



February 2018
Volume 10
Issue 1

For the Parents,
 Students, and Community
 of Sequoyah High School

Tribal Echoes



Sequoyah High School

4485 Hickory Road
 Canton, GA 30115
 (770) 721-3200

Administration

Mr. Elliott Berman
 Principal

Ms. Heather Phillips
 Assistant Principal

Mrs. Laura Kudlak
 Assistant Principal

Mr. Matthew May
 Assistant Principal

Mr. Craig McKinney
 Assistant Principal

Student Services

Mrs. Maria Baldwin
 Counselor A-E

Mrs. Wendy Fort
 Counselor F-L

Mrs. Monica Intravia
 Counselor M-R

Mrs. Carrilynn Corbin
 Counselor S-Z



Principal's Message

Dear Parents,

I am pleased to announce that the Governor's Office of Student Achievement has awarded Sequoyah High School the **Greatest Gain Award** for having a three-year College and Career Ready Index **CCRPI Progress Score** that is ranked in at least the 93rd percentile. SHS was the only Cherokee County High school to have received this recognition this year and we have received it three consecutive years.

We have begun the 2018-19 scheduling process. We are planning to have our annual 10th grade Advisement Meetings for parents and their students in the media center on February 14 and 15 so that 10th grade parents and their students can jointly meet with their student's counselor and representatives from all departments to plan for 11th and 12th grade courses. Appointments for these meetings were mailed to parents on Friday, January 12th . Our counselors are meeting with all current 9th & 11th grade students to register them for their electives. We will send home with 9th, 10th , and 11th grade students, a copy of the courses they have selected for the 2018-19 school year after students meet with their counselors to select their electives. We will notify 9th, 10th, and 11th grade parents through an eblast when students are given there courses for the 2018-19 school year for you to review. If there are any problems, please indicate that on the form that is returned to the Homeroom teacher, because all course requests will be finalized and the master schedule will be developed. **Please be aware of all of the courses that your student selects during the scheduling process, as we will be unable to change courses that have been selected once the master schedule is developed and students are assigned into classes for next year.**

Each year during second semester all schools experience an increase in absences and late arrivals, and a gradual decline in academic performance. So prevalent is this trend that it has been referred to as the "Second Semester Slide". We are determined to improve this trend and **you the parents** can play a major role. **Here are three ways you can assure your student's continued success.**

- 1. Monitor your child's performance** by connecting with your online parent access account. Staying informed and engaged with your student's school life – and talking about it – has a tremendous positive effect.
- 2. Be Vigilant in making sure your student attends school every day and arrives on time. MAKE DAILY ATTENDANCE THE EXPECTATION.** Very few things have as much negative effect on academic performance as poor attendance. Be clear in your attitude towards attending school every day. In the working world, attendance is equated with dependability.
- 3. Re-establish your student's homework and study routine. Help him/her to reclaim the space and time meant for this important purpose.** Encouraging and supporting this vital activity will improve your student's attitude and performance at school and instill a work ethic that endures for a lifetime. **SET A SCHEDULE:** Establish a regular time slot for this important

...continues on next page

Principal's Message

continues...

daily activity. Seek your child's agreement and commitment to dedicate this time each day for homework and study.

These efforts; staying informed and talking about your student's progress, re-establishing a solid home-study routine, and making certain that your student attends every day and arrives on time will have an enormous positive result and eliminate "Second Semester Slide."

I would like to remind you of the school district's promotion policy. Students are promoted to the next grade when they have accumulated the following units:

- **End of 9th Grade** – 5 Units: must include one unit of English, Math, and Science
- **End of 10th Grade** – 11 Unites: must include two units of English and Math and one unit of Science
- **End of 11th Grade** – 17 units: must include three units of English and Math, two units of Science, and one Unit of Social Studies
- **All students must earn 23 units to graduate**

I know that this is early, but I also want to remind everyone that Final Exams for this semester for seniors will be during the week of May 14th and during the week of May 21st for all other students. Final Exams are not given early. They are administered on the day they are scheduled on the exam calendar that will be disseminated in May. **Students must be present for all exams.** The only excuse for an absence that will be accepted during this time is a documented medical emergency.

