
COUGAR PAWS AND PURPOSE

Weekly newsletter for the NCS Intermediate and Senior Academies

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Upcoming

EXCELLENCE IN DEVELOPING COLLEGE READY GRADUATES

Big things are on the horizon for NCS! Our first Workday is coming up on Friday, September 20th. The whole intermediate Academy staff will come together to score the writings aligned to our Summer Reading. Look forward to seeing your child's writing rubric by Sept. 27.

The Intermediate Academy hopes to begin clubs on Friday, September 27th. Students will receive an email to sign-up for clubs by September 19th. Teachers will help our students access the sign-up.

The September Paideia Seminar is the poem, "The Cold Within" by James Patrick Kinney. I had the honor of facilitating this seminar in a 7th grade class yesterday, the discussion was enlightening-deep and challenging. Paideia Seminar is AMAZING! Ask your kids if they have been able to participate in this seminar yet.

Embrace discomfort- its a great place to experience personal growth.

Thank you for everything you do to make our community stronger! Cougar Pride!

Dr. Swartzlander



The Most Important Thing



Academics and the Growth of Our Kids

The **Academic Affairs Committee** met last night, and discussed a robust agenda which was born from concerns addressed at a recent Parent Ambassadors meeting. We are continuing our work in the following areas:

- **Curriculum Alignment**- ensuring that our students work through their 4,6 or 8 year plans to ensure they are accessing the courses they need for their College and Career aspirations,
- **Technology Training**- working to build our staffs confidence and comfort with Canvas and utilizing that learning platform to assist both students and families,
- **Deep Data Dive**- in light of our NC Report Card and the trends we see in our Academic Performance, we will continue to analyze data- looking at it in ways that can accurately identify areas for focus and growth,
- **Volunteer Opportunities**- we would LOVE to have you come in to work with our kids. You are experts in what you do, our kids can benefit from your expertise. Please reach out if you are interested in coming in and working with our students.

Staffing

Great teachers who care greatly about their students- build great learning experiences. We know and understand how absolutely essential it is to have the best, most high-quality educators in front of your kids. We are working to hone our hiring process and determining ways to let our teachers know how special and valuable they are to the success of NCS and our students.

We do currently have one vacancy that is shared with the Senior Academy. Mr. Cervera- our Spanish teacher, has resigned. We do have a plan in place for instruction to continue for students enrolled in Spanish while we continue searching for just the right fit.

Communication

Please let me know how I can better communicate with you. Any ideas or suggestions would be welcome.

Moving forward, we as a staff will be much better at responding to emails within 48 business hours. Please know that if I am CC'ed on an email, I will assume that it's so I'm kept in the loop and you want to hear back from the teacher, not me. Anything you send directly to me, I will respond to as soon as possible.

Each day we learn, we grow and we become better, stronger humans.





Strengthening Our Community



Ways to plug into the community

- Send an old school note to a teacher thanking them for their dedication- gratitude goes a long way.
- Volunteer in a classroom- come help with station work, or field trips, or reading buddies- **you are always welcome** on our campus and in our classrooms.
- Donate funds or supplies.
- Promote our school to the larger community- your voice carries so much weight and can help make our campus one that is highly valued and respected.
- Coffee and Chocolates are always appreciated.

Parent Ambassadors

Parent Ambassador meetings are the 2nd Tuesday each month at Golden Corral starting in September at 8:30AM.

We also have spirit nights the second Tuesday each month in which a parent ambassador or admin will be present for informal engagement.

These are regular opportunities for NCS families to contribute to their school. To sign up e-mail: ncsparentambassador@gmail.com

Cougar Sports Updates

Our Cougar Athletes are off to a strong start! Be sure to check our website for game days and times. Come out, support the Cougars and let your voice be heard!

