

CARTER CORPS NEWS



A Newsletter for Students, Parents, and Community Members Who Support Carter High School

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Meet Ms. West, CHS's New School Nurse

Carter High School has a new school nurse named Ms. Kara West. The previous nurse, Ms. Shelton, has left for maternity leave just before Fall Break, so Ms. West is filling in for her until January. Ms. West was initially going to start after Fall Break, but according to her, "Ms. Shelton was put on bed rest prior to her due date, so I started early." Ms. West has worked at 10 different schools before working at Carter. She also works at ETSU teaching mental health clinics to college nursing students. Her free time recently has been occupied by reading the book *The Lovely*

Bones. She also has 2 cats: Wiz and Olive. Ms. West likes Carter so far because it is an opportunity to be at one school instead of how she used to bounce around schools. She said that it is harder being a nurse during the pandemic because of the stress of making sure that students and faculty will be safe. She said it has been overwhelming at first, especially because there is a constant worry that the virus will get worse and shut down the school, but since forming a routine it's been better.

Right: Ms. Kara West is CHS's new nurse.



Opinion: Bring Back Drivers Ed

By: Kaetlyn Reynolds

If you have a very strong passion for driving, whether it be for the feeling you get behind the wheel, how you feel when you're cruising down the interstate, or even just driving in general, then you should be in favor of drivers ed. Drivers ed should be put back into the school's curriculum. Drivers ed was taken out of most of the schools in the Knox County district simply because there wasn't enough funding for it. Because of this action, the families who are struggling financially but want their kid(s) to learn to drive can't afford the drivers school. The drivers school is a one-week class in the summer that costs \$200 to \$800 depending on

what sessions you want to take. In these sessions, you are taught driving etiquette. If there were a drivers ed class in schools, those low income families wouldn't have to spend their money on the drivers school; they could put their kid(s) in the class in the schools. Drivers ed would be incredibly beneficial for students. Some students don't necessarily have a good grasp of understanding some things, especially about driving, and because of this, they may tend to feel more stressed about even attempting to get behind the wheel. Because of this these students will more than likely freak out over things the experienced drivers don't really think twice about but are

more of a problem for these students who just started driving. Some may have the opinion that putting drivers ed back in schools isn't a good idea because of the reason it got taken out in the first place: the school just doesn't have the money. For drivers ed, the school would have to pay a teacher to teach it, insurance for the possible accidents, and a car to test drive. This would be difficult, but if student driving ability really is a priority, then we should be able to make it happen. There are negative and positive outcomes to putting drivers-ed back in schools, but at the end of the day you just have to go with the one that does the most good and benefits all.

Educating, Motivating, and Producing Responsible Citizens of Tomorrow

Mrs. Fortenberry, CHS Alumna, Reflects on What It's Like to Teach at Her Old High School

Mrs. Fortenberry, a math teacher at Carter High School, was once a student at our school just like the ones we have now. After graduating in 2006, going to college, and getting a teaching degree, she came back and taught the students here at CHS, her old high school. For some it might feel strange for a person who was once the student to become the teacher, but for Mrs. Fortenberry, it's been an overall positive experience. She explains, "It's kind of different seeing your teachers as your coworkers, but it's also really cool because it's the teachers you've had." Mrs. Fortenberry further commented that her generation of students looked a little different from the current generation: "When

I graduated, MySpace had just gotten big. Not everyone had phones, we weren't getting likes on photos, we weren't constantly communicating with people... You would have to call someone on a phone to talk to them. The main difference is social media." MySpace was one of the first American social media platforms. Back then you couldn't do nearly as much on it as you can now on modern platforms; it was more of a meet-and-greet chat room network with a few ways to post. According to Mrs. Fortenberry, it was much less advanced than modern social media. Mrs. Fortenberry also has many good (and funny) memories from her time at Carter. When asked to share one, she said, "So, I was in the marching band, and we

were eating lunch in the cafeteria. I slid on some water on the floor, and dumped all of my red powerade on the directors' papers." The directors weren't mad, she added later, claiming that they were pretty calm about it. A few teachers who taught Mrs. Fortenberry are still here at CHS. Mr. Cunningham, a government and civics teacher, is one of them. He said, "She was a good student. She was busy all the time, she always had things to do. She was very much involved." Mrs. Fortenberry isn't alone; he also taught many other staff members in Carter, including Mr. Burkhart, Mr. McGee, Mrs. Flatford, Mr. Gentry, and Ms. Hunter Chollman.

Mrs. Fortenberry as a student



Mrs. Fortenberry as a teacher



This week is Spirit Week! Wizard of Oz Style!

Monday - *Munchkin Monday* - Dress like a kid or Munchkin

Tuesday - *Twisted Tuesday* - Farmer vs Emerald City (i.e. country vs prep)

Wednesday - *If I Only Had a Brain* - Dress as the career of your choice

Thursday - *Oz (Buzz) the Great and Powerful* - Dress in green and bling

Friday - *Lions, tigers, and bears, oh my!* - Dress as an animal/in animal print

Carter Corps News is a product of the CHS Journalism class.

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