

Good Afternoon, this is Steve Mares, principal of Athens Drive Magnet High School with announcements for the upcoming week. A copy of this message will be posted on our school website and emailed to the PTSA email groups.

You were supposed to be receiving my weekly announcements through email and text messages this week, but due to some difficulty in my access to the system, you get me on voicemail for another week! However, I will get those issues ironed out and starting this coming week, my announcements will be shared through text messages and email, based on your preferences. Please remember that the messages will only be sent to people who opt-in to these options. You can opt-in by texting YES to the shortcode 67587 or replying with a YES to the opt-in text message we will send to your phone. To opt out of all text messages from SchoolMessenger, visit <http://www.schoolmessenger.com/txtmsg/> or reply with STOP to the opt-in message that you receive. The school district does not pay for text message charges that may be incurred by you for sending or receiving text messages. Check with your wireless carrier for possible charges. Please also remember that you can choose which phone numbers receive phone calls or text messages. If you'd like to customize the type of communications you'd like to receive on your phone or email, visit <https://infocenter.schoolmessenger.com/> and create an account. You can also download the InfoCenter app by SchoolMessenger from the Apple App Store or Google Play Store. For support, [download our flier](#) which details this information. Thank you for your support of this change in format for my weekly announcements.

We had a great week at The Drive! I continue to be proud of the teaching and learning our students are engaged in and the outstanding leadership both inside and outside of the classroom our students are displaying! We had students represent us at Red Hat for a Design Blitz, FBLA students representing us at their competition, our Band brought home straight Superior rankings during their competitions, our Seniors received their Caps and Gowns and Graduation is getting closer and closer, Seniors continue to get great news about college acceptances and scholarships, and our student athletes continue to represent Athens Drive admirably as they compete on the field, pitch, and track. We have an incredible school family and I appreciate the opportunity to serve our amazing students!

Please remember that the Third Quarter ends on Wednesday, March 29th, the Fourth Quarter begins Thursday, March 30th. I would like to remind our students and school families that each Quarter counts 40% of a students' grade and End-Of-Course Exams, CTE Post Assessments, North Carolina Final Exams, and Teacher-made Exams all count 20%. Thus, there is still a large portion of the final grade that has to be earned. I would ask parents to help us remind our students to keep focused on finishing the Third and Fourth Quarters strong, studying and preparing for Final Exams at the end of the year, and building for a great ending to the 2016 – 2017 school year. Please remember that Third Quarter Report Cards go home on Friday, April 7th.

I am looking forward to attending my first Gradman celebration on Wednesday night, March 29th, beginning at 7:00 p.m. I look forward to a fun, traditional, and entertaining evening with our Seniors and I am proud of their efforts to raise money to support others!

On Thursday, March 30th, Athens Drive Magnet High School will be hosting Reality of Money, a financial interactive simulation designed to help students understand basic household budgeting and financial decision making. We are still in need of volunteers in order to provide this learning experience to our students. To obtain more information and register as a volunteer for this event, please visit "What's Happening At The Drive" on the Athens Drive website (www.wcpss.net/athensdrivehs). You can also contact Glenn Bass, our Career Development Coordinator, for answers to any questions you may have. Thank you for your support in order to make this outstanding experience possible.

Please remember that Friday, March 31st is a make-up school day for the school cancellation on January 11th for snow. Friday, March 31st is no longer a Teacher Workday, but a school day for students.

This coming week we having a Spirit Week to celebrate Literacy at Athens Drive. We have various dress up days, share a book event in the library, and we will have our first annual Literacy Showcase on Wednesday, Thursday, and Friday! I am looking forward to hearing from our own student and teacher published authors, getting inspired by student work, and participating in a Poetry Slam as we take time build positive relationships and celebrate the successes of our students and staff as we all share our love for literacy!

Course registration for the 2017 – 2018 school year continues to move forward. We are meeting with rising Sophomores and Juniors to complete their course selections for next year. Please be talking with your student about the courses they are selecting for next year as we work to ensure that all of our students are on a path to Graduate and reach their goals.

Please check the Athens Drive Athletics website (www.wakecountyathletics.com/athensdrivehs) to find out game dates and times for all of our Spring athletic events. I continue to be proud of the way that our student athletes represent our school.

Those are all of the announcements for this week. Please continue to check the Athens Drive website (www.wcpss.net/athensdrivehs) for general information to help you stay informed. Please have an enjoyable, safe, and wonderful weekend. Go JAGS and please take care.