



THE CYBERSENTINEL

The official newsletter of CyberPatriot—AFA's National Youth Cyber Education Program

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Commissioner's Cache | from Acting Commissioner Rachel Zimmerman

Another school year has begun, which means another season of the National Youth Cyber Defense Competition is upon us. Registration for the CyberPatriot XIV season is open through October 5. If you haven't already, be sure to register your team for this year's competition!



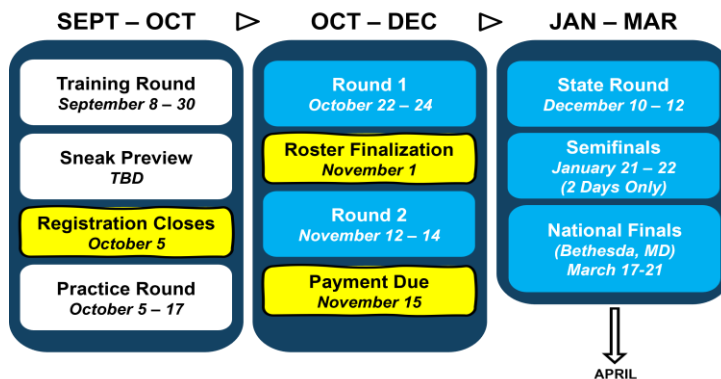
Lots of important dates and deadlines are outlined in the schedule below. The Delta variant is causing a lot of uncertainty about what this school year will look like, so CyberPatriot has elected to leave in place a lot of the modifications introduced in last year's competition. This will help ensure that teams can still compete in CyberPatriot even as local guidelines continue to change.

We will be releasing later this month a media kit that will help team's announce their registration and participation for the CP-XIV season. We can't wait to see all the posts on team's competing this season.

And as always, thank you to Presenting Sponsor the Northrop Gummman Foundation, and all of our other dedicated sponsors for continuing to make CyberPatriot possible.

CyberPatriot XIV: Competition Schedule and Information

Just one month remains for teams to register for CyberPatriot XIV. If you have any questions on the registration process, please contact info@uscyberpatriot.org.



CyberPatriot Engagement Guides

Are you looking for a way to promote or become involved with CyberPatriot, but not sure where to get started? Easily support the program with the help of our newly released **Engagement Guides**! These guides are specifically designed to assist you in identifying and recruiting schools and organizations to the various CyberPatriot programs. Check them out in the links below:

- [Engagement Guide: National Youth Cyber Defense Competition](#)
- [Engagement Guide: AFA CyberCamps](#)
- [Engagement Guide: Elementary School Initiatives](#)
- [Engagement Guide: CyberGenerations](#)
- [Engagement Guide: Tech Caregiver Program](#)

International Spin-offs | CyberTitan

A message from our friends in Canada:

“We at CyberTitan are busy gearing up for the 2021-2022 season and we want to take a moment to congratulate all the teams currently signed up and wish you good luck! We encourage our teams (Coaches, Competitors and Mentors) to reach out and introduce others to this a great competition. The team at CyberTitan is available to answer any questions.

Cybersecurity is very important in today’s digital based economy. This has been very evident during this last pandemic year. By embarking on this journey, students take the first step in learning valuable skills that will assist in them in the quest to make a difference in this world.

CyberTitan is Patriot’s Canadian affiliate and is run through the Information and Communications Technology Council (ICTC). ICTC is a national center of expertise for the digital economy with the aim of advancing Canada’s digital advantage in a global context. Through its trusted research, evidence-based policy advice, and innovative capacity building solutions ICTC provides end-to-end solutions to businesses across Canada to leverage emerging digital opportunities.

To learn more about the CyberTitan competition please visit www.cybertitan.ca. If you have any questions for our team do not hesitate to reach out at cybertitan@ictc-ctic.ca. REMINDER: Registration closes October 5th, 2021



Tech Caregivers (NEW Program!)



