

Good Afternoon, this is Steve Mares, principal of Athens Drive Magnet High School with announcements and summer updates for our school families.

I would like to give a warm WELCOME TO THE ATHENS DRIVE HIGH SCHOOL FAMILY to our newest Jaguars! I would also like to give a shout-out to our rising Seniors who are moving into their final year of high school! I look forward to serving all of you this year and I am also looking forward to a fantastic school year!

Throughout the school year, I will be providing weekly announcements on Friday afternoons through text and email messages to our school family members, posting the message on our website under the Principal Message icon, and the PTSA will email a copy of the message out to their email groups. This is just a special summer message to keep you informed about the coming start of the 2017 – 2018 school year.

Please understand that we are continuing to finalize our Master Schedule for the 2017 – 2018 school year. As students enroll, we work to ensure students are on course for Graduation, and as we review academic data from last year, schedules continue to change and are updated. We are hoping to finalize student schedules by Monday, August 14th and open them for students to see in PowerSchool. We will communicate more definitive information as this date gets closer.

Seniors in the Class of 2018, if you are interested in Graduating mid-year or would like to apply for an early release or late arrival to school, forms are available on the Athens Drive Magnet High School website or you can pick up forms in the Student Services office to request these options. Please complete and return the appropriate forms to Student Services by Friday, August 4th.

Our annual Freshman Camp for all new Freshmen will take place on August 17th. Sign-in and Registration will take place from 7:30 a.m. until 8:00 a.m. and activities for students will last from 8:00 a.m. until 12:30 p.m. Parents and guardians are invited to stay and attend the Freshman parent meeting that will take place in our Auditorium from 8:00 a.m. until 9:15 a.m. Students and parents will then have the opportunity to walk their schedule to visit teachers and classrooms from 12:30 p.m. until 1:00 p.m. I would like to encourage parents and guardians to pre- register your students by visiting the Athens Drive High School website and click on the Freshman Camp banner. We look forward to a fun and informative day welcoming the newest members of our Jaguar family to The Drive.

Registration for a Parking Pass for on-campus parking for the 2017 - 2018 school year will run from July 18th through August 8th. Payment for a Parking Space must be completed through our on-line payment system. If you absolutely cannot complete payment through our on-line payment system, you can bring payment to the school in person. Your completed Parking Pass Application (it must be notarized) along with your printed receipt should be immediately either brought into school or mailed to Athens Drive High School, Attention: Parking. Please read the application closely to make sure that you have completed all the required parts—for complete instructions see the website for details. Students whose application and payment are received by August 8th can pick up their Parking Permit on Monday, August 14th and Wednesday, August 16th, from 8:00 a.m. until 3:00 p.m.

Students are now able to apply for a 2017 – 2018 Off-Campus Lunch Pass. Payment for an Off-Campus Lunch Pass must be completed through our on-line payment system. If you absolutely cannot complete payment through our on-line payment system, you can bring payment to the school in person. Your completed Off-Campus Lunch Pass Application (it must be notarized) along with your printed receipt should be immediately either brought into school or mailed to Athens Drive High School, Attention: Off-Campus Lunch Permit. Students whose application and payment are received by August 8th can pick up their Off-Campus Lunch Pass on Monday, August 14th and Wednesday, August 16th between the hours of 8:00 a.m. and 3:00 p.m.

Please remember that if your student is interested in trying out for a Fall Athletic Team, information can be found on the Athens Drive Athletic website (<http://www.wakecountyathletics.com/athensdrivehs>). Tryouts

begin on either Monday, July 31st or Tuesday, August 1st for all Fall sports. Please remember that prior to tryouts, all of our student athletes must have a completed physical form with all appropriate signatures and be eligible to participate in sports based on academic and attendance requirements. We are looking forward to a stellar Athletic season!

Beginning July 10th, students will now access their WCPSS email account in Outlook. Their email addresses will not change. Students will be able to access their email from the web and a mobile application. Students should have received an email notifying them of this change. Students will send and receive email from their new Outlook account by logging into the WakeID Portal at wakeid.wcpss.net and clicking the Outlook icon. Students will no longer be able to send or receive new email from their Lotus Notes account. They can, however, continue to access their Lotus Notes email at webmail.students.wcpss.net to read or print messages until September 15th. If students need help, they can visit www.wcpss.net/studentemail or mywakeid.wcpss.net.

Please put down on your calendar that our Fall Meet the Teacher Night will be held on Wednesday, September 6th, beginning at 6:00 p.m.

Thank you to all of our Seniors who have taken the opportunity at the end of the last school year or during the summer to get their Senior Portraits taken so that we can include their picture in our yearbook! We want to be sure that every rising Senior gets his/her picture taken in order for them to be included in the yearbook. If your Senior has not had his/her Senior portrait taken, please know that make-up pictures will be held in September by appointment and announcements will be made through Mr. Remaley's Senior information that he will distribute.

WCPSS Transportation is excited to announce that student transportation information can now be found in PowerSchool. In order to provide the highest level of customer service to our families, the Transportation Department is asking all of our parents who do not yet have a PowerSchool account to stop by the school to complete the necessary form. Parents can find more information at www.wcpss.net/student-information. Once you have a PowerSchool account, look for the transportation tab to see your student's transportation status and type. If your student is a bus rider, stop and route information is also provided. I hope this information makes for a smooth transition to start the year with regards to Bus Transportation.

Again, I would like to welcome all of our new students and families to the Athens Drive High School family! We have a great school community, and I am excited about this coming year of teaching and learning! I hope your summer is going well, stay cool in this heat, and enjoy the last few weeks prior to the first day of school on August 28th! Go JAGS and please take care.