NOVEMBER/DECEMBER 2024 | VOL. 3 ISSUE 3

KEARNS ACADEMY NEWSLETTER

"A Rigorous Computer Science School Where Critical, Creative, and Innovative Thinking and Ideas Are Nurtured"





Dr. Bryan O. Johnson

Finish Strong, Reflect, and Stay Thankful

As the end of the semester quickly approaches, I want to take a moment to express my heartfelt gratitude to our entire Kearns Academy family. Your dedication, resilience, and commitment to excellence make our school an incredible place to learn, grow, and thrive.

Finish the Semester Strong

With only a few weeks left, it's important to stay focused and maintain your momentum. Remember, while you can't always control what happens, you can control your attitude and effort. Approach each day with purpose and determination, and you'll be amazed by what you can achieve.

Exam Schedule Coming Soon

Be on the lookout for the release of the exam schedule. Preparing ahead of time will help reduce stress and set you up for success. Start reviewing your notes, asking questions, and seeking clarification now to make exam week as smooth as possible.

Open Communication Matters

A reminder to all students and parents: keep communicating with your teachers. Whether you need help understanding a concept or advice on study strategies, your teachers are here to support you. Don't hesitate to reach out if you have questions or need assistance.

A Season to Be Thankful

With Thanksgiving around the corner, it's the perfect time to reflect on the many blessings we share as a community. I am especially thankful for the Kearns Academy Family—students, parents, teachers, and staff—who bring kindness, support, and positivity into our halls every day. Let's use this season to appreciate not just our achievements, but also the connections and friendships we value.

A Daily Reminder: Be Brave, Kind, and Strong

As we continue through these last weeks, remember to carry with you the values we uphold at Kearns Academy. Be brave in your pursuits, kind in your interactions, and strong when facing challenges. These qualities will serve you well, not just now, but for life.

Winter Break Is Just Around the Corner

Winter break is approaching fast, but before we get there, let's make sure we finish this semester on a high note. Continue to give your all and take pride in your effort. You've worked hard, and your perseverance will pay off.

Thank you for your unwavering support and dedication to making Kearns Academy such a special place. I wish each of you a wonderful Thanksgiving filled with joy, gratitude, and reflection. Let's make the most of these last weeks together and close out the semester with pride and accomplishment.

Dates To Remember

November 2024

11/4 - Mandatory Workday (NO SCHOOL!)

11/5 - Optional Workday (NO SCHOOL!)

11/11 - Veteran's Day Holiday (NO SCHOOL!)

11/13 - World Kindness Day

11/18-22 - American Education Week

11/18-22 - National Hunger & Homelessness Week

11/19 - ACT Work Keys (Seniors Only)

11/19 - Picture Retakes

11/21 - The Great American Smokeout

11/27-29 - Thanksgiving Holidays (NO SCHOOL!)

December 2024

12/7 - Saturday School 9:30am-12:00pm (Transportation not provided)

12/10 - National Human Rights Day

12/14 - Saturday School 9:30am-12:00pm (Transportation not provided)

12/15 - Bill of Rights Day

12/12-20 - Kearns Exams (schedule forthcoming)

12/20 - Quarter 2 End**s**

12/23 -1/3 - Winter Holidays (NO SCHOOL!)

**December is National Impaired Driving Prevention Month

<u>January 2025</u>

- 1/1 New Year's Day Holiday (NO SCHOOL!)
- 1/2 Vacation Day (NO SCHOOL!)
- 1/3 Optional Teacher Workday (NO SCHOOL!)
- 1/6 Students Return; Quarter 3 begins
- 1/20 Martin Luther King , Jr Holiday (NO SCHOOL!)
- 1/27 Optional Workday (NO SCHOOL!)

^{**}November is Native American Heritage Month

ATTENDANCE

The weather is getting colder; the days are getting shorter; and cold/flu season is upon us. But school is happening every day as scheduled.

Did you know that students who miss 9 or more days of school, risk staying engaged, being academically successful, and get offtrack to graduate?