The launch of Tech Caregivers was a huge success with engagements on the first day. In the first month of the program, there are already over 200 certified Tech Caregivers. To achieve certification, a participant must go through the Tech Caregiver training course and pass the exam with a 80% grade or better. The average grade for those who have completed the Tech Caregiver course and certification exam is 88.5%. On completion of the certification with a passing grade, the participant will receive a printable customized certificate with their name. Those who are certified with CyberPatriot have the opportunity to conduct virtual or in-person workshops in their community utilizing the CyberGenerations content.

[CLICK HERE TO START YOUR TECH CAREGIVER JOURNEY](#)

A Word From the Tech Team

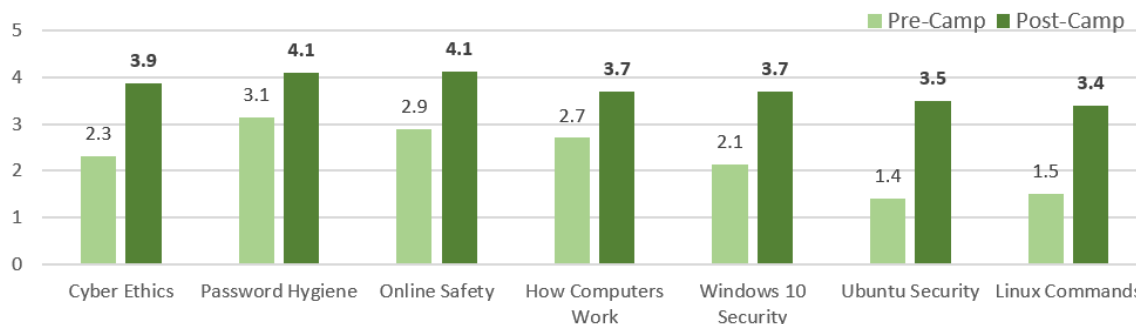
Windows 11 Update

After six years of long Patch Tuesday updates, Microsoft has officially announced the release of the all-new Windows 11 operating system expected to be released in late-2021. Upon first glance, the software upgrade appears to prioritize user customization with a minimalistic design. In addition to a sleeker task bar and start menu, the Windows 7-and-Windows 10-like desktop is expected to provide snap layouts and modernized applications for multi-tasking and increased productivity. For those seeking a sneak peak, the beta version may be installed by anyone currently a part of or willing to sign up for the Windows Insider Program.

AFA CyberCamps in Review

As the country is rebounding from a global pandemic, education was trying to find the balance between in-person and virtual experiences. During the summer of 2021, schools were wrapping up a hybrid or virtual semester with uncertainty on what summer plans could commence. Thankfully, CyberPatriot was able to offer virtual, hybrid, and in-person AFA CyberCamps.

Due to the hard work of the camp hosts, CyberPatriot is proud to announce a total of 322 AFA CyberCamps registered for the summer of 2021. Of the 322 camps, 225 of them were Standard Camps and 97 were Advanced Camps. Approximately 25% of total camps were conducted virtually. Between the Standard and Advanced Camps, an estimated 8,000 students attended the AFA CyberCamps.



LOL! It's the Funny Section!



Do you have any funny cyber jokes? Let's hear it! Send your joke to Helene Daage at h.daage@uscyberpatriot.org with the subject line, Newsletter Joke Submission. We'll start you off with this example joke. ROFL!

