



THE CROSS KEYS CONNECTION PARENT NEWSLETTER

Volume 3, Issue 2

Cross Keys High School 1626 N. Druid Hills Rd. NE Atlanta, GA 30319 December 2013



Winter Break is December 23rd through January 6th.
School Reopens for Students January 7th.



2014 STAR STUDENT and STAR TEACHER NAMED FOR CROSS KEYS

The 2014 STAR Teacher and STAR Student have been named for Cross Keys,

The STAR Student is senior Kui Sit.

Sit has chosen English teacher and Gifted Liaison Monique Whorton as his STAR Teacher.

The STAR (Student Teacher Achievement Recognition) program takes place every year in Georgia at multiple levels—school, region, and state.

As a winner at the school level, Sit has been recognized as the Cross Keys senior with the highest score on the SAT this year.

STAR students, like Sit, also need to be in the top ten percent of their class with one of the highest GPAs.

The STAR student may choose a teacher who he feels has influenced him and made a difference in his life in some way.

Sit chose Whorton because he said, "She played an instrumental role in my college process. She would always put forth her best effort to ensure that my peers and I would succeed after high school. Mrs. Whorton's wise words have inspired me to take advantage of the opportunities that I got."

Whorton is not a stranger to this honor. She has been chosen previously as STAR Teacher in 1994, 2004, 2007, 2009 and 2011.

Whorton admitted students such as Kui do not enter a teacher's classroom everyday.



Kui Sit
Class of 2014
STAR Student



Monique Whorton
Class of 2014
STAR Teacher

"Kui represents all that is positive about this generation. He is hard-working and compassionate. Kui demonstrates an amazing flexibility when faced with adversity. He quietly accomplishes his goals and does not let minor obstacles interfere with his focus," said Whorton.

From here, Sit and Whorton will be honored at the district level with a luncheon and with a dinner at the state level next semester.

Students Selected for Follow-Up Governor's Honors Interviews

By John Travis

Congratulations to juniors Bradley Mensah and Pamela Tellez-Coria for being selected to go on to follow-up interviews at the state level in January for Governor's Honor's Program.

This is one of the most respected and sought-after academic honors that the state of Georgia offers, and it is prestigious to even be invited to the call-backs.

Mensah and Tellez-Coria were in competition with hundreds of DeKalb's best and brightest for this honor.

Mensah was nominated in the area of Social Studies and Tellez-Coria was nominated in the area of Visual Art.

Last year, Cross Keys had one student make it all the way to the final level, which earned Cristian Padilla an opportunity to go to the GHP summer program in the area of Social Studies.

Just one more way that Cross Keys shows that it is capable of competing at the highest levels in academics!



**The State of Georgia Department of
Education selects Cross Keys as a
2013 High Progress Reward School!**

See the link below for more information from the State of Georgia
Department of Education.

Press Release - <http://www.gadoe.org/External-Affairs-and-Policy/communications/Pages/PressReleaseDetails.aspx?PressView=default&pid=142>



**Congratulations to
Mrs. Diane Gluck,
French Teacher on
her retirement after
30 years in the
classroom!**



**Mrs. Gluck is also a
1979 graduate of Cross Keys High
School. She will continue to work
with the Athena's Warehouse
Program at Cross Keys.**

SKILLSUSA MEMBERS TEACH HEALTHY FOOD CHOICES *By Glenda Bonds*

Cross Keys High School SkillsUSA members are working hard to make sure that Woodward Elementary School students are choosing a balanced diet. Members, Brenda Ortiz and Ahide Rostro are encouraging children and families to eat healthy and be active.



The goal is to make elementary students aware of food selections from the four food groups. Healthy kids are more likely to become healthy adults.

SkillsUSA members want to be role models for kids and help them develop skills to make safe and healthy choices every day.

At the elementary school, members taught fourth graders about the four food groups. The lesson begins by giving them a pre-test over the food groups.

Melvin Orteiz and Raul Mijangos then led them in different types of exercises that they could do to remain healthy.

At the end of the lesson to determine if they had gained any knowledge, members gave them a post-test.

SkillsUSA member Katy Avila stated, "We were surprised that they learned so much!"

Semester 2 Progress Report Dates

February 13, 2014

March 19, 2014

April 28, 2014

Semester 2 Parent Conference Nights

February 13, 2014

April 28, 2014



Testing Calendar for January, February, and March 2014

Jan 21-Mar 4, 2014: ACCESS for English
Language Learners (ELLs) Grades 9-12

Feb. 10-14, 2014: End of Course Test (EOCT)
RETEST Grades 9-12

Feb. 26-27, 2014: Georgia High School Writing
Test (GHSWT) RETEST Grade 11

Mar 17-21, 2014: Georgia High School Graduation
Test (GHS GT) Main Administration Grades 11-12

May 5-12, 2014: End of Course Test (EOCT)
Spring Administration Grades 9-12

May 5-16, 2014: Advanced Placement (AP)
Exams AP Students