

*Welcome to the
Center High School
2016-2017*

ACADEMIC
EXCELLENCE
BANQUET

*Awards & Dinner
April 4, 2017
6:00 p.m.*

Center School District would like to thank

BLUE CROSS BLUE SHIELD
HEALTHCARE OF KANSAS CITY

*for generously sponsoring this event, including the dinner following
the awards presentation.*

Schedule of Events

PRINCIPAL'S INTRODUCTION

Mrs. Sharon Ahuna, Principal

INTRODUCTION OF GUEST SPEAKER

Mrs. Kathy Chirpich

GUEST SPEAKER

Dr. Shatonda S. Jones, Ph.D., CCC-SLP,
Asst Professor of Communication Sciences and Disorders,
Rockhurst University and 1999 Center Graduate

FRESHMEN SCHOLARS

Mrs. Sharon Ahuna, Principal

SOPHOMORE SCHOLARS

Mrs. Krista McGee, Assistant Principal

JUNIOR SCHOLARS

Mr. Troy Butler, Assistant Principal

SENIOR SCHOLARS

Mr. Jonathan Dandurand, Teacher

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

Mr. Joe Nastasi, Board of Education President

DINNER CATERED BY BRANCATO'S CATERING

Proprietor: Mario Brancato, Center High School Class of 1976

FRESHMAN

Sarah Asher
Analynn Bullock
Gabriel Calvin
David Clarkson
Kimberly Cook
Joseph Ezeugo
Holly Gerry
Alex Gomez-Gonzales
Reina Gray
Xander Hacking
Molly Hake
LeAsia Harrell
ShaRiya Hendrix
Ariana Hernandez
Brock Howerton
Jasmine Maqsood
Ashly Mota-Perez
Zane Parker
David Rodriguez
Casey Rose
Siraj Shah
Azandrea Wilson-Hancock

SOPHOMORES

Bailey Calvin
Jaevyn Carson
Rayanna Dial
Gracious Ford Brownlee
Jordan Glover
NaAliah Griffith
Lashawn Handson
Jillian Kramschuster
Christian McDonald
Elasah Quinn
Trevor Rey
Dereck Richardson
Christian Ricketts
Ethan Robertson
Savannah Simpson
Kathryn Tanner
Audrey Tsafack
Deontre Winston

JUNIORS

Shelby Bass
Cierra Britt
Justin Clubine
Trezmond Jackson
Julian Kiwinda
Duncan MacDonald
Bethany Miller

Ciante Miller
Abbie Nastasi
Sierra Reed
Terrannie Scott
Alexis Simpson
Joelleanne Tejada
Mia Washington



JESSICA CRUZ-BELLO

Jessica Cruz Bello has strengthened the Center community with her academic excellence since kindergarten. During her time with us, she has lettered in academics multiple years, earned college credit through UMKC, and completed certification as a Nursing Assistant through the Health Science Accelerated Academy. She will continue her education this fall at Johnson County Community College where she will study dental hygiene.



JOSEFINA ESPARZA

Josefina Esparza has been accepted to both Metropolitan Community College and Doane University in Nebraska. The latter of which has awarded her their Presidential Scholarship, a \$15,000 renewable recognition of Josefina's academic record. In the coming months, Josefina will stay close to home and pursue a degree in English. She will do so already having completed a certificate in Digital Media at Summit Technology Academy and 9 hours of college credit through Rockhurst and UMKC. She has been in the top 10% of her class all 4 years at CHS, served as captain of the Tennis team, and has maintained membership in our chapters of the National Honor Society and Key Club.





JACQUELINE GOLDSMITH- BUFFINGTON

Jacqueline Goldsmith Buffington will become a Tiger next year, but they were not the only ones vying for her attendance. In addition to Mizzou, Jackie earned acceptance letters from Missouri State University and the University of Kansas which awarded her with the Midwest Student Exchange Scholarship, a renewable scholarship of over \$10,000 per year. She will pursue International Studies at Mizzou where she will continue to build on her accomplishments as a scholar and as a community member. While at Center, she has lettered in academics, earned college credit through Rockhurst University and UMKC, played on the soccer team, and volunteered for multiple community events and organizations.