Source: jokejive.com

Executables

What did Sarah find on the computer screen when Andy yelled NOOOOO?
(answer will be posted in next month's newsletter)

Sarah the Cyber Hero Puzzle

A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H	I	J	K	L	M
5				19				26				

N	O	P	Q	R	S	T	U	V	W	X	Y	Z
	22						15					

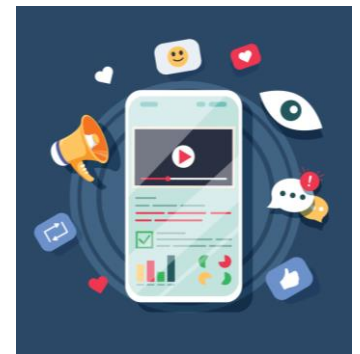
20	13	26	9	16	14			13	19	23
4	11	15	24	24				5	7	23
20	22	7	19	4						

Created by Cryptogram Puzzle Generator on www.superteacherworksheets.com

CyberPatriot Logo and Branding

Want to promote your team's participation in CP-XIV? CyberPatriot will be releasing a media packet with logos and templates for your organization's social media accounts, websites, and newsletters. The downloadable media will include social media post templates, logos, and boilerplate communications to help share your CyberPatriot involvement.

Coaches should be on the look out for an email this month with the CyberPatriot Logo and Branding download.



CyberPatriot Participant Spotlights



An Interview with Tina Boyle Whyte | Project Director, JROTC-CS CSforALL

Q: You have over 30 years experience with the United States Air Force, what was the greatest takeaway or lesson learned during your time in service?

A: I am honored to have served for 30 years. I learned about leadership. One significant integration in my life is the Air Force Core Values. Integrity First, Service Before Self and Excellence in all that I do. I live by those and have transitioned those values over to the Computer Science. I believe that it is important to serve others. To whom much has been given, much is required. I am very grateful for those experiences and values learned from my 30 years of serving my country.

Q: In addition to your years in service, and thank you for your service, you have 20 years experience in technology and 5 years in teaching computer science. What geared your career path towards computer science and cybersecurity?

A: My initial degree was in Criminology and Law Studies. I worked in the field for 5 yrs. I was able to use those skills in the military specifically after 9/11. I served on Active Duty at General Mitchell Air Reserve Station. My primary role was to provide care for the families of the deployed members so they could have peace of mind while they were serving. After I served my time, I had transitioned into education. I became a teacher right before I was activated, so I went back to teaching. My education career led me to many places in which I ultimately returned to the classroom in 2014. It was at West Allis Central High School that I had the opportunity as a business teacher to implement a computer science curriculum in my classroom. After 2016, when President Obama declared in a State of the Union Address "Computer Science for ALL". I was recruited to work with teachers and many other opportunities. I was introduced to CSforALL in 2019. As a result of my combined experience, a urban teacher of color, military veteran, and a computer science teacher, it was a total combined opportunity to lead the Junior Reserve Officer Training Corp - Computer Science (JROTC-CS) demonstration project. Hence, it led me into the combined field of computer science and cybersecurity.

Q: Did you always know you wanted to work with computers?

A: I did not see myself in this field 20 years ago. It all happened as I took on my last role as a classroom teacher. Funny, I remember teaching HTML and keyboard on typewriters 20 years ago. In 2014, I found myself teaching as a business teacher Video Game Design, Web Design, Graphic Design and Computer Science courses. I guess, fate would have it.

Q: This year, you are trying to grow the CyberPatriot program alongside CSforALL. What goals or avenues are you looking into?

A: Yes. My role is to support schools to create a pathway for cadets in Cyber Security and increase the pipeline into industry, military and college. I want the cadets to have a wide variety of experience to enter the field and earn a livable wage. As a first-generation student of color, I realize how important opportunities are to be successful. As a member of the initial JROTC-CS Demonstration Cohort, schools are receiving that support for success. I implemented the first camp; I will ensure that each of the 30 schools we support has one funded team as well a team with females and Title 1 students.

Q: What advice would you have for other organizations that are looking to grow their CyberPatriot presence?

A: As an organization, I believe that CyberPatriot exposes students to opportunities to be exposed by hands-on experience and learning. This is a great opportunity. My 2021 camp trainer David Storm at Utah Military Academy shared how his students have started as freshman and continued through senior year and have successfully secured opportunities in the field of cyber security. It is our responsibility to develop a talent pipeline through pathways such as CyberPatriot. Honestly, it is a no brainer. I believe organizations can provide a satellite experience as a host and allow schools to participate during the week of your hosting. I believe the next follow up should be to support setting up competition teams for the experience. Excellence will come in the continuous execution of camps and teams.

