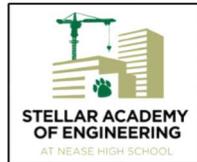


December Newsletter

Academy Coordinator: Jaime Combs

904.547.8306 | jaime.combs@stjohns.k12.fl.us



Academy Students and Parents,

We're just finishing up the first semester of the 2016-17 school year, but Nease is already looking ahead at the 2017-18 school year. In the month of December, all Academy students will be taking part in the "Intent to Return" process. This is the student's opportunity to decide if he/she would like to remain an Academy student next school year.

This year, like last, students will sign off on an "Intent to Return" roster in their Academy class, indicating if they would like to move forward into the next-level Academy course for 2017-18. By checking "Yes" and signing their name on the Intent to Return roster, those students will have a space reserved for them in the next-level Academy course. If an Academy student decides that he or she does not want to continue in the Academy next year, a form will be sent home for the student and a parent to sign, indicating that the student would like to be released from the Academy next year. That form would then be turned in to Mrs. Combs in January.

If you have questions about the Intent to Return process, please feel free to email Mrs. Combs at Jaime.combs@stjohns.k12.fl.us

Jaime Combs
Academy Coordinator

STELLAR ACADEMY STUDENTS WIN DISTRICT COMPETITION



Congratulations to Nease's Project Green competition team, who swept the district competition with a first place win this year. The team, comprised of Alessia Venturi, Mani, Maanasi Vadlam; Richard Bachmann, Tushaar Kumat, and William Mitchell, created Piezoelectric Tiles. The files are installed on

UPCOMING EVENTS

MIDTERM EXAMS

December 16th-21st

LAST DAY OF 1ST SEMESTER

December 21st

WINTER BREAK

December 22nd-January 3rd

TEACHER PLANNING DAY

January 4th

NHS FREE TUTORING

The National Honor Society offers free tutoring to students right after school, every Tuesday and Thursday, in the Media Center. Nease provides Activity Buses on Tuesdays and Thursdays as well, so students have late transportation home, if they are zoned for Nease.

NHS upperclassmen provide the free tutoring in just about every subject, and a teacher is also present.

NEASE ACADEMIES WEBSITE

Important Academy news, dates and information updated weekly:

<http://www-nhs.stjohns.k12.fl.us/academies/>

roadways, and utilize compression from passing cars to control traffic signals. The team not only created a model in AutoCAD, but also designed a working model to show the judges. Nease's winning team earned the approval of three professional engineers from the Stellar Academy Advisory Board during the school-based competition, and then beat out teams from Creekside and Pedro Menendez at the district competition in November. The winning team members won not only accolades and bragging rights, but also a monetary reward of \$135 per team member.

LARGEST FIELD TRIP OF THE YEAR WAS A SUCCESS!



On December 1st, the darkness of early, early morning, 134 Academy students and 12 chaperones made their way to Nease to take part in our largest field trip of the year...specialized tours at Universal Studios and Islands of Adventure. Once at the parks, the Engineering Academy students were whisked off to their tour in Islands of Adventure, where they learned the science and technology behind rides like The Hulk and Spiderman. Students had the chance to partake in the rides, and even got to ride Spiderman with the lights on, to see how the technology worked. After their tour, students were able to enjoy attractions at both Universal parks.



Communications Academy students enjoyed a morning of fun in both parks, then met up at 12:30 for their tour, which exposed how special effects are created. These students got to learn the secrets behind The Terminator show, ride The Mummy, and get a backlot tour of the sound stages on site at Universal Studios. Hospitality Academy students enjoyed free time in the parks in the morning, then met up for their tour of the Hard Rock Hotel. Students had the chance to tour the property, see different hotel room options, and then enjoyed lunch with an interactive cooking demonstration by one of the Hard Rock Hotel chefs. Some of our students even got their hands dirty to help create the four-course lunch. All students enjoyed their tours and time in the parks!