Sincerely,
Elliott Berman

News from Student Services – January-February 2018

Keep your grades up!! Students and parents have access to grades and attendance through CANVAS to monitor student progress. Seniors, your graduation is at stake! If you are taking an online class other than GA Virtual School, be sure you have the online school send us the transcript by May 1. Also, remember that colleges can and do pull admissions offers to students if they don't like what they see on the final transcript.

Juniors: If you think you will apply to a 4-year college or university during senior year, take the SAT or ACT this spring. Get information on registering from the Student Services office. Any questions – see your counselor.

Seniors: SCHOLARSHIPS! SCHOLARSHIPS! SCHOLARSHIPS!

- File your FAFSA a.s.a.p.
- Keep applying for those scholarships!
- Check out the Scholarship Page under Student Services on the SHS website – we post these as they come in to our office.

Have you accepted a scholarship? We want to know so we can recognize you at our annual Scholarship Reception, which is by invitation only this spring. **Let Mrs. Intravia or Mrs. Fort in Student Services know by mid-April of any scholarships you've accepted.** (We can't honor you if we don't know about it.)

Each year we usually have some local scholarships available. Keep checking the SHS College Scholarship page for these. Here is one we already have information about:

- Pearl Turner-Louis Jones Memorial Scholarship thru First Baptist Church Canton
- \$1000 – renewable up to three years after the first year
- Application is available in Student Services or on the SHS website
- Deadline: April 13, 2018

AP Test Takers

If you are taking an AP course and plan to take the AP exam this May, you must register for the exam at www.TotalRegistration.net/AP/110590. See the detailed information that was attached to your AP Bulletin. Exam registration is online only; registration opens January 22 and closes February 28 at midnight. Cost per exam is \$100, payable with credit or debit card – have the card available before beginning registration. Questions – contact maria.baldwin@cherokee.k12.ga.us by February 10 or call Mrs. Baldwin at 770-721-3200 x3217.

All students: Summer Program opportunities

- See your counselor if you're interested in a summer program – these are usually held on college campuses. They have application deadlines.



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Hot Rodders

Sequoyah High School's Hot Rodders team recently competed at Nationals... and now is ranked 25th in the U.S. and third in the State!

The eight-member team vied for honors and scholarships in the Hot Rodders of Tomorrow Dual National Championship held in Las Vegas. Only in its second year, the team moved up in the rankings from 39th in the U.S. to 25th, and earned \$10,000 in scholarships to various schools across the United States.

For the competition, students deconstructed a V-8 engine and reassembled it to manufacturer's specifications. Groups are timed on how quickly they disassemble and reassemble the engine in its entirety. The teams are scored on speed and accuracy.

The team members are: Jacob Allred, Adam Edwards, Kacey Hearn, Chaz Johnston, Jason Kissoon, Spenser Mann, Gaven Reamy and Thomas Warren; they are coached by Chuck Wilson, the school's auto tech instructor, and volunteer coach Ron Shultheis.

"This is only the second year for the Sequoyah Hot Rodders, and they have been working very hard to improve their time and decrease the amount of errors," said Principal Elliott Berman, who also presented the students with Principal Patches in recognition of their achievement. "It definitely shows, as Sequoyah is now listed among the teams to beat nationally. Congratulations to our Hot Rodders!"



PHOTO: From left to right, front row: auto tech instructor and team coach, Chuck Wilson; Spenser Mann, Gaven Reamy, Kacey Hearn; second row, Thomas Warren, Chaz Johnston; back row: volunteer coach Ron Shultheis; Jason Kissoon, Adam Edwards and Jacob Allred.



Georgia All-State Chorus

I am excited to announce that Sequoyah had 13 outstanding students selected for the 2018 Georgia All-State Chorus! This is a big accomplishment for these students and they are to be commended for their hard work. They will participate in the All-State event in Athens in February with the best high school singers in the state. If you see or know these young people then please offer them congratulations!

