

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 (<https://www.wcpss.net/athensdrivehs>), emailed and texted to our school families, and linked to the PTSA Athens Alert newsletter (<https://athensdriveptsa.com>).

Please remember that today was the final day of school prior to our Spring Break. Next week is our Spring Break, and Monday, April 22<sup>nd</sup> is a Teacher Workday, so there is no school for students until Tuesday, April 23<sup>rd</sup>. Students are expected to be in class, on-time, ready to learn by 7:25 a.m. on Tuesday, April 23<sup>rd</sup>.

I want to give a huge shout-out to our PTSA and group of students, parents, and volunteers that we will have on campus tomorrow helping us with our Spring Beautification Day! Our Spring Beautification Day will begin at 9:00 a.m. tomorrow morning and last until 12:00 noon. We will mulch, weed, and clean up our gardens in front of the school as well as some other garden maintenance and clean-up efforts. Please bring any gardening tools you can, such as wheelbarrows, pitchforks, shovels, etc. This is a great opportunity for students to earn Volunteer Service Hours! If you would like to help and/or lead an area of clean up, please contact John Sykes ([jsykes02@bellsouth.net](mailto:jsykes02@bellsouth.net)). I appreciate so much the support of our PTSA and entire school family and thank all our volunteers for sharing your time and talents to make our school shine!

Athens Drive and the Wake County Public School System (WCPSS) has launched a Districtwide Family Survey to learn more about you and your child's experiences in our schools. Please know that your responses on this Family Survey will be confidential and only reported in combination with other responses. No one will be able to see individual responses from any parent or guardian. Please know that we do use the Family Survey data to help us continue to improve our school climate and the teaching and learning at Athens Drive Magnet High School. The Family Survey will remain open through Friday, May 3<sup>rd</sup>, and if your email is on file with Athens Drive, please be on the lookout for an email from Panorama Education. This e-mail will contain a link and instructions for completing this brief confidential survey that will help us to better serve our students and our school family. We also have a link on our website for the Family Survey (<https://surveys.panoramaed.com/wakecounty/athens/surveys?language=en>). I ask that you please take 10 – 15 minutes to complete the Family Survey between now and Friday, May 3<sup>rd</sup>. Thank you for your support in helping us to continue to find ways to best meet the needs of all students and families and help every student reach his/her potential.

On Monday, April 22<sup>nd</sup>, our Athens Drive Band is hosting a fundraiser at Panera in Crossroads (2234 Walnut Street in Cary) from 4:00 p.m. until 8:00 p.m. Come and eat and help raise money for our very own Athens Drive Band! Go to <http://www.athensdriveband.com/fundraisers/lets-eat> to print out or download the flyer to your phone. Thank you for your continued support of our Band Program!

Athens Drive Magnet High School will be hosting Reality of Money on Thursday, April 25<sup>th</sup>. This financial interactive simulation, sponsored by State Employees Credit Union and the Athens Drive Business Alliance, is designed to help students understand basic household budgeting and decision making. Participating students will learn the real-life costs associated with their choices as they assume the role of an adult. This will be a great learning experience for them and for you as a volunteer. In order to make this opportunity possible, we need many volunteers for each session throughout the day. Qualifications to volunteer are simple and include the ability to interact with students and experience with paying bills and/or managing a family or personal budget. Please consider signing up for the entire day (both sessions). However, if you are only available to volunteer for one session, indicate in which session you would like to participate. Lunch will be provided for you if volunteering for both sessions. Volunteer orientation will take place from 7:00 a.m. until 7:15 a.m. on the morning of the event. If you are registering only for the afternoon session, another volunteer will brief you on your role prior to the session and you may check in any time prior to 11:15 a.m. The registration link to register to volunteer at our Reality of Money is: <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/508044eafa923a7fd0-spring2>. Thank you for your willingness to serve in this manner!

It is that time of year again to enjoy the delicious BBQ at the annual Athens Drive Band Spring BBQ! The BBQ sale will be held at the Swift Creek Community Center (6221 Yates Mill Road) on Friday, April 26<sup>th</sup>. The BBQ

will be homemade this year! Plates are \$10.00 and homemade desserts are \$1.00. Find more information on the Band's website (<https://sites.google.com/site/athensdriveband/fundraisers/bbq>) and thank you for your support!

Our Chorus, Orchestra, and Band will be performing at the Cary Music & Arts Festival held at the Koka Booth Amphitheatre in Regency Park on Sunday, April 28<sup>th</sup>. The performances begin at 3:30 p.m. and continues through 9:00 p.m. Many ensembles from local schools will be performing along with our award-winning programs. The event is free to the public to attend.

