

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

I hope everybody has had an excellent start to the new school year! I am very proud of the outstanding start we have had, and I thank you for your support!

Please remember that Monday, September 4th is Labor Day and a school Holiday for both students and staff. There is no school on Monday, September 4th.

This week we began our Class meetings to discuss expectations for the year and to remind students of the importance of starting the year strong and finishing the year strong. With regards to our Senior Class meeting, our goal is for every Senior in the Class of 2018 to Graduate in June! I look forward to a great year with the leadership of our Seniors! We will complete our Class meetings on Tuesday with the last half of the Freshman Class.

Seniors, as we discussed in our Class meetings, it is not too early to begin thinking about College and life beyond Athens Drive Magnet High School. Scholarship information is coming out and will be available through our Student Services. Also, Seniors, please remember that it is not too early to begin completing College applications online.

Senior parents, please know that our Guidance Counselors are scheduling Senior meetings with our Seniors. We want to be sure that our Seniors are set up for success and to reach their goals.

Mr. Remaley and Ms. Brown will be leading a Senior Parent Meeting prior to our Meet the Teacher Night on Wednesday, September 6th from 5:30 p.m. until 6:00 p.m. in the Cafeteria. Information will be provided to our parents and students to help all of our Seniors and their families navigate this final year of High School, understand graduation requirements, communicate with us regarding scholarships, and provide information regarding other important Senior events. Seniors and parents, please know that time is already ticking on getting started on plans for after Graduation!

As I have mentioned in my previous meetings, the Wake County Public School System (WCPSS) has still not finalized dates and times for WCPSS High School Graduations at the Convention Center. As soon as we get information on our Graduation date and time, we will send that information out. Thank you for your understanding!

Please remember that we will host our Meet the Teacher Night on Wednesday evening, September 6th, beginning at 5:30 p.m. with a Senior Parent meeting in the Cafeteria. We ask our Senior parents to arrive at 5:30 p.m. to attend this event and then our Freshman, Sophomore, and Junior parents, please begin your evening in the Cafeteria at 6:00 p.m. with our PTSA meeting. At 6:25 p.m. we will begin to transition to your student's Drive Time class where your student's schedule will be available for you to follow during the remainder of the night. A detailed schedule for the evening can be found at the top of our website (<http://www.wcpss.net/athensdrivehs>). This event is a great opportunity to walk your student's schedule and meet your student's teachers. During the evening, we will have the Athens Drive Magnet High School Vocal Ensemble singing in the Auditorium Lobby beginning prior to 6:00 p.m. as parents arrive. Don't miss a chance to hear these talented students singing some amazing music on Wednesday night! JAG Junction will also be open for parents to purchase Athens Drive gear and parents can register in the Library to be a volunteer at any WCPSS school. Thank you, as always, for your continued support of our students, our teachers, and our school!

I hope that all of our school families received the message from our Superintendent regarding social media threats made to two of our WCPSS High Schools. His message is posted on our school website (<http://www.wcpss.net/athensdrivehs>). Please know that I made a school-wide announcement regarding this, we

are discussing making appropriate decisions regarding social media and cell phone use during our Class meetings, and we are discussing this topic in our Drive Time class. I would ask that you assist us in helping our students learn the impact their words and pictures posted on social media have and how those words and images can stay with them for a long time. Specifically, with regards to social media threats, please know we do take them seriously, as I want to ensure that our students, staff, and visitors are safe. Thank you for your support in working with our students to help them fully grasp and appreciate the serious responsibility students have with regards to their social media posts.

The Athens Drive Band is hosting a Music To Your Mouth fundraiser at Chipotle at 100 Wrenn Drive in Cary on Thursday, September 7th, between 5:00 p.m. and 9:00 p.m. Bring in the flyer the Band is distributing, show it on your Smartphone, or tell the cashier you are supporting the cause in order to make sure that 50% of the proceeds are donated to the Athens Drive Band. We hope to see you there and thank you for supporting our Athens Drive Band program!

I would like to remind all students and parents that students are not allowed to leave the campus during the school day. The only students authorized to leave campus during the day are students who are dual enrolled, have a Release Period, or otherwise have pre-approved permission to leave campus. During lunch, only Juniors and Seniors who have an approved Off-Campus Lunch Pass are allowed to leave campus. Please help us remind our students to stay on campus and not be tempted to leave campus during the day. Thank you for your support of the safety of our students.

Parents, I would like to enlist your support in helping us maintain appropriate dress at school. We have many strapless shirts and dresses, thin-strapped shirts, shirts that do not reach pants, short-shorts, sagging pants, and other clothing that violates the dress code. I would ask that we work together in order to be sure our students dress appropriately and focus on learning. Thank you!

A reminder to students and families that our school-wide Tardy Sweep will begin on Tuesday. Our expectation is that students are in class, on-time and ready for learning each period. Students who are continually tardy to class face consequences of In-School-Suspension, After-School Detention, and possible Out-Of-School Suspension. Students who skip class face more severe consequences. Let's work together to be sure all of our students are in class ready to learn each period this year!

Please continue to support our student athletes as they compete on the field, track, and court! Our teams have all started the year in an outstanding manner and at least one of our athletic teams is competing almost every night of the week in some sport. Please check our Athletic Team schedules on our Athens Drive Athletics website (<http://www.wakecountyathletics.com/athensdrivehs>).

Finally, I would just like to once again thank all of our students and parents for an outstanding start to the school year! We appreciate the support you provide, and please know how thankful we are that you allow us to serve your students!

Those are all of the announcements for this week. I hope each of you has a safe, dry, and wonderful long weekend. Go JAGS and please take care.