The Kearns Academy school day is from 9:15a.m. to 4:15p.m.Students are expected to be present and on time each day. If a student must be absent due to illness, death of a family member, observance of religious holiday, or any other reason excused by school officials, parents must write a note stating date, student name, reason for absence, and parent signature. The note should be given to the front office staff within 3 days of absence to be coded excused.

Let's all strive to "Be Here to Get There". The future depends on your presence and participation daily. For more information, refer to The Kearns Academy Student Handbook or contact Ms. Harris, School Social Worker at 336-885-7905 ext. 1207.



November 17-23, 2024



- 47 million Americans are food insecure, meaning they do not have access to enough nutritious, affordable food;
- 580,000 Americans are homeless on a typical night;
- Many people who are hungry are working, going to school, or are actively seeking work, but do not make enough money to purchase an adequate amount of nutritious food;
- More than 34 million people, including 9 million children, in the U.S> do not have food in their homes on a daily basis?

If you or someone you know is experiencing homelessness or food insecurity, please contact Ms. Harris, School Social Worker at Kearns Academy.



<u>Kearns Students Attend SAS Discovery Day</u>

In October, 27 Kearns students recently visited SAS software company in Cary, NC to learn about the company, how to make themselves more marketable to future employers, and about the internship opportunities at SAS. Students attended a panel session and breakout groups to learn about the company and how to effectively use social media to promote their brand.







Kearns Students Present at the AIM Conference

Kearns students (Scott Chesson, Amiyah Miller, William Bolton, and Johnathan Guevara) recently presented at the AIM Conference hosted by NCDPI at the Raliegh Convention Center. The students presented a fourpart presentation on "Be Mal Aware" and how to Stay Cyber Safe. The presentation included tips on password management, avoiding phishing scams, using updates and antivirus software to protect your computer, and protecting yourself when using social media. Dr McKenize of GCS Blended Learning was one of the audience members.

Kearns also presented 3 student showcases on app design, robotics, and cybersecurity. Students had the opportunity to share their knowledge with the participants of the AIM Conference which included Cathy Truitt, NC Superintendent of Public Instruction, and Sal Khan, CEO of Khan Academy.









THE ROBOTICS TEAM

In October, The Kearns Robotics Team participated in the NC AIM Conference in Raleigh, NC. AIM stands for Accelerate. Invigorate. Motivate. We are so proud of our team for representing Kearns Academy well!!



















Student Government Leads Efforts to Aid Boone Flood Victims

In the wake of the devastating floods that recently struck Boone, NC, the student government has stepped up to provide much-needed relief to the affected community. The flooding, which destroyed numerous homes and disrupted countless lives, has left many residents without basic necessities such as running water and electricity.

Recognizing the urgent need for support, the student government organized a donation drive to collect essential items for the flood victims. The response from students, faculty, and the local community has been overwhelmingly positive, with donations pouring in from all corners.

The collected donations have been put to immediate use, providing critical assistance to those in need. The student government's initiative has not only provided tangible support but has also fostered a sense of solidarity and hope among the residents of Boone.

The student government facilitator, Sandra Cordova, shared, "It's heartwarming to see our community come together in such a meaningful way. Every contribution, no matter how small, is making a significant difference in the lives of those affected by this disaster."

In addition to the ongoing relief efforts, plans are in progress to adopt a family over the holiday season. This initiative aims to address specific needs that the family is still lacking, ensuring they have the support and resources necessary to rebuild their lives.

For those who wish to contribute, the donation drive is still ongoing, and every bit of help is appreciated. Together, we can make a difference and help Boone recover from this challenging time.



<u> A Few Things...</u>



Congratulations!!! - The Choice Schools and Programs recognized Kearns Academy during the GCS Choice Showcase with the Excellence in Engagement Award for their exemplary interactive demonstrations and outstanding student involvement that provided visitors with authentic firsthand experiences of their educational approach. Outstanding job Kearns Team!!!

Turkey Giveaway - The Out of The Garden Project will host a Turkey Give-Away at their warehouse (Address: 300 NC Hwy 68 South, Greensboro, NC 27409) on Monday November 25 from 4:00 - 6:00. This distribution is intended for families with children in need of food. ALL families who meet this criterion are welcomed regardless of immigration status. You can learn more about Out of The Garden Project at https://outofthegardenproject.org/ See flyer in this newsletter.





