

CREEK SQUAD NEWSLETTER

VOLUME 2, ISSUE 1
SEPTEMBER 2009

SPECIAL POINTS OF INTEREST:

- Email Addresses — make sure Mrs. Duhon has current email contact for you and your child.
- Membership in FBLA and the Gamers' Club is encouraged.
- FBLA meets every other Thursday right after school.
- Gamers' Club meets every other Friday right after school

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Participate

Message from the Director

School has gotten off to a great start this year and Ms. Colvin and I are excited about working with you and your child. The Academy of Information Technology is a wonderful opportunity for your child to get hands on experience working with computers. The purpose of this newsletter is to give you some information about AOIT that you can refer to throughout the year. Please contact either me or Ms. Colvin if you have questions. The easiest way to reach us is via email.

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Ms. Colvin
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Dallas, Gary, Greg and Patrick relax at NC State during a field trip last Spring.



Brandon and Andrew build a new computer in CTS 220 class during the Spring



Message from Central Services

We bring you greetings from Cumberland County Schools Career and Technical Education Department. We provide curriculum and instructional support for the Academy of Information Technology (AOIT).

High School career academies offer the opportunity to enroll in a program that is focused on a particular career field such as Information Technology. This

“school within a school” concept allows students to select a course sequence related to a particular occupation and become actively engaged with local agencies or employers in that career area. Our academies offer job shadowing experiences to academy students during their junior year. Our relationship with Fayetteville Technical Community College offers many of our academy students the op-

portunity to graduate from high school with college credit while in high school. This is a substantial savings for the student and allows them to get a “jump start” on a degree.

Our career academies are small learning communities that draw business, industry, and post secondary education together to provide our students with a model career education program. Welcome to the AOIT!

AOIT

Current Community Service Opportunities

- Oct 1-3
Give & Receive
Sponsored by the Salvation Army
You must sign up for this activity.
- Oct 4
9:00am—1:00pm
North Carolina Big Sweep
Lake Rim Boat Ramp
Parking Lot
- Oct 3-10
AOIT Food Drive
Bring in nonperishable items, cleaning products, and toiletry items
- Oct 17
Women in Technology
IBM in Raleigh
Girls must sign up for this activity.
- Dec 5
Angel Tree
Cross Creek Mall
10:00 am-8:00pm
Sign up with Ms. Duhon

Uniforms

AOIT uniforms are to be worn on Thursdays. The uniform consists of:

- AOIT collared shirt tucked in with a belt
- Khaki or dress pants (no cargo pants)
- Ladies may wear khaki skirts
- Khaki or dress shorts (no cargo shorts)
- Clean shoes

Clothing items should be ironed.

At the writing of this newsletter, the shirts have been ordered and we are waiting for delivery.

For freshmen and sophomores, the uniform grade is 10% of their overall grade. The FTCC instructors have incorporated points for wearing the uniform into their grading for the juniors and seniors.

Students must wear their AOIT uniform at least 90% of the Thursdays during the semester. Failure to do so could result in probation.

Having an athletic game on Thursdays does not excuse an athlete from wearing the Academy uniform.

Uniforms should be worn on field trips or any academy sponsored function.

Community Service

Students are required to perform 50 hours of community service per school year. That equates to 25 hours per semester. Community service hours may be attained with the Academy as a group or on an individual basis.

If a student does not log any community service hours during the first semester, the student must complete the full 50 hours during the second semester. If no hours are logged by May, the student will be placed on probation with

the stipulation that he/she must complete the required hours before the beginning of the next school year.

Some examples of appropriate community service:

- >Volunteering at a homeless shelter or animal shelter
- >Volunteering at a hospital
- >Volunteering at Habitat for Humanity or Salvation Army
- >Bringing classroom supplies

*1 large bottle of GermX

- *1 large container of disinfecting wipes
- *1 3-box package of Kleenex
- *1 large container of computer screen wipes

Emails will be sent when opportunities become available.

Contact either Mrs. Duhon or Ms. Colvin with suggestions or questions.

GPA Requirements

Students are required to maintain an overall GPA of 2.7 and a 3.0 in Academy classes.

Failure to do so may result in being placed on academic probation at the end of the semester. If a student does not show improvement in the following semester, the student is subject to removal from the Academy.

If a junior student fails the FTCC CTS 120 class in the fall, the student is removed from the Academy. CTS 120 is a prerequisite for the FTCC CTS 220 spring class.



Student Recognitions



Academy students display certificates received for passing the **COMPTIA A+ Certification Exams**

2009-2009 AOIT Graduates
 Congratulations to the first graduating class of the Academy of Information Technology.



FTCC Classes

FTCC classes are held on the Gray's Creek campus for sophomores during the spring semester and for juniors for both the fall and spring semesters. These are considered college courses and fall under FTCC procedures. Grades are not assigned until the end of the semester. Mrs. Duhon will monitor grades and

counsel students during the semester. In order for parents to help counsel their student, she will email parents with concerns. Seniors take their FTCC courses on the campus of FTCC. They are responsible for their own transportation. Senior classes this year are Monday—Thursday. This means

that they will leave the Gray's Creek campus on Fridays by the end of first period lunch. Mrs. Duhon will meet with the seniors on the first Friday of each month. These will be short meetings and students will leave before their designated time.

Fundraisers & Fieldtrips

The Entrepreneurship Expo at Methodist College on November 4th will offer 11th and 12th grade students the opportunity to meet with local businesses and explore career options. Due to budget restrictions, fieldtrips will be limited this year. In order to fund fieldtrips fundraising activities will be necessary.

Previous years we have participated in the International Folk Festival for fundraising and community services hours. Unfortunately, the Academy was not able to take part in the event this year, but other opportunities are currently being considered. Information will be sent to you when a project has been decided. We

welcome any suggestions for fundraisers.

A special thank you to Ms. Capps, Ms. Hales, Ms. Jackson, and Ms. Scott for their support and assistance with the field trip and fundraising activities.