ELLI JENSEN

Elli Jensen has been accepted to numerous universities across the region and has decided to make Truman State University her home as she studies to become a physician assistant. She is the recipient of the Tru Merit Scholarship and leaves us with a demonstrated history of leadership in academics, extracurricular activities, and service. She has lettered in academics all four years, earned college credit through Rockhurst and UMKC, represented Center at the Missouri Scholars Academy, participated on the academic team, served as captain of both the Volleyball and Soccer teams - leading the prior to both District and Conference recognition, performed as Drum Major of the Band for two years, has been a member of the Student Government Association, and was the National Honor Society Blood Drive co-chair.





SYDNI LAPSLEY

Sydni Lapsley has been accepted into programs in Indiana, Minnesota, Illinois, Iowa, Oklahoma, and of course, Missouri. Collectively, they have offered her grants, scholarships, and incentives of over \$100,000 to complete her bachelor's degree. She has decided on Iowa State University and will double major in Theater Arts and Psychology. She has been in the top 10% of her class each year at CHS, been a proud member of the Mighty Marching Yellowjackets, participated on the Academic Team, and co-chaired the National Honors Society Blood Drive for two years. She has also been highly active in our theater program serving as a member of Players 58 and Cappies. She has had multiple supporting and technical roles in numerous productions, has starred as Red in "Shout! The Musical", Erzulie in "Once on This Island", Mary Girard in "The Insanity of Mary Girard", Sam in "Leap of Faith", and directed the senior one-act "Looks Get in the Way".



ANGEL MAURO

Angel Mauro will attend Rockhurst University in the fall to study Nursing and Health Sciences on a full-tuition Trustees Scholarship worth \$128,000. During his tenure at CHS, he has completed or is currently working on 30 hours of college credits through our UMKC and Rockhurst partnerships. He also plans to receive credit for 5 Advanced Placement classes and is already a Certified Nursing Assistant via the Health Sciences Accelerated Academy. He has been on the soccer team, academic team, and competed in math relays for most of his high school career. While he became a member of the National Honors Society, he has also maintained a part-time job and worked with his father. Angel plans on being the first person in his family to earn a Bachelor's degree.





ASHIONNA MOREHEAD

Ashionna Morehead has been a part of the Center community since the fourth grade and will leave us already having earned her Associate's Degree in Engineering Technology from Metropolitan Community College. She will attend the University of Central Missouri this fall where she will complete her Bachelor's Degree in Design and Drafting. She plans to continue her education by pursuing a Master's in Biomedical Engineering. Ashionna is a member of the National Honor Society, Phi Theta Kappa Honor Society, and has served as a Project Engineer Intern at McCown Gorgon Construction for the past year.



JASMINE NARAIN

Jasmine Naraine may have had her start in Guyana, but she has been a Center kid since the second grade. She has earned a spot in the top 10% of her class for all of her years at CHS and has served as secretary of the Key Club. Both the University of Kansas and Wichita State have accepted Jasmine into their programs. She plans to study civil engineering, but is still deciding which institution to attend.





JESSE NASTASI

Jesse Nastasi is a 13-year Center student and has earned scholarships, grants, and awards totaling \$125,000 from the University of St. Mary, the University of Central Missouri, and Truman State. He has been in the top 5% of his class each year at CHS, is a member of the National Honor Society, has been on the Math Relay Team, and participated on the Academic Team. His commitment to academics has been matched by his involvement in athletics and extracurricular activities. Jesse has been active on the football, baseball, and wrestling teams and is also a proud member of the Mighty Marching Yellowjackets. He has held several leadership positions as an Eagle scout and served as the wrestling team captain for two years.