Discover South Africa - Students are you interested in participating in an educational trip to South Africa in 2025? An interest meeting will be held on Thursday, Nov. 21st at 6:00pm at Southeast Middle School media center (4825 Woody Mill Rd, Greensboro NC 27406). This trip is organized by Ms. Dorice Isaac who has led multiple student international travel groups. It's open to all students in grades 6th-12th. This is not sponsored by Southeast Middle or Guilford County Schools. For more information, see attached flyer or https://bit.ly/DSAinfo24

The Great American Smokeout (GASO) is Thursday, November 21, 2024.

It is a day to encourage those that vape or smoke to quit for a day. This resource from the GCS Vaping Prevention Toolkit can be shared with students - Cessation Programs for Youth Who Want to Quit Vaping at an informational table or on a bulletin board. You can find more information and resources at the American Cancer Society



NATIVE AMERICAN HERITAGE MONTH CELEBRATION

GUILFORD NATIVE AMERICAN ASSOC GCS AMERICAN INDIAN EDUCATION BANK OF AMERICA











Nov 20, 2024 5:30-8pm, Grand Entry 6pm Western Guilford Middle School | 401 College Rd.

Out of the Garden Project TURKEY GIVE-AWAY



Out of the Garden Project Warehouse

300 NC Hwy 68 South Greensboro, NC 27409

Monday 11.25.2024 | 4:00-6:00

Out of the Garden Project REGALO DE PAVO Turkey Give-Away



Almacén de Out of the Garden Project

300 NC Hwy 68 South Greensboro, NC 27409

Lunes 11.25.2024 | 4:00-6:00

















Attention, Students! Parents! Families!

You are invited to learn more about an amazing opportunity for your middle/high school child to take an educational trip to

Discover South Africa

Multi-destinations including ... JOHANNEBBURD!NATIONAL PARKADLE OF HUMANARIDOWN



History



Wildlife



Nature

Experience it all in a potentially once-in-a-lifetime opportunity to visit a location we've only read about or seen on TV!

Dear Parents & Guardians.

I am thrilled to share this travel opportunity for your student! Learn more about this exciting tour at an informational Family Meeting where we'll discuss:

- How this opportunity will benefit your student
- What we will see/do on our trip
- Everything included in this experience
- How we're keeping this safe & affordable
- How to enroll during EF's risk-free enrollment period
- And more

I look forward to seeing you there!

Ms Dorice Isaac

Group Leader

*It is
MANDATORY to
attend the Info Meeting
or make contact with
Ms. Isaac prior to
enrolling.



This is not limited to SEMS/SEHS students so invite a friend or share info!

RSVP to attend an Information Meeting to learn more!*

Can't make it but want more info? RSVP & select "I can't make it".

https://bit.ly/DSAinfo24

Thursday, November 21 6:00pm

SE Middle Media Center

4825 Woody Mill Rd Greensboro 27406





NOTE: This trip is <u>not</u> sponsored by SE Middle or Guilford County Schools. Travel is sponsored by the well-established leader in Global Student Travel **EF Tours (Education First)** with **Ms. Dorice Isaac** as a group leader/trip coordinator. My previous trips with **EF Tours** have included Italy, Spain, Monaco,
France, Costa Rica and Greece! More info on EF Tours & policies can be found at www.eftours.com or by contacting customer service at **800-665-5364.**



Ms. K. Graham

If you're not receiving emails from me, please send me an email at grahamk2@gcsnc.com, so I can add you to my email list.



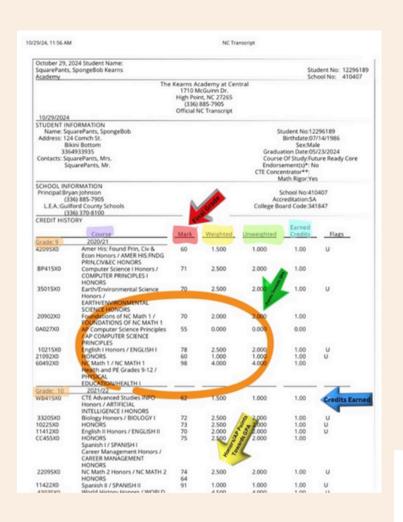
Micah, Kingston, & Jose for submitting Governor School applications. No matter how far you make it, I'm proud of your hard work and dedication. You will represent Kearns Academy well! -Ms. Graham

