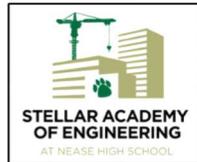


March Newsletter

Academy Coordinator: Jaime Combs

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



UPCOMING EVENTS

TEACHER PLANNING DAY

March 20th

LAST DAY FOR SENIORS TO PRE-ORDER AN ACADEMY GRAD CORD

March 24th

SCHOOL HOLIDAY FOR TEACHERS & STUDENTS

April 14th

Academy Students and Parents,

The third quarter is officially behind us, and we are in the final stretch of the 2016-17 school year. Students, remember to stay focused as we move through the final quarter and testing season.

Read on to learn about the opportunities the Academy students have enjoyed in late February and March.

Jaime Combs
Career Academy Coordinator

ACADEMY OF HOSPITALITY & TOURISM STUDENTS FINISH UP A YEAR OF UNIQUE FIELD TRIP OPPORTUNITIES

Academy of Hospitality & Tourism students enjoyed two final field trips in the third quarter. On February 16th, students traveled to the Sawgrass Marriott Resort. The students were welcomed to the updated facility by participating in a scavenger hunt, which highlighted the new resort features. Then, they enjoyed a working lunch, catered by the Sawgrass Marriott, while learning about the different



department heads of the resort. Finally, the students were broken up into teams, and assigned to work on solving scenarios commonly faced by hotels. Many thanks to our Sawgrass Marriott Advisory Board partners Michelle Criswell and Stefanie Harrison for organizing this awesome trip!

SENIORS: PRE-ORDER ACADEMY GRADUATION CORDS

Academy seniors are eligible to order special cords to wear during Nease's graduation ceremony. If a senior is interested in pre-ordering an Academy graduation cord, they must sign up outside of Mrs. Combs' office.

There are sign up sheets for both The Communications Academy and The Stellar Academy of Engineering. Cords typically cost \$8, and the payment will be due upon cord pick-up in April/May. But, students **must** sign up in March to pre-order a cord if they would like one. The final day to pre-order a graduation cord is Friday, March 24th.



On February 28th, students met with the Executive Director of Colonial Quarter and the St. Augustine Pirate & Treasure Museum, Cindy Stavely, to learn about what goes into running a successful tourist attraction. Students had the chance to enjoy both attractions by getting a first-hand look from the tourist's perspective,

and then learned about the administrative and business side in directing both locations. We thank Ms. Stavely for taking so much time to organize this multi-stop field trip!



CAREER ACADEMIES

of St Johns

Experience. The Difference.

STELLAR ACADEMY STUDENTS VISIT THE WHETSTONES FACTORY



After the October field trip was cancelled due to damage sustained in Hurricane Matthew, 23 of our Introduction to Engineering Design students took a trip to Whetstones Chocolate Factory in March. The students learned about the company's founder and former engineer, Henry

Whetstone. Connecting the field trip to the curriculum, Introduction to Engineering Design students learn about mechanical engineering and processes, and the opportunity to see a small factory setting reinforced that curriculum. The students also had the chance to sample several chocolates, which made this field trip even sweeter.



COMMUNICATIONS ACADEMY STUDENT WINS AWARD

We would like to congratulate Communications Academy Digital Design student Monye Ford. Monye was recently selected as a 2017 Northern Florida and Southeastern Georgia Affiliate winner of the National Center for Women & Information Technology Award for Aspiration in Computing.

Monye was selected for the award based on her outstanding leadership, exceptional academic history, and forward-thinking ability to distinguish herself as a remarkable young woman. She will receive her award at the NCWIT Award for Aspiration ceremony on April 8th, at UNF.

ACADEMY GUEST SPEAKERS BRING INDUSTRY EXPERIENCE INTO THE CLASSROOM

All Academy students are invited to take part in Academy guest speaker events, which take place during Power Hour. We invite professionals in the fields of Engineering, Communications, and Hospitality & Tourism to come



in and share their professional backgrounds, advice, and expertise in their industry. Students also have a chance to ask questions, and learn more about the many career opportunities in the fields they're studying. The Communications Academy welcomed Danielle Stone, PR and

Social Media Coordinator for Leonard's Photography. During her visit, Ms. Stone shared her background in digital design, and gave students their first glimpse into the emerging industry of social media management. She also emphasized that, as long as students follow their passion and find a career they love, they'll never dread going to work.

FREE TUTUORING AVAILABLE

If your student needs extra help in any subject, the National Honor Society offers free tutoring during Power Hour and 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.



Recently we hosted two Stellar Academy of Engineering guests: Ken Craig, a coastal engineer with Taylor Engineering, Inc., and Kerry Mowlam, a mechanical engineer with Campbell Plumbing & Mechanical Contractors, Southeast, Inc. Ken Craig discussed coastal engineering with the students, which is especially relevant in light of the local damage Hurricane Matthew left in its wake.

Kerry Mowlam presented a unique opportunity for our students, in the form of a tour of Nease's expansion project. After going over the building plans with the students, he helped them don hard hats and safety gear, and walked them through the construction project, giving them a first-hand look at the progress.



Finally, the Academy of Hospitality & Tourism welcomed Steve Roberts, Chief of Interpretation and Education at Castillo de San Marcos and Fort Matanzas National Monument. Mr. Roberts has worked for the National Parks Service for over 20 years, and shared his experience in the tourism industry. He also presented information on the history of the National Park's role in tourism, the economy and tourism marketing.

We thank all of our guest speakers for taking time out of their busy lives to share their expertise with our students, and give our future professionals a glimpse into some of the possibilities that await them.