Martin H. Harris AFA Chapter visits AFA CyberCamp

Sharon Branch of the Martin H. Harris AFA Chapter (Orlando, FL) paid a visit to the Navy League CyberCamp to cheer the campers on and pass out CyberPatriot swag. Here's what she had to say:



Q: Can you tell us a little bit about your AFA Chapter?

A: The Martin H. Harris Chapter in Orlando, Florida, is named after "Marty" Harris, former AFA Chairman of the Board. We have members from 5 central Florida counties and support University of Central Florida Air Force Junior Reserve Officer Training Corps (AFROTC), 15 Air Force Junior ROTC units, Civil Air Patrol, and transportation for veterans. We annually select 5 teachers of the year and promote Aerospace Education programs including CyberPatriot and StellarXplorers.

Q: In your efforts to promote STEM, how has CyberPatriot helped this endeavor?

A: CyberPatriot is very popular with students from the standpoint that they can learn about how to defend networks in this time when we depend so heavily on technology. There are great opportunities for those who know how to shore up

our defenses. In addition, the competition is challenging and fun and gives students a chance to display teamwork and leadership.

Q: *What feedback did you receive from the campers after visiting their AFA CyberCamp?*

A: The participants were interested in learning about AFA and CyberPatriot; they had not been exposed to the genesis for CyberCamps. They also showed interest in the Tech Caregiver program.

Q: *What advice would you give to those who are interesting in participating with CyberPatriot?*

A: I explained to the students that they should speak with potential coaches/mentors and show them the uscyberpatriot.org web page which has everything one needs to know about the competition and how to get started. Then, once their team is formed; be persistent, learn the tools needed to be successful, and work together as a team. The more one practices, the more successful they can be.

CyberPatriot competitor hired by Boeing straight out of high school



Allen Stubblefield, the Cyber Defense Teacher and CyberPatriot Coach from Troy High School said, "One of our grads from the class of '21 was hired 'based on what he learned at Troy for a cybersecurity job (there is a pay raise after they get their bachelor's degree)."

Boeing called the student in February for an interview. The student had not applied to Boeing.

Boeing wasn't quite sure how to hire a 17 year old for an NDA (non-disclosure agreement) security clearance position, but the student turned 18 over the summer, and so the problem was solved.

CyberPatriot & The News

[CHRIS SORENSEN: TECH TIME – Program teaches students about Cybersecurity](#) | By Trenton Trib

CyberPatriot is an afterschool program for high school and middle school students that offers an introduction to the knowledge, skills, and abilities needed to excel in the field of cybersecurity. The kids typically meet one or two days a week to learn concepts and tasks from volunteer industry professionals, and then get to practice with a collection of hands-on activities.

[Michigan Cyber Patriot Update With Tamara Shoemaker](#) | By Mike Brennan

ANN ARBOR – The Michigan Cyber Patriot program works with middle and high school students to introduce them to careers as cyber professionals. The virtual program is lead by Tamara Shoemaker, who for 17 years has worked at the University of Detroit-Mercy in its cybersecurity program. Tamara announced on the show she is taking a new position as cyber training coordinator for Auto-ISAC to train auto engineers to keep the bad guys out of connected vehicles, a new position that continues to emphasize how important cyber awareness has become in our connected world.

[Cape Central, Southeast Missouri State partner for cybersecurity camp](#) | By Sarah Yenesel

Southeast Missouri State University and Cape Girardeau Central High School are partnering to conduct a cybersecurity camp this week to teach the basics of the subject and recruit potential talent for the university's program.

The weeklong class, which ends today, has 14 high school students, including those from the Air Force Junior Reserve Officers' Training Corps (AFJROTC).