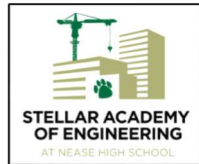


December Newsletter

Academy Coordinator: Jaime Combs

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Academy Students and Parents,

We are just finishing up the first semester of the 2018-19 school year, but Nease is already looking ahead at the 2019-20 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 2019-2020. 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, by checking "No," 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 gets turned in to the front desk, so it can be passed on to Mrs. Combs. If a drop form is not signed by a parent and submitted to Mrs. Combs, the student cannot be dropped from an Academy.

Jaime Combs
Academy Coordinator

STELLAR ACADEMY OF ENGINEERING STUDENTS WORK ON STEM SKILLS WITH 8TH GRADE GIRLS



On December 5th, 9 young ladies with Nease's Stellar Academy of Engineering took their engineering skills and knowledge to Pacetti Bay Middle School, to run a STEM event with 8th grade girls. Led by Academy Instructor Morgan Hunter, the ladies participated in a

UPCOMING EVENTS

MIDTERM EXAMS

December 18th-21st

WINTER BREAK

December 22nd-January 6th

TEACHER PLANNING DAY

January 4th

FIRST DAY OF 2ND SEMESTER

January 7th

GET EXTRA HELP DURING EXCEL TIME, NHS TUTORING

Students who currently have a D or F in any course are required to attend Excel Time help sessions in any subject they are failing.

During Session A, students can get help in: Social Studies, Math, Electives and Academy courses

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

Students can also get peer tutoring by NHS students in any core subject after school on Mondays, Wednesdays and Thursdays in the Media Center.

gingerbread tower building contest. Prior to beginning the competition, Ms. Hunter, who had the idea for this event based on the St. Johns County School District STEM Spark event in October, discussed what engineers do in the real world, how they problem solve, and how the design process works.



Then, the 8th grade girls worked in small groups, along with a high school Engineering Academy mentor, to design and construct the tallest tower they could, using only frosting and graham crackers. Through a great deal of trial and error, each group was able to construct a tower. The tallest measured at 23 inches. This was a

wonderful way to introduce the 8th grade girls to engineering concepts and skills, as well as have the opportunity to work with older students already in the Academy program. Many thanks to Academy teacher Morgan Hunter for coming up with the concept and leading the event! It was certainly a success!



NEWS4JAX ANCHOR CO-HOSTS WIRED, SPEAKS WITH STUDENTS



Many thanks to Kent Justice, News4Jax Anchor, who came to Nease on December 4th to co-anchor the Wired Broadcast, as well as spend time as a guest speaker for our Communications Academy students. Mr. Justice spent an entire period working on show

rehearsals with the Wired crew, then co-anchored the show with one of Wired's own. Following the show, he spent an additional period on Nease's campus, as a guest speaker. He shared his professional history with our students, discussed the industry-specific skills needed for success, explained what it's like to work in a newsroom, and answered student questions.



CAREER ACADEMIES
of St Johns
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EXAM SCHEDULE

Tuesday, December 18th

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

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

Lunch 12:30-1:00

Buses Depart 1:00

*Students who drive or are picked up can leave at 12:25

Wednesday, December 19th

FULL SCHOOL DAY

3rd period exam: 9:15-10:50

5th period class w/lunch: 10:56-1:02

4th period exam: 1:08-2:45

Buses Depart 2:50

Thursday, 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

*Students who drive or are picked up can leave at 12:25

Friday, December 21st

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

(Make up exams from 11:20-2:45)

Lunch: 10:50-11:20

Buses Depart 11:25

*Students who drive or are picked up can leave at 10:45

*If a student misses exams and cannot take them after the 7th period exam he/she must take them after returning from Winter Break. NO EARLY EXAMS

STELLAR ACADEMY OF ENGINEERING TEAM BRINGS HOME FIRST PLACE WIN AT DISTRICT PROJECT INNOVATION COMPETITION



Congratulations to Maanasi Vadlamani, Richard Bachmann, and William Mitchell, who comprised team "Aqua Engineers." Their idea would allow families in remote villages of third-world countries to access fresh water right at their home sites, instead of having to trek long distances to fresh water sources, and carry the water back daily. Instead, they would use a metal-organic framework to absorb water from the atmosphere. Their idea, and thoughtful answers to questions from a panel of judges, won them the first place prize over 10 other teams who were competing. Aside from the pride in beating teams for every other high school in the district, each student received \$150 in prize money.

ACADEMY OF HOSPITALITY & TOURISM STUDENTS GET COOKING IN THE CULINARY WORLD



Academy of Hospitality & Tourism students don't study culinary coursework as part of their curriculum, but, as a large part of the hospitality industry, getting a peek into culinary life is important. Recently, First Coast Technical College invited the Academy students out to get a closer look at what their program has to offer. First, the students got an overview of the culinary program, as well as information on financial aid, which helps many FCTC students to graduate debt-free. Then, they met Chef Kyle Forson, who toured the students through the school's kitchen and out to the Agriscience area where FCTC students grow and harvest fresh ingredients right on property to be used by the culinary students. Students were able to see the vegetables and herbs that are grown and try some of the harvest. After touring the agricultural area, they were brought back inside, where Chef Anthony Lowman introduced our Academy students to his culinary students in the FCTC Test Kitchen. Together, FCTC students and Nease



Hospitality Academy students made a Pasta e Fagioli soup to enjoy for lunch, followed by freshly made cookies.

COMMUNICATIONS ACADEMY TV PRODUCTION STUDENTS VISIT WJCT STUDIOS



On November 29th, 23 Communications Academy students had the opportunity to tour WJCT Studios. The guided tour provided a look at their complete television studios, which included a green screen, studio cameras, teleprompters, and an extremely large sound stage. They also got a view of the Production Control Room, which utilizes graphics equipment, video playback systems, the teleprompter system and the switcher. This is all equipment that Wired students are very familiar with,

as they use it in Mr. Cooler's classes to produce the daily newscast. Then, it was on to WJCT Radio, where students viewed the offices and Recording Studios. First stop was the Radio Reading Service studio, where they learned about WJCT's service to the blind, then they saw Studio 5, where First Coast Connect, Morning Edition and special live coverage reports take place. They also toured Studios 1- 4, where



voiceovers and other recordings take place before they're aired on radio or television.

ENGINEERING FIRM ENGLAND-THIMS & MILLER, INC HOSTS LUNCH AND LEARN



On December 6th, England-Thims & Miller, Inc welcomed Stellar Academy of Engineering Juniors and Seniors for a lunch and learn in their renovated location. The students toured the office, learned about the different civil engineering jobs performed there, and met with a former Academy student who is now employed at ETM, Inc, who discussed local projects they've worked on. As the students enjoyed a catered lunch,

they completed a creative problem solving activity using drawing, based on Dan Roam's Back of the Napkin method. We thank Stellar Academy of Engineering Advisory Board member Jeff Krueger for setting up this wonderful opportunity!

