete application packets will delay the process and you **canNOT** reserve your parking spot until all documents and check are turned in. Please make sure to have your parent sign the registration forms. They are available on the CATA website under "Students". [Click here for the link.](#)
- Students may choose their parking spot number if they purchase BEFORE the first day of school. After that we will sell remaining spots in order.
- **If you pay with cash, you MUST have exact change.**

STUDENTS WHO DRIVE TO SCHOOL ON THE FIRST DAY WILL NEED TO HAVE A HANG TAG TO PARK IN A RESERVED SPACE. Parking passes are not guaranteed available throughout the school year. Once we sell out we will start a waiting list. Students obtaining their license during the school year are not guaranteed a spot, and may have to wait until the following year to drive. We will have a waitlist for those students bringing in all appropriate documentation.



Senior T-Shirts, Signs and Senior Celebrations Opportunities



ATTENTION PARENTS OF 2020 RISING SENIORS !!!!



The PTSO Senior Events Committee is planning **BONUS** activities to make **CLASS OF 2020** a year of special memories. Activities may include ice cream social, dessert bar, other random surprise events during school day. Entrance into these particular **BONUS** Senior Events require a Senior Pass which can be purchased in one of the following packages described below

BASIC LEVEL: \$25 IF PURCHASED BY JUNE 24TH IN MEDIA CENTER

Senior Class T-Shirt and Senior CATA Yard Sign Only!!! No PTSO membership and NO Senior Pass included in this package. This package is also only payable by cash/check. Please see Ms. Christensen in Media Center for purchase.

WHITE LEVEL (BONUS): \$30 IF PURCHASED BY JULY 15, 2019

PACKAGE INCREASES TO \$40 ON JULY 16, 2019

Senior Pass (needed for entrance into BONUS PTSO Sponsored Senior Committee Events)
Family CATA PTSO Membership (required to be eligible for PTSO scholarship)

MAROON LEVEL (BONUS): \$45 IF PURCHASED BY JULY 15, 2019

PACKAGE INCREASES TO \$55 ON JULY 16, 2019

Senior Pass (needed for entrance into BONUS PTSO Sponsored Senior Committee Events)
Senior Class T-Shirt
Family CATA PTSO Membership (required to be eligible for PTSO scholarship)

NAVY LEVEL (BONUS): \$55 IF PURCHASED BY JULY 15, 2019

PACKAGE INCREASES TO \$65 ON JULY 16, 2019

Senior Pass (needed for entrance into BONUS PTSO Sponsored Senior Committee Events)
Senior Class T-Shirt
Senior CATA Yard Sign
Family CATA PTSO Membership (required to be eligible for PTSO scholarship)

TO PLACE YOUR ORDER:

ORDER YOUR PACKAGE AT ANY TIME USING YOUR CREDIT/DEBIT CARD ON OUR WEBSITE!

Visit the PTSO website www.cataptso.org

ORDERS MUST BE RECEIVED BY JULY 15TH TO RECEIVE THE DISCOUNTED PRICE; PICKUP DATES WILL BE EMAILED OUT WHEN ORDERS HAVE BEEN RECEIVED. ALL ORDERS MUST BE RECEIVED BY SEPT 3RD FOR DELIVERY OF ITEMS AT THE END OF SEPTEMBER. T-SHIRTS ARE SPECIAL ORDER ITEMS; NO EXCHANGES/RETURNS DUE TO SIZE, ETC. PKGS ARE NON-TRANSFERABLE. STUDENTS CANNOT SHARE PKGS/MEMBERSHIP WITH OTHER STUDENTS

Name of 2020 Senior: _____ Cell Number: _____

Package Type: _____ Payment Amount \$ _____ T-Shirt Size: _____

Parent Name: _____ Email: _____

*** PLEASE COMPLETELY FILL OUT ALL FIELDS BEFORE YOU CHECK OUT ONLINE ***