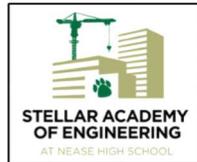


April Newsletter

Academy Coordinator: Jaime Combs

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Academy Students and Parents,

As we move through the final quarter of the year, a note to the Academy students...do your best to stay focused throughout testing season, try your hardest, and keep your eyes on the prize – summer vacation!

In this month's newsletter, we're taking a look at the unique opportunities presented to our Academy students...and how we're striving to connect them with successful professionals who work in the industries our students are studying.

Jaime Combs
Career Academy Coordinator

HOSPITALITY ACADEMY PANEL DISCUSSION BRINGS INDUSTRY PROFESSIONALS INTO THE CLASSROOM



On April 5th, the Academy of Hospitality & Tourism welcomed five industry professionals in our first-ever Hospitality Panel Assembly event. Our guests included Chuck Schoonmaker, General Manager of the Hilton Garden Inn Jacksonville Ponte Vedra; Amanda Payne, Banquet Manager at the same location; Bill David, Director of Training for Gate Hospitality Group (which includes the Ponte Vedra Inn & Club, the Lodge & Club of Ponte Vedra, the Epping Forest Yacht Club, and the River Club); and Constance Wiecking, Sales & Marketing Manager at River House Events. The discussion



UPCOMING EVENTS

PROM

April 21st

INTERIM GRADE CHECK

April 24th

SENIOR EXAMS

May 8th- May 11th (Academy exams on May 11th)

UNDERCLASSMEN EXAMS

May 14th-18th and May 21st-24th (Academy exams during the week of 14th-18th)

CONGRATULATIONS, MR. STEPHENS!

The Collegiate Sports Video Association has selected Geoff Stephens as the High School Conference Video Coordinator of the year! In addition to teaching the Introductory Television Production course, and running the Sports Media program in the Communications Academy, Mr. Stephens coordinates all of the video for Nease's JV and Varsity Football program. This is the third time he has won this impressive title. Congratulations, Mr. Stephens!

was moderated by Dr. Zachary Cole, Assistant Professor & Director of the Hospitality and Tourism Management Program at Flagler College.

During the discussion, each panel member shared their professional history, as well as advice for the Academy students. Our guests answered insightful questions and encouraged the students to obtain not only a college degree, but also as much experience in the industry as they can, to best prepare themselves for future prospects. The guest speakers shared stories of problem-solving in the field and the skills they thought best suited successful professionals in Hospitality & Tourism. It was an informational, inspiring event for our students, and we thank our guests for taking time out of their busy schedules to take part in the panel!

COMMUNICATIONS ACADEMY STUDENTS TRAVEL TO NASHVILLE FOR STN NATIONAL COMPETITION

Seventeen students from the Wired News crew took their show on the road last month, attending the Student Television Network National Convention & Competition in Nashville, Tennessee. The students traveled alongside Creekside High school's "Knightly News Network" via a 12 hour charter bus ride. On Thursday, March 15th, the convention began at the Gaylord Opryland Resort with the infamous Crazy 8's competition. With multiple categories, each school had eight hours to plan, produce, edit, and deliver a video project. Nease competed in the News Magazine category, however, did not meet the final deadline to submit the show. On Friday and Saturday, the students competed in the small group categories. The students took part in the Anchor Team, Social Media Story, Sports Highlight, Nat Sound, Public Service Announcement and Commercial contests. Although in each contest Nease students had amazing results, unfortunately, they did not bring home any awards. When they were not competing, students were attending informational breakout sessions, led by industry professionals, to sharpen their television production abilities. While the convention did not yield stellar results in awards, the students obtained valuable knowledge and training, and enjoyed a life-changing experience, which allowed them to further their skills towards their future careers.



CAREER ACADEMIES

of St Johns

Experience. The Difference.

DROPPING AN ACADEMY FOR 2018-19

If an Academy student would like to drop their Academy for the 2018-19 school year, the student and parents must fill out an Academy Drop Form. Email Mrs. Combs at Jaime.combs@stjohns.k12.fl.us for the form.

This form must be turned in before an Academy course will be removed from the student's projected schedule for 2018-19.

Also, if the student is attending Nease as an out-of-zone Academy student, and wants to drop his/her Academy, that student will have to return to their zoned school, per district policy, for the 2018-19 school year.

FREE TUTORING AVAILABLE

If you need extra help in any subject, the National Honor Society offers free tutoring after school, every Monday and Wednesday, in the Media Center. You can also take advantage of Excel Time, in which teachers are available to provide extra academic support to students.

NEASE ACADEMIES WEBSITE

Get important Academy news, dates and information updated weekly:

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

ENGINEERING ACADEMY STUDENTS HEAD TO ENGLAND-THIMS & MILLER, INC. FOR OUTSTANDING LUNCH AND LEARN



On April 5th, 28 Stellar Academy of Engineering students travelled to England-Thims & Miller, Inc. for a lunch and learn at the company. During the trip, organized by Stellar Academy Advisory Board Member Jeffrey Krueger, the students spoke with professional engineers who reviewed the different departments at the firm and provided an overview of the key positions. They also discussed some of the engineering projects the company has completed, and others that the engineers are currently working on. Then, the field study really came alive during a creative thinking exercise for the students. The exercise required creative, collaborative thinking to solve a problem, and showed the students how working together and thinking outside the box can get them to root causes, which can lead to innovative new ideas. We thank England-Thims & Miller, Inc. for providing this incredible experience for our students! Starting next summer, the company will also offer summer internship opportunities to qualified Academy students moving into their senior year.

HOSPITALITY ACADEMY STUDENTS LEARN WHAT IT'S LIKE TO MANAGE THE ST. AUGUSTINE AMPHITHEATER

In their final field trip of the year, Academy of Hospitality & Tourism students travelled to the St. Augustine Amphitheater for a behind-the-scenes look at running a concert venue. General Manager Ryan Murphy took the students on a full tour, from the box office to backstage spaces. Students were able to stand on stage and experience the amphitheater from a rock star's perspective. They learned how the Amphitheater staff utilizes hospitality skills from both sides: making sure the musicians are taken care of and ensuring that concert-goers enjoy their experience...which will keep the venue attractive to future acts and future patrons.

