NOW ACCEPTING APPLICATIONS FOR FALL 2022

The Catamount School, a school for 6th, 7th, and 8th graders in Jackson County, is accepting 6th, 7th, and 8th grade registrations for the 2022-23 school year. Operated by Western Carolina University’s College of Education and Allied Professions in cooperation with Jackson County Public Schools, the Catamount School is designed to explore innovative teaching approaches and applied learning opportunities in order to help every student discover his or her full academic potential. The school is a public lab school operated on the campus of Smoky Mountain High School and is free to accepted students and their families.

OPEN HOUSE

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<th>April 28th and May 19th</th>
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<tr>
<td>The Catamount School, Smoky Mountain High School</td>
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TO LEARN MORE AND APPLY, GO TO CATAMOUNTSCHOOL.WCU.EDU

Apply today for August enrollment.
**Who Is Eligible**

All rising 6th, 7th and 8th grade students who reside in Jackson County are eligible to apply and attend The Catamount School. State guidelines provide admissions preference to students currently attending a school defined by G.S. 115C-105.37 as a low-performing school. Priority enrollment is given to students who did not meet expected grade level growth in the prior year.

**Teaching & Learning Approach**

Each area of the curriculum emphasizes a problem centered approach, including the use of project based learning, to develop critical reasoning abilities that promote a deeper understanding of the subject material.

**Enrichment Opportunities**

Through campus resources at Western Carolina, we provide physical and cultural enrichment to encourage students to learn more about themselves and others and discover talents. Our students have Health/Physical Education on a daily basis with WCU interns and staff.

**Standards-Based Grading**

We believe in focusing on the actual content taught and not a letter grade. Students are given a 1-4 on standards taught in the classroom and have opportunities to revisit standards that they have yet to master. This way, students, parents, and teachers know which particular areas are needed to focus on rather than just that a student is getting an "A" or a "C" in a subject.

**WCU Interns & Students**

Staff and interns collaborate to create small groups and one-on-one instruction and assistance. Easy access to WCU's Education students mean our students get a variety of approaches and perspectives. It also helps us prepare the teachers of tomorrow as they work alongside our full time staff.

**Whole Child Focus**

At the Catamount School, teachers utilize a comprehensive teaching approach to teach the whole child. Each area of the curriculum emphasizes a problem centered approach, including the use of project based learning, to develop critical reasoning abilities that promote a deeper understanding of the subject material. Additionally, curriculum includes an advisory program to empower students to be resilient, self regulated, and mindful.