- Maddie Bends
- Malia Elzey
- Patrick Fagan
- Savannah Haas
- Jordan Jackson
- Halee Shapland
- Daniel Tye
- Kelci Verdon
- Corinne Wallick
- Amelia Westmoreland
- Elaine Williams

Additionally, the following students will be participating at the All-State Reading Chorus event in Athens on January 25th and January 26th:

- Patrick Fagan
- Maddie Bends
- Patrick Fagan
- Kelsey Bryant

Josh Markham
Choral Director
Sequoyah High School

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Relay For Life

Have you been personally affected by cancer? Join and/or donate to Sequoyah High School's Relay for Life team! Parents, students, and community members are all welcome to walk or support the SHS team by purchasing a T-shirt (pictured). This year's "Passport to Hope" walk to benefit the American Cancer Society will be Friday, May 11, at Woodstock HS from 6 p.m. until midnight. Sign up or donate at http://main.acsevents.org/goto/sequoyah_high_school. T-shirts can be purchased through the Cherokee County School District's Online School Payments portal. For more information, contact Heather. Garrett@cherokee.k12.ga.us.



Front of Shirt:



Back of Shirt:

Sequoyah Bands and Orchestra

The Sequoyah Bands and Orchestra Program broke several school records this year with the All State Band and Orchestra audition and selection process. Students participate in an initial audition. Based on the scores they earn, students are selected to participate in the District Honor Band or Orchestra event. Some of those students are selected to go to the second round of auditions. Based on these scores, students are selected for All State Band. The Sequoyah Orchestra program had twelve students selected for District Honor Orchestra. This event was held on November 16-18 at River Ridge High School. From those twelve, seven students were selected to audition for All State Orchestra, and one student was selected to participate in the All State Orchestra.

The Sequoyah Bands Program had 29 students selected to participate in District Honor Band. This event will be February 8-10 at Fannin County High School in Blue Ridge. Of those students, 16 were invited to the second round of auditions for All State Band, and four students were selected to participate in the All State Band. All of these numbers break the previous records for students selected for these prestigious events. The All State Band and Orchestra event is March 1-3 in Athens, Georgia.

The bands and orchestra will participate in the Large Group Performance Evaluations in March, and will end their year with a Spring Concert on May 4 at First Baptist Woodstock.

The Sequoyah Winter Guard program is in full swing, beginning their competition season on January 27, at Kennesaw Mountain High School. They will also compete at East Coweta High School, Kell High School, and end their season April 7 at the SAPA championship in Chattanooga, Tennessee.

The Sequoyah Marching Band of Chiefs will be going to New York City March 15-19. They will be participating in the St. Patrick's Day Parade, attending a Broadway show, and touring the city.



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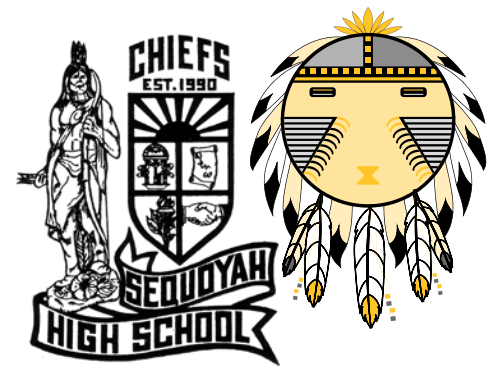
[Pictured above (back row) Ryan Robinson, Dylan Poulsen, Matthew Zenchuk, Carson Crowe, Gavin Black, Daniel Ergle (front row) Katie Kirkland, Grace Reynolds, Kaleigh Miller, Victoria Ergle, Hanna Palmer, Austyn Tressler, Cammie Cox.]

The Sequoyah High School DECA club competed and won awards at the DECA Region 1 Competition, which was held on December 7, 2017, in Decatur, GA. The above-pictured students competed in events directly aligned with the State Marketing Cluster Pathways curriculum requirements.

