

CYCLONE SPIRIT NEWSLETTER



Aug/Sept2018 IMPORTANT DATES

- 8/9– First Day of School
- 9/6– Curriculum Night
- 9/7- Brown Bag
- 9/11- Picture Day
- 9/13- Board of Directors Meeting
- 9/14- Rafting Trip

LETTER FROM THE HEADMASTER Debbi Scarborough

Why do we do it? Why ask the typical? “Are you ready to go back to school?”. I sometimes see an eyeroll or shoulder shrug. This year there is *so much* to look forward to at Cumberland!

One of our outstanding board members donated a new bus with custom upgrades. We are so grateful to Valery Voyles and the Ed Voyles Automotive group for this exceptional gift. We are also grateful to Steve Rayman for finding another bus perfectly suited for Cumberland! These vehicles keep our kids on the move. It’s the way

we get our kids out of the classroom and into the world to reinforce life skills. Thanks to these friends of the school, our students are ready to ride to new and engaging adventures.

We have established new connections for our students with Chick-fil-A, LexisNexis, YMCA & Homewood Suites. These partners provide opportunities for our students to interview and work or volunteer independently.

Welcome back, we can’t wait to watch the growth in your children this year!

Debbi Scarborough

FROM THE PRINCIPAL



DOUG LONG
Principal

*“Everyone loves summer but we live for fall. Teachers and staff use the summer months to carefully plan the next academic year. **Success** for each student is our focus.”*

This summer was an exceptional summer for Cumberland campers. Students went to University of Georgia’s Skidaway Island to study and observe marine life, worked on new basketball skills in sports camp, engaged in coding and computer skills in computer camp, laughed and screamed at Six Flags day during adventure camp and refreshed academic knowledge during school prep week.

We now come from all over Atlanta to meet each day in this building. We are all different yet working for a mutual goal. Our counseling team suggests effective tools to interact with our amazing students, teachers assess daily—sometimes hourly—the best way to engage students. We get them into a predictable routine.

And then we put them on a raft and send them down the Nantahala. Yes, we do. We ask students to work far outside their comfort zone in many social situations. We ask this because we know they are capable, and we have watched, each year, the excitement the feelings of success bring to the students as they master a challenge like rafting or Math class.

We challenge our students with academics and social skills and we would be remiss if we didn’t lay down a challenge to parents. Let’s work together to have students arrive at school at by 8:15. That gives them some time to socialize and get ready for the day. Here we go to a successful year for all!



FROM YOUR TEACHERS

PIONEER, ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

Ms. Carmon

Welcome back to school! It's hard to believe it's that time of year already. There have been some exciting changes to the Pioneer's program at Cumberland Academy of Georgia. The Pioneer's instructors, Renee Carmon, Ashley Irvin and Jason Teufel have been busy planning learning adventures and activities to engage students and enhance all aspects of learning.

In Social Studies, teachers are planning to start with the Civil War. Students will study the causes, people and events. Teachers plan to take advantage

of the rich heritage of Atlanta and surrounding areas in order to enrich the learning experience of the classroom.

Science will focus on identifying surface features of the Earth caused by constructive and/or destructive processes. Students will take a field trip right at Cumberland to explore our surroundings outside of Cumberland's walls.

Students can look forward to an amazing year here at Cumberland!



NAVIGATOR, MIDDLE SCHOOL

Mrs. Mensing

The 2018-19 year will be the best one yet for Cumberland Navigators! We are adding to our curriculum with 2 new items meant to challenge and remediate. Skills Navigator is an online program that students will use at school and home to review and acquire concepts assessed on our MAP testing. Skills Navigator is created by the MAP publisher; therefore, we can input test scores and the program will begin addressing areas of concern for individual students.

For students above grade level, they will be challenged as well. New curriculum will engage and push these students to new heights. Additionally, we are purchasing the Wordly Wise online program for this year. Students will be enrolled in this program at the level that best meets their needs. Vocabulary develop-

ment and sentence comprehension will be a focus of Writers Workshop this year.

Ever had your picture taken by a drone? Cumberland Navigators will! As always we like to start the new year with fun activities. This year that will include taking pictures of the students using Mr. Allpere's camera drone!

Welcome back!