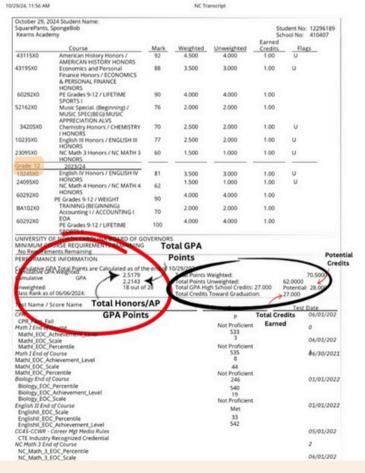
All sophomores will be completing the You Science aptitude test. You Science connects student's aptitudes to careers and educational pathways. This platform uses the student's aptitude data to identify strengths, align education, and connect talents to opportunities. Once students have completed their You Science assessment, they can see

Ms. Graham for their results.



Do You Know How To Read A Transcript??





Scholarships & Opportunities



SUMMER VENTURES

IN SCIENCE AND **MATHEMATICS**

Summer Ventures in Science and Mathematics is a no-cost, statefunded program for academically talented North Carolina students who aspire to careers in science, technology, engineering, and mathematics. You will have the opportunity to engage in research with faculty and get hands-on experience at ECU, UNC-C, UNC-W, or App State in Summer 2025.



FALL 2024 INFO SESSIONS VIA ZOOM

23

OCTOBER

You Belong in Summer Ventures in Science and Mathematics

17

DECEMBER

Summer Ventures Showcase Your STEM Self!

12

NOVEMBER

You Belong in Summer Ventures in Science and Mathematics

03

JANUARY

Summer Ventures Last Minute Questions. Application Due Jan 5.

DECEMBER

Summer Ventures: Application **Details and Essays**

MORE

NCSSM Admissions offers other webinars for all applicants and for all NCSSM programs.

REGISTER



bitly.com/SVSM-2024



LEARN MORE @ www.summerventures.org



North Carolina School of Science and Mathematics



Fidelity Scholars Program

The Fidelity Scholars Program isn't just a scholarship; it's a comprehensive support system designed to empower you to achieve your full potential. More than just financial assistance, this program provides a wealth of resources and the support to complete your degree.



Scholarship

Financial support to alleviate the burden of educational expenses, allowing you to focus on your studies and personal growth.



Financial Education

Financial literacy skills to navigate complexities of managing finances during and after college.



Mental Health Support

Tools and support you need to thrive academically and personally.



Mentors

Connect with experienced Fidelity Mentors for guidance and inspiration.



College Success Coaches

Get support with navigating the college campus, coursework, and your scholarship.

The Scholarship

Bachelor's degree recipients may be funded for up-to four years of study.

As a need-based scholarship, the amount of financial support provided will depend on the cost of attendance determined by the in-state college or university in which you are enrolling. This is a last-dollar approach. That means your scholarship funds will only be applied after your family contribution and all other financial aid sources have been granted, greatly reducing the need for you to take out loans and incur educational debt related to the cost of attendance.

Last year, the Fidelity Scholars Program awarded more than \$2.85 million scholarships to 200 students.

Eligibility

The program is open to historically under-resourced and underrepresented students who are permanent residents of Colorado, the District of Columbia, Florida, Kentucky, Massachusetts, New Jersey, New Mexico, North Carolina, Ohio, Rhode Island and Texas.

- 2.5 3.5 unweighted GPA or GED
- Pell eligible and/or demonstrate financial need
- Attend an in-state college or university



Apply by January 30, 2025 Learn more at UNCF.org/fidelityscholars



Scholarship Opportunities for Guilford County Students

Click here to access our online application portal.

The Jason Christopher James Memorial Scholarship applications are due <u>February</u> 7, 2025. One \$7,500 award will be given to a student interested in politics, international relations, traveling, and studying/living abroad.

The Herman and Earline Herbin Scholarship applications are due March 2, 2025.