The following SHS DECA members competed and placed at the Region Competition and qualified them to compete at the DECA State Career Development Conference next semester: Victoria Ergle, 1st place in Principles of Finance, Kaleigh Miller, 1st place in Principles of Hospitality, Matthew Zenchuk, 2nd place in Human Resources Management, Katie Kirkland, 3rd place in Business Speech, Austyn Tressler, 4th place in Principles of Business Administration, Hanna Palmer, 4th place in Apparel & Accessories Marketing, Dylan Poulsen, 5th place in Entrepreneurship, Carson Crowe, 5th place in Retail Merchandising, Daniel Ergle, 6th place in Automotive Services and Gavin Black, 6th place in Quick Serve Restaurant Marketing

Mrs. Palmer is the Advisor for the Sequoyah High School DECA Club (An Association of Marketing Students). For more information about SHS DECA, please contact kari.palmer@cherokee.k12.ga.us.

Sequoyah DECA Members Win Medals at Regional Conference



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Drama

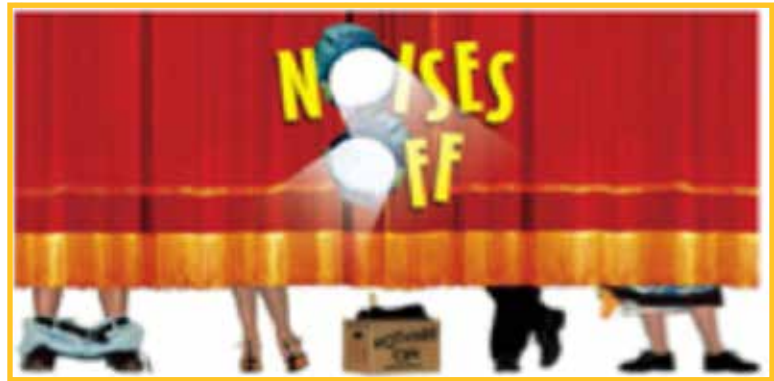


2018 Thespian Conference

By Tori Turk

The International Thespian Society holds a conference every year, known as Thespian Conference, or "Thes-Con." Sequoyah High School's Thespian Troupe #4739 will be attending Georgia Thespian Conference at Columbus State University where it is held each year. Students will have opportunities to attend various workshops, audition for scholarships and colleges, and watch shows performed by other thespian troupes! This year, troupe #4739 will be debuting an incredible IE performance, **The Ballad of Sara Berry** at **12:30 on Friday**, as well as competing in the ThesCon improv challenge!

This year's state conference will be held **February 8th, 9th, and 10th** in Columbus, GA!



By Tori Turk

Auditions for Sequoyah High School's spring play, **Noises Off!**, were held on January 9th! Of all the incredibly talented students who auditioned, only 10 were cast! Thanks to all who came out and auditioned, and a huge congratulations to the new cast and crew of the hit show, Nothing On, in rehearsal, opening, and closing **March 22-25** at **7:30!** This hilariously hectic show-within-a-show is one you won't want to miss!

CAST:

DOTTY OTLEY
 LLOYD DALLAS
 GARRY LEJEUNE
 BROOKE ASHTON
 POPPY NORTON-TAYLOR
 FREDERICK FELLOWES
 BELINDA BLAIR
 TIM ALLGOOD
 SELSDON MOWBRAY
 STAGE MANAGERS:
 STUDENT DIRECTORS:

Natalie Peters
Jace Nichols
Randy Miller
Victoria Turk
Madelynne Dunlop
Blake Galloway
Caroline Etheridge
Max Kountz
Joshua Jenkins
 Sophia Clark & Brisa Mendez
 Jacob Jenkins & Wheeler Mann

A few spots are left!



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Update Your Thespian Card!

By Madie Dunlop

Come on out and update your thespian cards! It is of utmost importance that you keep your cards updated in order to achieve the maximum number of thespian points. Thespian points make the world go round, so make sure you have them! Officers and Mr. Parker can all update points for you anytime they are not busy! Get on it!

Graduation Cords

By Mr. Parker

If you are a Senior Thespian or Senior Honor Thespian and would like to have a **Thespian Honor Cord** to wear at graduation in June, please see Mr. Parker to order. Cords are \$15 each. Cords can be ordered until **March 29th**, but not after.