FROM YOUR TEACHERS

EXPLORER, HIGH SCHOOL

Mr. Downs

Each year brings positive change including a few additions to our staff. We are delighted to welcome Jason Teufel who will be teaching our Spanish classes. Jason, although not new to Cumberland but new to the Explorer Team, brings a solid skill set and an exciting, interactive approach to teaching Spanish with a “Hands On, Minds On” approach.

We are fortunate to have a new addition to our Physical Education Team as well. Paul Fineman is joining us with a plethora of experience and a true love for physical fitness and teaching. Stephen McElderry is our new Social Studies teacher. He comes to Cumberland with a fresh perspective and a shiny new Masters Degree in Special Education. In addition to these new staff members, we

are also offering some new courses that some of our students enrolled in. We will be offering a Cooking and Culinary Arts Enrichment Class and a Drama Class. As Mrs. Fineman will be teaching a Life Skills class, Kathryn Telford will be developing an amazing drama curriculum. Kathryn comes to Cumberland with a wide range of expertise which includes a role in the *Walking Dead*.

Driver's Education will be a Friday rotation for first semester. This will be taught on campus by Nathan's Driving School instructors. The class will go beyond the Friday school day and end at 4pm.

Welcome!



CAREER PREP

Mrs. Fineman

It's going to be an exciting year of learning and growth in our classes! We look forward to maintaining existing partnerships with Chastain Horse Park and Dogwood Assisted Living and have plans for new doors to open and explore.

If you have not seen the beautiful, new kitchen please stop in and say hello! Some of our potential projects include: a food “truck”; Top Chef showcase; a PSA on healthful eating; design a logo and menu; create a food blog. Our students will develop extraordinary cooking skills (cleaning skills included)! Stay tuned for more ideas as your students return to campus!



Don't hesitate to reach out to me at lori.fineman@cumberlandacademy.org. See you soon!



FROM YOUR TEACHERS

COUNSELOR'S CORNER

**Val Schwan,
Director of Counseling**

The Cumberland Counseling Team is excited to begin a new school year guiding our students back into the swing of things. It is our hope that this year will be full of successful experiences for all students. We will be connecting with students formally and informally and helping them sharpen their skills in many areas; academic, social, emotional, self-management, and career.

Our Peer Mentor Lunch Program was a huge success last year. Special relationships were forged between High School Explorer student mentors and the Pioneer/Navigator mentees. The program strengthened confidence and leadership skills for the mentors and increased self-esteem for the mentees. Please reach out to a counselor if your student would like to participate in the Peer Mentor Lunch Program.

It is my pleasure to welcome Ms. Britani Wilson to our counseling staff. Britani worked with us last year as an intern and will be working with the Navigator and Pioneer students this year. Ms. Belinda Horne will continue to provide her counseling expertise for the 9th year. We are happy to have Tracey Hawkins and Shawnice Parson join us as counseling interns. Dr. Kelli Ritter will continue to support our Cumberland Counseling Team as advisor. We congratulate Dr. Ritter for receiving the 2018 Counselor Educator of the Year Award from the Licensed Professional Counselors Association of Georgia!



SCIENCE & TECHNOLOGY

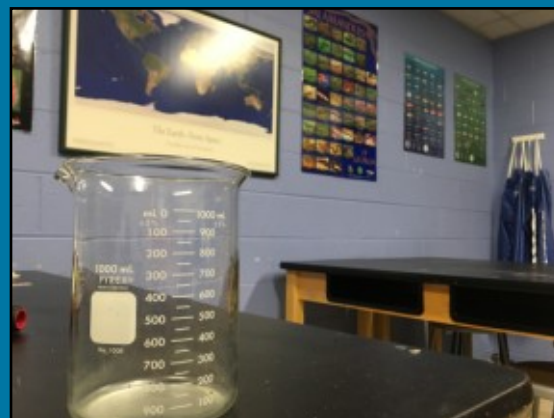
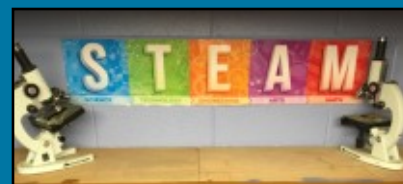
**Mihkel Allpere, Experiential
Learning Coordinator**

A new school year is here in the science department and we are excited about the new changes and opportunities that we have for our students this year. The Science Department at The Cumberland Academy of Georgia now revolves around our newly renovated Lab on the first floor. It's full "steam" ahead for both Mr. Allpere's and Mrs. Robinson's classes.