Two \$1,750 renewable scholarships will be awarded to two Guilford County high school seniors. The scholarship is primarily need based, but academic standing will be a secondary determining factor.

The Thomas and Bettie O'Briant Scholarship applications are due March 2, 2025.

One \$2,500 scholarship will be awarded and is renewable for up to four years. This award is based on need and academic achievement.

The Kay Hagan Memorial Scholarship applications are due <u>February 15, 2025</u>. This scholarship is intended for a female high school senior with a passion for community and civic leadership. The \$1,000 scholarship is renewable for up to 4 years.

The William Bryant Evans and Lucy Teague Evans Memorial Scholarship is intended for students living in the McCleansville area. The \$1,000 renewable award is based on need and academic achievement. Applications are due March 2, 2025.

Please contact Connie Leeper at <u>cleeper@cfgg.org</u> or (336) 790-6613 if you have any questions.

John R. Kernodle, Jr. Memorial Teaching Scholarship 2025

The John R. Kernodle, Jr. Memorial Scholarship was established in 1996 by a group of Guilford County citizens to honor the memory of John R. Kernodle, Jr. The purpose of the fund is to provide **scholarships for future teachers** to fund their undergraduate studies. Scholarships will be awarded on the basis of financial need and merit to graduating seniors of the Guilford County Schools System who are legal residents of North Carolina. Special consideration will be given to students attending North Carolina colleges and universities. Each year, the award will cover (up to a maximum of \$10,000) tuition and fees, oncampus room and meals, and books and supplies. This scholarship is renewable contingent on the recipient maintaining a 3.0 cumulative GPA each year of college. Following graduation, Kernodle Scholars will be required to serve for a minimum of three years following graduation as a full-time teacher in grades K-12 in North Carolina public schools, with a strong preference for service in Guilford County.

Applicants must meet the following criteria to be eligible for the scholarship:

- · A commitment to the field of public education
- Breadth of interests
- · Potential for success at the college level
- · A commitment to community service
- · Concern for others
- Extracurricular involvement
- · Financial need will be considered, but is not a mandatory factor

Kernodle Scholars must:

- Be enrolled in a college or university as a full-time student and pursue studies leading to licensure at graduation to teach in North Carolina public schools.
- Maintain a 3.0 GPA throughout college. If a recipient fails to do so, he/she will be required to repay all funds paid to date that were received from the John R. Kernodle, Jr. Scholarship Fund.
- Achieve a degree for employment as a teacher in grades K-12 or the recipient will be required to repay all funds received from the John R. Kernodle, Jr. Scholarship Fund.
- Meet the three-year teaching commitment, or the recipient will be required to repay all funds received from the John R. Kernodle, Jr. Scholarship Fund.

Click here to access our online application portal.

Questions? Contact Connie Leeper at cleeperacfgg.org or 336.790-6613.



The Elks National Foundation awards \$2.52 million in college scholarships to a total of 500 high school seniors nationwide through its Most Valuable Student contest.

ELIGIBILITY

High School Senior and United States Citizen

JUDGING CRITERIA









500 FOUR-YEAR AWARDS*

- ▶ 480 scholarships worth \$4,000
- ▶ 20 scholarships worth \$30,000

*Awards paid over four years

APPLICATIONS

Available online starting August 1, 2024 at enf.elks.org/MVS

DEADLINE

On or before November 12, 2024 Counselor Report due November 19, 2024

Elks National Foundation, Inc. 2750 N. Lakeview Avenue | Chicago, IL 60614 elks.org/scholars | scholarshipseelks.org

SCHOLARSHIPS FOR ELKS FAMILIES

LEGACY AWARDS

The Elks National Foundation awards \$1.4 million in college scholarships worth \$4,000 each to a total of 350 children and grandchildren of Elks members.

ELIGIBILITY

College-bound high school seniors who are the children or grandchildren of dues-paying Elks are encouraged to apply. Visit enf.elks.org/leg for full eligibility details.

JUDGING CRITERIA

Applications are evaluated based on their commitment to the core values of the ENF:

- ▶ Knowledge
- ► Community Service
- ► Charity
- ▶ Integrity

SERVICE

Legacy scholars are required to serve with the Elks throughout college to receive their scholarship funds. Visit enf.elks.org/LegVolunteer to learn more.

