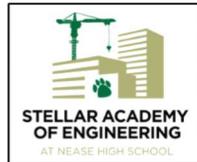


October Newsletter

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THE 1ST QUARTER ENDS OCTOBER 30TH, ARE YOU STRUGGLING IN ANY CLASSES?

Now that we are well into the first quarter, is there a subject that has been particularly challenging? Remember, in accordance with St. Johns County district standards, Academy students must keep their Academy course semester grade at a 75 or higher, and they must hold at least a 2.0 overall GPA. If you need any academic help, students can get FREE tutoring in any subject from the National Honor Society. Tutoring sessions take place from 4-5 pm on Tuesdays & Thursdays in the Media Center. See Mrs. Milian, Nease's Media Specialist, for more information.

BUSINESS PARTNERSHIPS KEEP OUR PROGRAMS THE NEASE ACADEMIES

Nease's Hospitality & Tourism, Communications, and Engineering Academy programs all run in partnership with professionals from the industry and leaders in higher education. Our Advisory Boards meet four times each school year, and we are always seeking new members! If you are involved in Hospitality and Tourism, TV Production or Digital Design, or any Engineering field, we would love to add you to our Advisory Boards! These professionals help keep us informed on industry trends and changes, offer unique opportunities to our students in the form of field trips, guest speakers, and summer internships, and they help us shape how our Academies are moving into the future. If you are interested, email Academy Coordinator Jaime Combs at Jaime.combs@stjohns.k12.fl.us

Academy Students and Parents,

While we continue to navigate the new educational landscape created by COVID-19, our Academy programs move forward. We are working to open our students' eyes to skills needed for success in the realm of the Communications, Engineering, and Hospitality and Tourism industries. We hope that, while the year is off to a *unique* start, it's a good one for our Academy students!

As always, if you have any questions, feel free to reach out to me at Jaime.combs@stjohns.k12.fl.us.

Thank you!
Jaime Combs
Academy Coordinator

ENGINEERING AND ART INTERSECT FOR STUDENT PROJECT



When Art and Science come together, it's a beautiful thing! Recently, some of Nease's AP 2D design course students teamed up with the Stellar Academy of Engineering to create unique works of art. AP Art Instructor Megan Welch learned that our Engineering Academy is home to two Glowforge 3D Laser Cutter and Engravers. She met with Engineering teacher Bergman Arias to learn about what these amazing machines can

do, and to see what our Engineering students have used them for in their classes. The lightbulb went off and Mrs. Welch asked if they could team up to create original works of art utilizing the Engineering Academy's technology. The process began with art students creating an original drawing. From this base drawing, the student traced the work using blue and red pens so the Glowforge machine would know what to cut out (designated in red), and what to



engrave (designated in blue). Once the color-coded work was done, it was off to the Engineering Lab to collaborate with Mr. Arias in using the Glowforge cutter. The result is beautiful, original works of art that have jumped off the page and are now cut and engraved from balsa wood. Art students who had the chance to get a glimpse into the world of Engineering technology say that this was a fun and rewarding project they truly enjoyed!

CAREER ACADEMY STUDENT ORGANIZATIONS ENRICH THE ACADEMY EXPERIENCE

Career and Technical Student Organizations (CTSOs) provide a way for Academy students to tie an extracurricular activity into their Academy curriculum. Nease offers several CTSOs: National Technical Honor Society, Technology Student Organization, DECA and Student Television Network.

The National Technical Honor Society is open to all Communications, Hospitality and Engineering Academy Juniors and Seniors. Students who are accepted into the Honor Society must have a minimum 3.0 unweighted overall GPA, and a 3.5 minimum GPA in their Academy classes. Applications are available now through October 14th. Students need to see Mrs. Soto in room D-002 or Mrs. Amato in Panther Hall 138 to get access to the application.



Students enrolled in the Stellar Academy of Engineering are invited to join The Technology Student Association (TSA). This is the only Nease student organization devoted exclusively to students interested in Engineering. Members learn through exciting Co-Curricular Competitive Events. Nease's TSA Chapter offers students a method to develop their STEM skills and demonstrate their talent, in preparation for the annual TSA State Competition and potential National Competitions. At last year's TSA state competition Nease's TSA chapter brought home two first place wins, one second place win, three third place wins, and seven honorable mentions. If you're interested in joining TSA, see Mr. Arias in Panther Hall 221. TSA is accepting applications throughout October, to coincide with Manufacturing Month.

The DECA program is connected to our Academy of Hospitality and Tourism and aims to prepare the next generation of leaders for careers in marketing, finance, hospitality and tourism, and management in high schools and colleges around the world. Students participating in DECA take part in competitions that pit their skills against others in our region first, commencing in a district-level awards ceremony in Jacksonville. Then, winners move on to the state competition, allowing them to test their skills against the best in Florida. Nease's chapter, established in 2018, is still young, but we have brought home both district and state awards in a number of hospitality and tourism-related competitions.



The Communications Academy takes part in the Student Television Network affiliation, which is comprised of high school TV Production programs from across the country. Upper-level Digital Video Technology students involved in our daily newscast, Wired, compete each year in the Excellence Competition, most recently winning as the Southeastern United States' best news show in 2019. In addition, the students travel to the annual STN Convention, which brings thousands of talented TV Production students together to compete in a multitude of contests, while also providing opportunities to learn from TV and Film professionals offering informational sessions. While this year's STN competition will be virtual, students have gotten to travel to Los Angeles, San Diego, Nashville, Atlanta, and Orlando in the past to take part in the annual Convention.