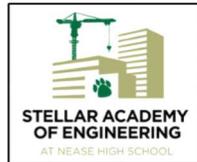


## February Newsletter

Academy Coordinator: Jaime Combs

904.547.8306 | [jaime.combs@stjohns.k12.fl.us](mailto:jaime.combs@stjohns.k12.fl.us)



### UPCOMING EVENTS

#### PRESIDENT'S DAY HOLIDAY

February 18<sup>th</sup>

### SUCCEED THIS SEMESTER!

This semester, Excel time will only be available until testing starts after spring break. Utilize Excel Time and after-school tutoring NOW to keep those grades up!

During Excel Time Session A, students can get help from teachers in: Social Studies, Math, Electives and Academy courses.

During Excel Time Session B, students can get help in: English, Science and World Language courses.

Students can also get free tutoring with NHS members in the Media Center after school every Tuesday, Wednesday & Thursday.

### NEASE ACADEMIES WEBSITE

Important Academy news, dates and information updated weekly:

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

Academy Students and Parents,

As we move through the second semester, industry certification testing is really ramping up. We ask that students do their best in preparing for and taking these industry certification exams. Not only do students earn a Merit designation on their diploma and are able to list professional, certified skills on their resumes and transcripts, they also earn money that goes directly back into our Academy programs. That money allows us to buy computers, equipment, and project supplies to keep our Academies engaging and advanced.

Sincerely,

Jaime Combs  
Academy Coordinator

### TIAA BANK FIELD WELCOMES SPORTS MEDIA STUDENTS



In a first for the Communications Academy, Sports Media students were invited to tour TIAA Bank field, home of the Jacksonville Jaguars. During the visit, students saw Daily's Place, practice fields, the FriEnd Zone, and went behind the scenes at the stadium. They learned that TIAA Bank Field has been voted as the #1NFL stadium for the best fan

experience...and that ranking doesn't come easy. On an average game day, more than 4,000 people are working in the stadium, and they do everything in-house, from the food, to the digital marketing, even the laundry. Directly tied to the Sports Media curriculum, the tour included spending time in the Media Room with the Jaguars head of PR, Alex Brooks, who discussed his role with the team, and answered questions from the students regarding his daily tasks, and what it's like to work with the players. Next, the students were led into Shad Khan's suite, and met with Jaguars Executive Producer, Dave

DeCandis. DeCandis was a former Nease student. He shared his professional path to the Jaguars production team, and made links between the skills and software that the Sports Media students use, and those utilized by the Jaguars production crew. As a result of the field trip, DeCandis has now joined the Communications Academy Advisory Board. It was an excellent field trip!



## CIVIL ENGINEERING IN THE REAL WORLD: ACADEMY STUDENTS TOUR ST. AUGUSTINE

On February 14th, our Principles of Engineering students visited St. Augustine's City Hall to learn how civil engineering and local government work together. In a field trip organized by Advisory Board member Jessica Beach, a civil engineer with the City of St. Augustine Public Works department, students learned about a multitude of engineering projects taking place around the city. Following a brief introduction into how local government helps drive civil engineering projects in the Nation's Oldest City, the group commenced on a walking tour of downtown St. Augustine. They learned about a project to help keep a nearby lake from flooding the streets, discussed the seawall project, designed to protect St. Augustine while also creating a new pedestrian walkway, and were educated on



how engineers and archeologists work together when a discovery is made during renovation work. Finally, students were able to ask questions about what it's like to work as a professional engineer. We thank Advisory Board Member Jessica Beach for spending time with our students!