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SAS AFIROTC Tribal Chant

The purpose of Air Force Junior ROTC is help young adults reach their highest potential by equipping them with the character and competencies to be successful in their chosen career. The events continue to keep the cadets highly involved. Highlights this period include several community service projects, the Marietta Drill Meet, Veterans Day events, Christmas Parades, and MUST Ministries.

Zombie Fest CarnEvil- October 21

Thanks in part to shows like "The Walking Dead" which are filmed right here in Georgia, all things zombie has spread to the populous. On Saturday, Oct 21st, they held a festival of course! Forty-three cadets dressed in their best zombie attire and helped with the event's parking, running the inflatables, selling cotton candy, and other jobs that ensure that the festival can run smoothly. The cadets had a great time helping raise money for this worthy charity.



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Rome Airshow and Tiger Flight – October 21-22 and November 11

Our Unit and the Tiger Flight Foundation have teamed up once again to help inspire others with the wonders of flying. This time the Rome Airport, the home of Tiger Flight, hosted an airshow, and Tiger Flight needed some helping hands to make sure that their aircraft were properly monitored. Our unit has been working with Tiger Flight for over two years now, and we were happy to help them out. Ten cadets helped with the transportation and security of the planes as well as also being able to share their experiences and knowledge with others while monitoring the aircraft. During the 11 November event, the cadets helped to prepare the aircraft for flights and some even got a chance to soar in the Tiger Flight planes.



Ongoing High School Color Guards

In AFJROTC our cadets are filled with national pride, and together with the drill and discipline that we teach, all comes together in one grand presentation for Old Glory. Our cadets have the honor of presenting the colors at Sequoyah's home football games, basketball games, and for various other ceremonies and events. It is a tradition that many cadets take part in proudly and often.



Veteran's Day Programs & Parade

Once a year our nation takes time to remember those who proudly served so that we may enjoy our freedoms. The cadets look forward to these opportunities to show our appreciation and respect for our veterans. Our cadets participated in six veteran tributes. We did presentations at Indian Knoll Elementary School, Holly Springs Elementary School, Mountain Road Elementary School, Hickory Flat Elementary School, Dean Rusk Middle School, and the Windsor House Living Facility. At each event, we presented the Colors and displayed the military service flags to honor the service of the many veterans in attendance. Twenty-seven cadets also marched in the Canton Veterans Day Parade. In addition to the Veterans Tribute at Holly Springs Elementary, the cadets also participated in a reading program with all the classes. They did an outstanding job entertaining the young children. The cadets were truly honored to be able to show our appreciation for the veterans who turned out in mass to attend the events at the elementary and middle schools.



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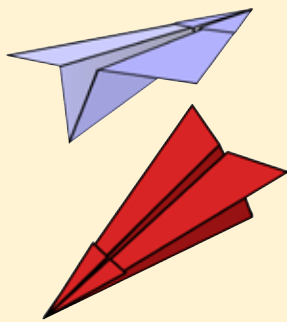
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Recruiting Program for Dean Rusk Students - November 2017

One of the most critical events every year is the recruitment of the soon to be freshman. Some of our best cadets were sent to put a friendly face to the name of AFJROTC and tell them what it's all about. During each lunch period, the cadets sat and talked with the eighth graders about the AFJROTC Program. On November 30th, the cadets hosted an evening for about 20 eighth graders and their parents. The cadets presented an overview of the program and then the middle schoolers got an opportunity to learn the basics of drill, fly our simulators, fly our unmanned aerial system aircraft, and participate in a paper airplane flying competition.



MUST Ministries food box collection and distribution

The Sequoyah Zone once again made a significant impact on feeding the needy families of Cherokee County. Sequoyah High School, Dean Rusk Middle School, Hickory Flat Elementary School, Holly Springs Elementary School, Indian Knoll Elementary School, and Mountain Road Elementary School once again combined to deliver over 400 completed family food boxes to the MUST Ministries in Canton to support the Thanksgiving Food Program. Dean Rusk Middle School really came through again this year with about 150 boxes. We could not have done it without the support of every student, teacher, staff member, and many families in the Sequoyah Zone. This is just an example of how the efforts of our community to help others in need is a way of life in our community. Thanks to each person who contributed. After collecting the food, the cadets delivered it to the MUST Ministries in Canton and then during the Thanksgiving break went back and handed out the food boxes to the needy families. All total the cadets donated over 650 hours working at the MUST. We are extremely proud of the cadets for giving so generously of their time. This year was also a first as we had students from the Sequoyah High School Spanish National Honor Society volunteer as translators. They were a big help translating and greeting the families. It is at times like these that the Sequoyah Zone truly shines as we all pitched in to help those who are not as fortunate. Thank you to all who helped support this great cause.