The focus of the science department is on more experimental learning as the science lab is now ready for experiments to reinforce classroom academics.

We have also upgraded our safety equipment so that more specific chemistry experiments will be available for our Explorer (high school) Sciences while Navigator (middle school) Sciences can now do more formal Lab Experiments as well.

We are excited for a new year of inquiry and discovery!



THERE'S MORE...

BARKS FROM LUCKY

What a summer filled with learning and fun. Cumberland students began work at Homewood Suites, Target, Chick-fil-A & the YMCA. Well done students! Thank you to LexisNexis as well for the two day seminar for students.

Thank you to Mike Perrin and the Toyota Foundation for the generous donation to Cumberland.

Welcome new students and faculty!



Condolences to Board member Mike Stern and family on the passing of his mother, Susan Stern. Mrs. Stern was a special friend and supporter of Cumberland. (Pictured above)

SPORTS & SCHOOL CLUBS

It is a season of "firsts" for Cumberland sports!



For the first time ever, Cumberland students have 4 fall sports to choose! Coach has developed an amazing sports program for the fall. Students can now choose between cross country, bowling, soccer and/or swimming. Wow, will we all be healthy and strong this fall!

The Cumberland bowling team is one of the most popular sports at school. The team has grown and practiced and is ready to compete! More to come from the first year of a competitive bowling team.

The newly established partnership with the YMCA will benefit Cumberland students in many ways. This fall the first Cumberland swim team will train and compete at the Buckhead YMCA. Clear off your goggles the Y is ready for you, students.

Check the website for upcoming cheer information!



AUGUST 2018



Cumberland Academy of Georgia

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
			1	2	3	4
5	6 Parent Academy 6:00	7	8	9 First Day of School Pizza provided No after school activities	10 Casual Dress No Cumberland Café Lunch Provided No after school activities	11
12	13 EDP	14 EDP Art Club	15 Girl Talk 8:00 -8:30 EDP Drama Club	16 Pizza EDP Tae Kwon Do until 4:15	17 Spirit Wear Cumberland Café Lunch Provided No after school activities	18
19	20 EDP Cross Country until 4:30	21 EDP Cross Country until 4:30 Art Club	22 EDP Soccer Drama Club	23 Pizza EDP Soccer Tae Kwon Do until 4:15 Screen Free	24 Casual Dress Cumberland Café Lunch Provided Bowling begins	25
26	27 EDP Cross Country until 4:30	28 EDP Cross Country until 4:30 Art Club	29 Girl Talk 8:00 -8:30 Soccer Drama Club	30 Pizza EDP Soccer Tae Kwon Do until 4:15	31 Spirit Wear Cumberland Café Lunch Provided Bowling	

GOAL!!!

And we are off! Have you signed up for GOAL? After the first parent meeting, we already have several families and staff who have signed up for GOAL. Thank you to all who have already completed your Tax Credit Application for 2019! Our first wave of families and friends that have signed up include:

Bushey, Chang, Collins, Dudley, Howle, Hudson, Judson, Lee, Long, Matos, Meyer, Moore, Osbourne, Rankin, Scarborough, Smith, Stern, & Tribou. Thank you!

Let's get your name on the list. Now is the time to submit your Tax Credit Application for 2019 to the GOAL Scholarship Organization. It's so easy to go to the GOAL website and submit your application online. Go to www.goalscholarship.org and click on the Sign Up Today icon on the Home page. Be sure to list Cumberland Academy of Georgia as your school designated school. Remember contributing to the GOAL Scholarship Fund is just redirecting your state taxes to scholarships. It's a no-brainer!



ANNUAL GIVING

Annual Giving

New this year-please register at Publix.com. After this you will use your phone number at checkout to benefit Cumberland. This costs you not one penny and benefits our special school!

Save your boxtops for the annual competition!



Annual Fund

As we look around the school, we see all the amazing changes in thanks to so many who have given to Cumberland. This year, let's go big and bold with annual giving. Please consider Cumberland for your gifts.



Cumberland Academy of Georgia specializes in the needs of children with high functioning Autism, Asperger's, ADD, ADHD and other learning differences. The mission of the academy is to provide a safe, supportive, educational environment in partnership with faculty, staff, students and parents. The Cumberland family embraces the uniqueness of every child by challenging and inspiring them to reach their full potential. Our academic and social curriculum encourages the development of life skills essential in becoming self-sufficient adults.