MCKINZIE PEBLEY-AMERINE



McKinzie Pebley-Amerine will attend Rockhurst University later this year to study nursing. They have offered her over \$80,000 to assist in the completion of a four-year degree. She has already completed 21 hours of college credit. During her 13 years in Center, she has been involved in many facets of the community. She has been on the academic, tennis, and soccer teams, participated as a member of our band, served as an officer for SGA and is the President of our chapter of the National Honor Society.



DAKOTA CHUONG PHI

Dakota Phi will head off to the University of Central Missouri in the fall to pursue a Bachelor of Science in Design and Drafting Technology with 58 credit hours of college coursework complete and a certificate in digital electronics. He has been a part of the Center community since the first grade, but he has spent much of the last year splitting his time between the Metropolitan Community College and DLR Group, a design firm. Dakota has been in the top 10% of his class for the entirety of his high school career and represented Center at Missouri Boys State in 2016.



MARIA RAMOS

Maria Ramos has been accepted to the University of Memphis. However, she has decided to attend the Metropolitan Community College next school year to begin her studies in political science. She represented Center this year at Missouri Youth and Government in Jefferson City and will begin the next step in her education already having earned 12 credit hours toward her future degree. She has been in the top 10% of her class all four years of high school in addition to her participation in many clubs and activities. She has managed athletic teams each year in high school and has been highly active in both theater and debate, taking on a broad array of different roles and responsibilities.





KALE' SEARCY

Kale' Searcy has been accepted to the Universities of Kansas, Iowa, Oklahoma, and Southern Illinois-Carbondale, Kansas State, Truman State, Baylor, and Graceland. She will begin life as a Jayhawk with over 20 credit hours of college coursework completed and plans to double major in Pre-Med and Journalism/Mass Communication. While at CHS, Kale' has led as captain of the dance line and the debate team. She also served as Vice-President of the National Honor Society, served the community by volunteering through the Key Club and Student Government Association. She is both Senior Class President and President of SGA, and was crowned Courtwarming Princess Sophomore year as well as Homecoming Princess Junior Year.



KENYON STRICKLAND

Kenyon Strickland will attend Johnson County Community College next school year and begin his studies in the arts with plans of transferring to Rockhurst. Based on the merit of his academic achievement, they have awarded him a \$13,000 yearly renewable scholarship. Along with volunteer work with his church, Kenyon has been a member of our band and active in theater productions throughout his high school years.





JOHNNY TANCREDI

Johnny Tancredi is a 13 year Center student and has been in the top 10% of his class for the entirety of his time at CHS. He will begin work on his future degree in statistics or data analytics with over 18 credit hours of completed college credit and is still in the process of deciding which institution will best match his goals. Johnny represented Center at the Missouri Scholars Academy in 2015 and at Boys State in 2016. He is proud Eagle Scout and is also active in many extracurricular activities. He is a member of the National Honor Society, Student Government Association, the Academic Team, has lettered three years in both cross country and baseball, and is currently Drum Major of our band.



TYTIANA TAYLOR

Tytiana Taylor has been accepted to Missouri State, Indiana State, Graceland, Oklahoma State, Oklahoma City University, Luther College, Newman University, Wichita State, and Baker. She is still in the process of deciding which institution best suits her future plans to study pre-med or biology. Tytiana has been on the swim and soccer team all four years at CHS is a member of the National Honor Society. She has been in the top 10% of her class since freshman year, will begin her collegiate career with 18 hours of completed college credit, and designation as a certified nursing assistant.





LILOI KEVA TSAFACK

Keva Tsafack, native of Cameroon, became a Yellow-jacket her freshman year. That she has distinguished herself academically while learning a second language is a credit to her intellect, work ethic, fortitude, and family. She is a member of the National Honor Society and will attend the Metropolitan Community College in the fall to begin her studies in pharmacology.

