

STARR'S MILL HIGH SCHOOL

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“The computer programmer is a creator of universes for which he alone is the lawgiver.”

— **Joseph Weizenbaum**

AP Computer Science A Students,

Congratulations on being accepted into AP Computer Science A.

You will have two resources to use throughout the class. One is a Java Software Solutions Book. It can be used to learn programming should you not know much about it. The other is the Barron's Study Guide for AP Computer Science A. It is an invaluable resource as you prepare for the AP Exam. However, to use it you really need to know how to program already.

Another resource you will use periodically is CodeHS. This is an online learning aid that Fayette County has purchased for you to use. You will use it toward the end of the class to explain how different Object Oriented Programs interface with each other. You also are using it to begin the class as it is going to be your summer work. To access CodeHS you need to sign up at <https://codehs.com/go/52B49> (note - 52B49 is the class code for the class). This will allow you to register for SMHS's section of the APCSA Nitro JAVA course. You need to complete through Lesson 1.8, Super Karel, particularly if you have no previous programming experience. You will not need to go beyond that as all information after Lesson 1.8 will be covered thoroughly in class.

Each Lesson is between 20 and 40 minutes in length, depending upon your programming background, so it is suggested you not wait until the last nanosecond to complete all of the assignments. All of the Lessons should be completed before the first day of school. This will allow the class to begin, on day one, talking about programming concepts and working through the actual AP class material. This worked well last year as the class would have completed the material with enough time to adequately review for the exam had there not been “extenuating circumstances”.

Enjoy programming!!!!

“Any fool can write code that a computer can understand. Good programmers write code that humans can understand.”

— **Martin Fowler**

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