APPLICATIONS

Available online starting September 1, 2024 at enf.elks.org/leg.

DEADLINE

On or before February 3, 2025.

Elks National Foundation, Inc. 50 N. Lakeview Avenue | Chicago, IL 60614

2025 CONTEST TIMELINE

AUGUST 1, 2024

 Applications Available at enf.elks.org/MVS



NOVEMBER 12, 2024

▶ Application Deadline

DECEMBER 2024 - JANUARY 2025

- ▶ Lodge and District Judging
- State Quarter-Finalists Notified Supplemental Materials Required (Transcript and FAFSA Submission Summary)

FEBRUARY 2025

▶ State Judging

MARCH 2025

- 500 National Semi-Finalists Notified Semi-Finalist Application Opens
- ▶ National Judging
- ▶ Top 20 Finalists Selected to Attend Leadership Weekend and receive \$30,000

MAY 1-4, 2025

▶ Leadership Weekend in Chicago



Applicants will be notified via email at each stage of the competition by the Elks National Foundation. It is the responsibility of the applicant to make vare all eligibility and application requirements are mer.

There is no guarantee of a financial award until applicants reach the national level.



EMERGENCY EDUCATIONAL GRANTS

Undergraduate financial assistance for children of deceased or totally disabled Elks in the form of renewable, one-year grants of up to \$5,000. This grant is for educational assistance only and is not intended to cover the entire cost of a college education.

ELIGIBILITY

- Attend an accredited U.S. college or university as a full-time (12 semester hours) undergraduate student.
- ▶ Demonstrate financial need.
- Be unmarried and under the age of 24 during the academic year for which assistance is desired.

APPLICATIONS

Available by request between May 1 and December 31 of the academic year for which assistance is desired.

To request an application, contact the ENF Scholarship Office at 773/755-4732 or scholarship@clks.org.

LEARN MORE

For more information about Emergency Educational Grants, visit enf.elks.org/EEG.

Ella National Engelsten L

Winter Self Care

- Plan a "snow day" with a friend (stay in for movies & hot cocoa!)
- Get comfy in bed & start a new book
- Have a dance party in your bedroom to all your favorite songs
- Take a hot bath (add a favorite bath bomb!)
- Clean your room (& wash your bed sheets!)
- Workout & sweat a little!
- Go for a walk when it's sunny out
- Find sunshine! Go on a weekend trip somewhere warm
- Try a new class at the gym
- Light your favorite candle & meditate
- Make warm tea & spend some time journaling
- Bake some cookies with a friend
- Call someone you want to catch up with
- Make a relaxing playlist & listen to it while you stretch
- Cuddle with your pet
- Make a list of things you love about yourself
- Listen to a podcast while doing a hydrating face mask
- Make a healthy & delicious meal for yourself
- Cuddle in a blanket & watch old home videos
- Go to bed early & wake up refreshed







Join us for the upcoming JustTEENS Wellness Clinic Group Sessions!

Start Up for the group sessions are open for registration NOW.

We will be offering two groups, ages 13-14 years old and ages 15 – 19 years old.

ALL group sessions will be held on Thursday evenings at 501 E. Green St. High Point, NC 27260 from 4:00 PM-5:00 PM (for ages 13-14 years old) and 5:00 PM to 6:00 PM (for ages 15-19 years old).

Group Sessions will begin on Thursday, November 7, 2024

Topics to be discussed are Self-Esteem and Self-Worth, Stress Management, Depression and Suicide Prevention, and Managing Emotions and Healthy Coping. Life Skills sessions will be held for the High School students.

Come join us and take advantage to interact and discuss topics with others your own age, who may be experiencing some of the same challenges as you. The group sessions are available to create a teen friendly environment that is non-judgmental and confidential.

We will offer light refreshments and door prizes during each session. Bus passes will be available if needed!!

Contact the Guilford County Health Department for more information at (336) 641-7654 and/or rblade@guilfordcountync.gov



Have a wonderful, safe, and restful holiday/winter break!!

See you in 2025!!