

CENTRAL ACADEMY OF TECHNOLOGY AND ARTS

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Principal: Vicki Merritt

Assistant Principals: Thomas Stewart & Dr. Josh Wall

SCHOOL PROFILE FOR 2020-2021

SCHOOL COUNSELING STAFF

Sarah Goodwin: Information Systems & MPRA

Ashley Lawson: Medical & Transportation

Ashley Cole: Performing Arts (Dance & Theatre) & Pre-Engineering

Tammy Tweed: Student Records Coordinator

CENTRAL ACADEMY OF TECHNOLOGY AND ARTS opened Fall 2006 and is a comprehensive magnet high school of academies. Each year students in rising 9th and 10th grade apply from throughout the Union County Public Schools System for a spot in one of the academy programs. Each student applying must be on grade level using North Carolina End of Grade standards in reading and math. The 9th grade students are selected based on a lottery for all academies except Dance and Theatre; those two academies will participate in an audition process. The 10th grade students are selected on a first come, first serve basis. The 10th grade students applying to the Performing Arts Academy also participate in the audition process.

MISSION STATEMENT: To prepare students for informed decision-making, effective citizenships, personal achievements, higher-education and rewarding careers. Focused curriculum is offered in the fields of information systems, medical science, performing arts, pre-engineering, and transportation systems.

INFORMATION SYSTEMS ACADEMY: In Computer Engineering students learn about building computers, configuring networks and routing. In Software & Game Design students will focus on computer programming, visualization tools and game design. In Cybersecurity students learn about ethics in technology, as well as, trends in the growing industry. Although these courses are "deep" in programming and compute logic, the solid preparation that is offered prepares our High School graduates to achieve any information systems career goal.

PRE-ENGINEERING ACADEMY: Instruction is offered in engineering design through 3-D software, digital electronics, and computer-integrated manufacturing. These are connected together through engineering principles connecting math, science, and technology. The majority of courses are delivered through the Project Lead the Way curricula.

MEDICAL SCIENCE ACADEMY: The goal of the Project Lead the Way Biomedical Sciences Program is to provide a sequence of courses, all aligned with appropriate national learning standards, which follows a proven hands-on, real-world, problem-solving approach to learning. Students explore the concepts of human medicine and are introduced to topics such as physiology, genetics, microbiology and public health. The students explore the prevention, diagnosis, and treatment of disease.

TRANSPORTATION SYSTEMS ACADEMY: The Automotive Technology pathway provides instruction on brakes, steering suspension, engine and electronics. The Collision Repair pathway offers auto body reconstruction and frame straightening. The curriculum allows students to receive hands-on industry recommended training. Strong academic background and technical application allow for a seamless transition from high school to post-secondary training or high tech automotive careers.

PERFORMING ARTS ACADEMY: Programming is offered in Dance and Theatre Arts. Both pathways expose students to the many facets of a successful performance, history, theory, and techniques. Students will be able to hone their current skills through a variety of program-specific courses that will create a well-rounded performer. Students participate in major performances throughout high school.

MUSIC PRODUCTION AND RECORDING ARTS (MPRA) ACADEMY: The curriculum in this academy creates a solid foundation both in musicianship and technology. Coursework is focused on music theory, aural skills, applied music performance, introduction to music technology, recording studio techniques, music production, and music business.

COLLEGE PREPARTORY ENVIRONMENT: All students are assigned the **Future Ready** course of study.

DIPLOMA REQUIREMENTS: Students must graduate with a minimum of 28 Carnegie credit units.

SCHEDULE: The CATA curriculum is offered on a 4x4 block schedule for all courses. All students receive daily instruction in four ninety-minute classes; earning a maximum one credit per course

GRADING SCALE: Union County Public Schools requires the following grading scale/point values. Additional quality points are given for a passing grade (60-100) for specific courses based on the course's academic level.

Numeric Grade	Non-Weighted Point Value
90 – 100	4.0
89 – 80	3.0
79 – 70	2.0
69 – 60	1.0
AUD, F, FF, P, WF, WP	0.0

Academic Level of Course	Additional Quality Points Given for a Weighted GPA
Basic	No additional points
College Prep	No additional points
Honors	.5 additional point
AP (Advanced Placement)	1 additional points

COVID-19 DISCLAIMER: In the Spring 2020 Semester, NC Governor Roy Cooper issued an Executive Order closing schools on March 16, 2020 due to the Coronavirus. In alignment with decisions made by the North Carolina Board of Education, grading practices for transcript purposes held students harmless from the impact of COVID-19. Students had the option to take a Pass “PC-19” or Withdrawal “WC-19” based on the student’s grade as of March 13, 2020. Students also had the option to take a numeric grade. Union County Public Schools encouraged students to choose the option that benefitted their GPA.

HONORS AND COLLEGE LEVEL COURSES OFFERED AT CATA

Honors level courses are offered in the areas of Academy Courses, English, Fine Arts, Math, Physical Education, Science, Social Studies, World Language, and Career and Technical Education. Course content, pace, and academic rigor place high expectations on the student and surpass standards specified by Common Core and Essential Standards.

Honors Courses

Advanced Biology Topics	Dance III, IV	Peer Tutor	World History
Advanced Calculus AB	Discrete Math	Physics	
Advanced Chemistry Topics	Drafting	Pre-Calculus	
Advanced Manufacturing	Earth Science	Principles of Biomedical Science	
American History I, II	Electronics DC, AC	Psychology/Sociology	
Band III, IV	English I, II, III, IV	Python Programming I, II	
Biology I	Engineering Design	Robotics I	
Biomedical Science	Forensic Science I	SAS Programming	
Chemistry	Game Art Design	Spanish III, IV	
Civics and Economics	Health Science I	Sports Medicine I, II	
Civil Engineering and Architecture	Human Body Systems	Theatre Arts III, IV	
Computer Engineering	Math I, II, III, IV	Visual Arts III, IV	
Computer Integrated Manufacturing	Medical Interventions	Yearbook III, IV	
Chorus III, IV	Network Computer Engineering	Weightlifting	

AP level course content, pace, and academic rigor are college-level as adopted by the College Board and prepare students to take the AP examinations which may lead to college credit. Most AP classes are yearlong and scheduling conflicts with required academy courses often preclude more than two AP classes per year. In addition, the scheduling conflicts with required academy courses can prevent students from taking more than two levels of a World Language.

Advanced Placement (AP) Courses

Aerospace Engineering	Calculus BC	English III, IV	Psychology
Art-2D Studio	Chemistry II	Environmental Science	US History
Biology II	Computer Science	Government US	
Calculus AB	Computer Science Principles	Physics I	

STUDENT LED ORGANIZATIONS

Arcade Club	Fellowship of Christian Athletes	MPA Ensemble	World Language Club
Art Club	Fishing Club	National Honor Society	World Travel Club
BETA Club	Gaming Club	National Honor Society of Dance	Yearbook Club
Biology Club	Gay-Straight Alliance	Robotics	
Canine Club	Hands Helping Others	Science Olympiad	
Creative Writing Club	HOSA	Shooting Sports Team	
Debate Club	International Thespian Society	Skills USA	
Environmental Club	Junior Beta Club	Society of Women Engineers	
Fashion Club	Makers Club	Student Council	