



Community Coffee Chat

INNOVATION ACADEMY

SCOTT KENT, PRINCIPAL

NOVEMBER 2, 2022

Question Topics – Pre-submitted Questions

1. Communication Expectations at IA
2. Pathway Clubs, Certifications, and Opportunities
3. Student Support at IA
4. Counselor Appointments and Phone Calls
5. Courses and Scheduling for Next Year

Overall School Communication

SCOTT KENT

School Communication

- Our administrative team receives around 100 emails each day. We always try to respond within 24 - 48 hours
 - If we have not responded within 48 hours, please feel free to give us a gentle reminder that you are still awaiting a response. We apologize for any time our response time is longer than 48 hours.
- If you have cced an administrator on an email to other people, but specifically want them to respond, please include that in the message body of your email.
- We are continuing to work on the format of The Beacon to ensure it is as efficient and effective for our school community as possible

Pathways and CTSOs

CHAR FORAN, HEALTH SCIENCES

PAM WHITLOCK, INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY

ROBERT REID, ENGINEERING

Health Sciences

- Clinical hours

- Proof of vaccination
- Physical
- TB test
- Osha Certification through Career Safe (paid on OSP)
- First aid & CPR cert
- IA scrubs (PTSO)

HOSA

FLC Nov 7 & 8

States March 2023

Disney Leadership training (spring)

ILC Dallas TX June 2023

Middle school mentorship program

Information Technology

CERTIFICATIONS AND OPPORTUNITIES

All **certifications/college credit** prepared for within the classroom environment: APCS Principles, APCSA, Game Design (Unity) & APCSA end of pathway software dev exam.

Opportunities with business partners are offered within course instruction and thru Flex Friday sessions & projects. These include mentoring, project development, partner led sessions, summer experiences & internships.

Flex Friday opportunities, including those with business partners, are released on Monday of the Flex Friday week so that students can see options and sign up for sessions.

CLUBS & EXTRA-CURRICULARS

Technology Student Association (Patel, Widmann & Harris): FLC in November, SLC in March, outreach opportunities ongoing. Club meets on IT Fridays. Info can be found in the student TSA team.

eSports Team (Heying)

Cybersecurity club (Whitlock)

IA Venture/Entrepreneurial club (Whitlock)

Chess club (Bart)

For more information or questions, contact whitlock@fultonschools.org or specific IT teacher

Engineering

CERTIFICATIONS AND OPPORTUNITIES

All **certifications** are planned throughout the engineering pathway classes. 11th grade students will be prepared for an exam to earn an extra seal on their diplomas. 12th grade students will be prepared for a CAD software certification. This CAD certification will be extremely valuable as students seek internships or head to university.

Next year we will be adding a 4th engineering class to the pathway to further develop skills for our amazing students. We encourage all engineering students to take this class. More information to come.

Special thanks to all that helped with our Aerospace Engineering Flex Friday. With over 300 rockets taking flight it was a day to remember! Without our sponsors at Lockheed Martin, Civil Air Patrol, PTSO, Homer Hickam, and the Klinkman Family this big day would not have been possible. Many thanks 7 3

CLUBS & EXTRA-CURRICULARS

Robotics Important Dates

Jan 7th - Official Start

March 10,11 - Qualifier 1 Dalton

March 24, 25 - Qualifier 2 Carrollton

April 6 - 8 - State Finals (if we qualify) Emerson

April 18 - 23 World Championship (if we qualify) Houston, Texas

For more information or questions, contact reidr2@fultonschools.org or specific Engineering teacher

Student Support

- ❑ Check with individual teacher for tutoring hours during the week and during Flex Friday
 - ❑ This is the best course of action for our specialty, singleton classes
- ❑ Partner up with students in the same course for group study sessions during lunch period or virtual period
- ❑ Additional tutoring opportunities are being created by our graduation coach, Amanda Weaver

Counselor Appointments and Phone Calls

Wanda Moran, Head Counselor

In counseling, students are our number one priority. We encourage students to make an appointment with their counselor so that we can reserve a time especially for them, but we will not turn a student away, so student drop ins are frequent in counseling. It is often difficult for us to accommodate drop in parent visits while trying to meet the needs of our students. The best way to reach a counselor is by email or booking an appointment: [Counseling Team](#).

If you would like to receive a phone call, please email your student's counselor indicating you would like a call. I do ask that this option be reserved for exceptional situations and that you try to utilize email whenever possible.

Courses and Scheduling for Next Year

Jessica Lundy, CAP

- ❑ Updated Course Catalog with New Courses
- ❑ Scheduling Workshops
- ❑ Restructure Advisement of Course Load
- ❑ Biggest Advice for Parents

Open Q&A

PARENTS IN ATTENDANCE

For students with IEPs and learning disabilities, what are ways they can get involved and have more social interactions?

Our case managers work in tandem with our teachers and our Club sponsors for our students to find a social network that is in line with their interests and hobbies. School counselors also meet with each case manager to specially design each student's schedule.

Have questions or concern? Reach out to our IST, Chelsea Depa, our IRR department chair, Caren Hart, and your student's case manager. A meeting specifically centered on the social aspect of navigating can be arranged with the team.

How will 9th graders be supported in making their Pathway decision?

The GT Block teachers starting after Thanksgiving Break will be supporting the students in class with guiding questions and activities that will assist them in making the best choice for them.

One good question to discuss with your student is... “If you are given a problem, what approach would you take to solve the problem?”

- ❑ If you take a hands on, build approach, engineering may be for you.
- ❑ If you take a people focus approach, health sciences may be for you.
- ❑ If you take technology based approach, information technology may be for you.

When and how will students be advised on after high school decisions (college and career)?

Junior meetings are currently taking place. All juniors should schedule a meeting with their counselors: [Book My Junior Meeting](#).

These meetings cover information on the college application process, reviewing career choices, SAT/ACT information, GA Student Finance Commission, Naviance, Hope, Zell, Dual Enrollment, credit checks and much more.

Students can also expect to receive additional support in their senior year.

When will senior swag/gear begin to be offered for our rising seniors?

We are planning to start offering class rings and letter jacket information before the end of this semester with the hope that the vendor can start delivery in the Spring.

Additional senior swag will be available to order as well. More information will be arriving soon.

Many people still drive the wrong way down the front drive (particularly late afternoons after school hours).
What can be done to address this more?

Principal Scott Kent is working on more signage for this area along with additional paint on driveway as well.