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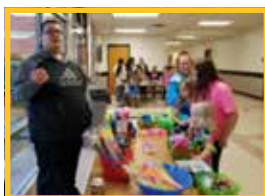
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Community Service Projects

The cadets continued their work with the staff and faculty at the elementary schools. Cadets helped with curriculum nights, bingo fund raisers, and more. These activities continue to help the cadets build teamwork skills and be role models for the younger students. The cadets helped with the Holly Springs Bingo Night and Christmas Fair on November 30 and with the Indian Knoll Elementary School curriculum night on November 14. The cadets also went to Mountain Road Elementary School to help with the delivery of the Toys for Tots donations the school had collected. The cadets picked up the donations and delivered them to the local Toys for Tots Donation Center.



Marietta Drill Meet – December 2

On one of the busiest days of our school year, the Sequoyah AFJROTC Competition Teams participated in the Marietta High School Invitational Drill Meet. And two Christmas Parades. The cadets started the day at 5:30 in the morning and finished the day at 8:00 in the evening. At the drill meet, the cadets faced much tougher competition. Sequoyah entered two color guards, an unarmed team, and an armed team. Our new freshmen, which comprise a majority of the team, continued to refine and improve the skills that they learned earlier in the year and are showing great promise. With continued hard work and effort our team will be more competitive in the coming drill meets.



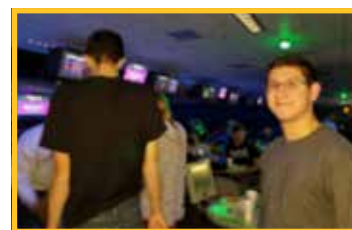
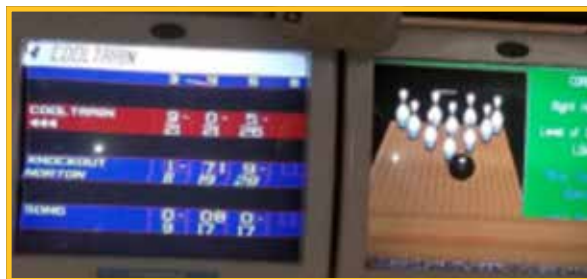
Holly Springs and Canton Christmas Parades – December 2

The Christmas Parades signal the beginning of the Christmas season! Participating in a parade is just fun, and our cadets enjoyed themselves so much that they did two of them. Many of our cadets rushed from the Marietta Drill Meet to the Holly Springs Christmas Parade. Fifty-one cadets participated in both parades. To make the day brighter, the cadets who marched in the Holly Springs Christmas Parade, took a well-deserved lunch break at Stevi B’s Pizza before marching in the Canton Christmas Parade. We are extremely proud of the cadets for their dedication, professionalism, and patience on this very long day.



Bowling Day: January 20th

After being out of school and stuck in their houses due to the cold weather, the cadets held a Bowling Day. Forty-one cadets met at Cherokee Lanes in Canton for a bowling, pizza, and fun. It was a chance to enjoy a healthy competition and exercise. It was fun watching some of the cadets who have never bowled learn a new skill. Some of the cadets also took the opportunity to engage in a game of laser tag. Others took the chance to play a few arcade games, including air hockey. It was a chance to build new and lasting freindships.



UPCOMING EVENTS:

- Military Ball February 3
- US Space and Rocket Center Trip . . . March 1 and 2
- Robins Museum of Aviation March 22
- Dobbins Air Show March 24 and 25
- Whitewater Express TN Trip April 27-29
- Awards Banquet May 5