INDUSTRY PROFESSIONALS SHARE THEIR EXPERIENCE WITH ACADEMY STUDENTS

In November and December, we've welcomed a number of great guest speakers during our Academy Power Hour speaking events. Ryan Dexter, a civil engineer with DrJ Engineering, spoke with Stellar students; Katy

MIDTERM EXAM SCHEDULE

Friday, December 16th

1st period exam: 9:15-10:45

2nd period exam: 10:55-12:25

Lunch 12:30-1:00

Buses Depart 1:00

Monday, December 19th

3rd period exam: 9:15-10:45

4th period exam: 10:55-12:25

Lunch 12:30-1:00

Buses Depart 1:00

Tuesday, December 20th

5th period exam: 9:15-10:45

6th period exam: 10:55-12:25

Lunch 12:30-1:00

Buses Depart 1:00

Wednesday, December 21st

7th period exam: 9:15-10:45

Lunch: 10:50-11:20

Buses Depart 11:25

*Make up exams are administered after the 7th period exam.

*If a student misses an exam and is not able to make it up on Wednesday, December 21st, he/she must arrange to take the exam when all students return in January.

Hoffstatter, of Herff Jones, offered her time to Communications Academy students; and Kelly Monroe, a AAA Travel Agent, met with Hospitality Academy students. Many thanks to the awesome professionals who have shared their time, and expertise, with our students!

HOSPITALITY STUDENTS SEE RESERVATION SOFTWARE IN ACTION AT HILTON GARDEN INN

On November 21st, students in the Technology for Hospitality and Tourism class traveled to the Hilton Garden Inn – Ponte Vedra, to learn about the software the hotel utilizes daily. Students met with hotel manager, Chuck Schoonmaker, who organized the trip. He took the students on a tour of the hotel, then introduced them to the *Customer Really Matters* computer system, which tracks customer records, the in-house reservation system, and the *On Q* rate and inventory software, which utilizes an artificial intelligence revenue system. Students not only got to learn about the software, but got hands-on experience, as each student was walked through the reservation process. The hotel's restaurant, Mulligan's Pub, provided lunch for the students. It was a great trip, and we thank Advisory Board member Chuck Schoonmaker for offering up this great opportunity!



YEARBOOK STUDENTS INSPIRED AT HERFF JONES CONFERENCE

Yearbook promotes a sense of school pride. As people age the yearbook is something they look back on with a nostalgia. To accomplish the goal of creating high school memories, a team of motivated students work together to create the book. But, it takes a lot of work and training to make a book that is outstanding!



This year a conference was held at the Main Branch of the Jacksonville library in order to increase student knowledge about design and theme. This year's host was Herff Jones with the special guest, Steve Kent. Kent led a main session to inspire yearbook students to take their craft to new heights and also taught several break-out sessions uplifting the hearts of many veteran and new staffers alike! He expressed his love for including every single person in the yearbook so they feel wanted and appreciated. This encouraged Nease's yearbook editors to live by the message of the conference: not letting anyone be a "zero."



CAREER ACADEMIES

of St Johns

Experience. The Difference.

NEASE ADMINISTRATION

PRINCIPAL

Mr. Kyle Dresback

ASSISTANT PRINCIPALS

Mr. Ted Banton

Dr. Latasha Bowens

Mrs. Abbey Mander

DEANS

Mrs. Jacqueline Ashcroft

9th & 11th Grades

Ms. Katie O'Connell

10th & 12th Grades

Mr. Jerry Hurst

Attendance, Parking, Safety Drills

ATHLETIC DEPARTMENT

Mr. Matt McCool

Athletic Director

Mrs. Angie Stricklin

Athletic Secretary

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After Kent's inspiring classes, the yearbook editors and staff moved on to design classes about chunking, led by Katy Hoffstatter. Katy explained that it was okay to be different when creating a new spread in a yearbook. Students utilized out-of-the-box colors and envisioned something crazy. This class inspired the students to create pages this year that will definitely catch everyone's attention!

STELLAR ACADEMY CLASSROOMS GET NEW SIGNAGE



Many thanks to the chairman of the Stellar Academy of Engineering Advisory Board, Stellar's Justin Bridegan, for updating the Academy's classroom signage. We now have new signs outside of our classrooms, and new photos of some of Stellar's best engineering projects inside the classrooms. Out with the old, and in with the new! Thank you, Stellar!