## DIGITAL DESIGN STUDENTS VISIT LEONARD'S STUDIO

Recently, Digital Design students traveled to Leonard's Studio, located in St. Augustine. The students had the opportunity to tour the facility, getting a first-hand look at the digital design work, photography and videography services, and printing processes that take place on-site. Students met with Leonard's Vice President, Randy Sellers (who is also the grandson



of Leonard's founder); the company's NE Florida Sales and Service Representative, Lisa Dowling; as well as their photography coordinator and public relations coordinator. The students learned about how these professionals got to where they are in their careers, and had the chance to ask

## ACADEMY PROBATION POLICY

A reminder that Academy students agree to a contract at the beginning of each year stating that they will maintain certain academic and behavioral standards in order to remain in an Academy program. Academy students must maintain a total GPA of at least a 2.0, and must maintain at least a 2.5 GPA (75%) in an Academy class. A student in an Academy must also maintain a good discipline record.

In accordance with district policy, if a student does not meet these requirements, he/she will be placed on probation for a semester. If, at the end of that probation period, he/she does not have a GPA which meets the requirements, or fails to have an improved discipline record, the student will be removed from the Academy. If an Out of Zone student is removed from an Academy, he/she will be transferred back to his/her zoned school.

Letters have been sent home following the release of first semester report card grades, to make students and parents aware of probationary status for the remainder of the 2018-2019 school year.

questions. In addition to learning about the history of Leonard's, the scope of the company now, and finding out where the company is headed in terms of social media marketing, our Academy students had the chance to learn about possible summer internship opportunities. It was a great trip! Many thanks to Communications Academy Advisory Board Chairwoman Lisa Urban for this fantastic opportunity!



## TV PRODUCTION STUDENTS SEE PGA TOUR ENTERTAINMENT STUDIOS IN ACTION



On February 14th, Communications Academy TV Production students traveled to PGA Tour Entertainment Studios, located in World Golf Village. The trip was organized by Communications Academy Advisory Board member Chris Sinclair. Students toured the production and post-production facilities, which included the studio, control room, editing suites, audio suite, and met professionals in the industry. Many thanks to Advisory Board member Chris Sinclair for organizing this great trip!

## HOSPITALITY STUDENTS LEARN WHAT IT'S LIKE TO BE A PROFESSIONAL EVENT PLANNER

On February 12<sup>th</sup> the Academy of Hospitality and Tourism hosted a panel discussion focused on careers in the Event Planning profession. Moderated by Dr. Zach Cole, of Flagler College's Hospitality program, five industry professionals joined us to discuss their backgrounds, and answer questions. The panel included Tanya Hendricks, owner of Southern Charm Weddings and Events; Katie MacWilkinson, former Nease student and current event planner at the University of Florida; Denise Jones, event planner at First Coast Technical College, Elizabeth Gray, Project Coordinator at Mugwump Productions; and Carole Everitt, Account Representative for ABC Liquors and Hospitality Academy Advisory Board Member. The panel members discussed how they got into the industry, what their daily tasks entail, and emphasized how important networking is in the Hospitality industry. We thank all these professionals for taking time out of their busy schedules to speak to our students, and offer a special thank you to Advisory Board Member Carole Everitt for finding us such great panelists!



## THE SOUPER BOWL WAS A HUGE SUCCESS!



On January 31<sup>st</sup>, hundreds of people descended on Nease's campus for a fundraiser like no other: the SOUPER Bowl. Organized by the IB Boosters, and with the help of Publix, Sysco, and more than 26 restaurants and local companies, the SOUPER Bowl event raised over \$30,000. All proceeds go directly to the St. Johns County Blessings in a Backpack program, which benefits local children in need. Academy of Hospitality & Tourism students helped in organizing the event, worked as hosts and assisted the chefs. Communications Academy Digital Design students created all the printed materials for

the event, designing brochures and posters to contribute to the look of a professional event. Additionally, students who attend the Academy of Culinary Arts at St. Johns Technical High School, which is the sister Academy to Nease's Academy of Hospitality and Tourism, also played a role in the event by presenting an original soup, which won the competition! As a memento, all guests selected a custom-designed bowl to take home. Hundreds of bowls were created by students for the event, as a result of collaboration between art programs at multiple St. Johns County Schools.