The honors Theatre class is producing their very own charity Variety Show! Please join them on Thursday, May 2<sup>nd</sup> at 7:00 p.m. in the Auditorium for a celebration of the decades. Though this is a free event, there is a suggested donation of \$5.00, with all proceeds going towards the Athens Drive Backpack Buddies. All ages are welcome to attend this show and watch our incredible students perform.

The 2019 Prom will be at the Sheraton Hotel in Downtown Raleigh on May 4<sup>th</sup> from 8:00 p.m. until 11:30 p.m. Prom tickets are on sale online NOW. Tickets are \$30.00 each and all ticket purchases are non-refundable. Tickets bought online can be picked up from April 29<sup>th</sup> through May 2<sup>nd</sup> in the Gym Lobby. Tickets will also be on sale after school from April 29<sup>th</sup> through May 2<sup>nd</sup> in the Gym Lobby—cash only! Please remember that only students who are currently either a Junior or a Senior may purchase a ticket. All Athens Drive students need to complete a Prom Application form which can be found on the Athens Drive website (<https://www.wcpss.net/domain/9728>) and requires a parent/guardian signature. Any guest who wants to attend the Prom with a current Athens Drive Junior or Senior student must complete a Guest Application form, which can be found on the Athens Drive website as well. Completed Guest Application forms must be submitted by no later than April 23<sup>rd</sup>. Please remember that all fees and fines must be cleared prior to the purchase of a Prom ticket. This includes Library, School, Parking, Athletic, and Arts fees/fines. Thank you for your support of this wonderful tradition for our students!

Our JAG Club is once again sponsoring a Benefit BBQ to support Athens Drive Athletics. On Sunday, May 5<sup>th</sup>, from 4:00 p.m. until 7:00 p.m., the Embers will be performing at the Morris Peaceland Farm on Graham Newton Road and there will be BBQ, drinks, dancing, and a silent auction all to bring our school family together and raise funds for our Athletic Program. Tickets can be purchased on the JAG Club webpage ([www.athensdrivejagclub.org](http://www.athensdrivejagclub.org)) and are \$25.00 per person. Tickets sold at the door will be \$35.00. Thank you for your support of our student athletes!

Advance Placement (AP) testing will start in May. AP tests will be administered from May 6<sup>th</sup> through May 17<sup>th</sup>. Students who have registered to take AP exams this school year will be receiving email updates throughout April and May with details regarding the test administration. I highly suggest that students check the email that they provided during AP Registration daily for updates. If you have any questions regarding AP exams please contact Mrs. Brown ([tbrown@wcpss.net](mailto:tbrown@wcpss.net) or 919-233-4050 x24898) or Ms. Boothe ([kboothe@wcpss.net](mailto:kboothe@wcpss.net) or 919-233-4050 x24894) in Students Services.

Jostens will return to campus for the last time on Tuesday, May 7<sup>th</sup> to deliver Caps and Gowns. If any of our Seniors have not ordered their Cap and Gown yet, they need to do so by May 3<sup>rd</sup>, otherwise the cost will increase. Ordering can be done online by going to [www.jostens.com](http://www.jostens.com) and selecting Athens Drive Magnet High School. If you have any questions, please contact Mr. Remaley ([cremaley@wcpss.net](mailto:cremaley@wcpss.net)).

Senior parents, please know that all Seniors were given a copy of the Senior Intent form in Drive Time in March. Every Senior must complete the Senior Intent form. Please help us be sure that your Senior completes the form and returns it to the Student Services office by May 1<sup>st</sup>. Additional forms are available in the Student Services office if any Senior needs one.

The Scholarship Information Form was also given to all Seniors in Drive Time on March 22<sup>nd</sup>. We would like to recognize all the accomplishments of the Class of 2019 at the Senior Award Ceremony scheduled for May 23<sup>rd</sup>. If your student is receiving any Scholarships (even if they are not accepting the Scholarship!), please complete the Scholarship Information Form so we can honor the accomplishments of our Seniors! Please indicate all Scholarships received on the Scholarship information Form and attach a copy of the Scholarship awards

letter/notification that was provided by the institution/agency that is sponsoring the Scholarship. If students need additional Scholarship Information Forms, they are available in the Students Services office. All forms must be completed and submitted to the Student Services office by May 17<sup>th</sup>. If you have any questions, please contact Ms. Telfair ([stelfair@wcpss.net](mailto:stelfair@wcpss.net) or 919-233-4050 x24896) or Ms. Boothe ([kboothe@wcpss.net](mailto:kboothe@wcpss.net) or 919-233-4050 x24894) in Students Services. Visit the Student Services website (<http://adhs-student-services.weebly.com/scholarships.html>) for information on this and other Scholarships.

Class 2020 (this year's Juniors), if you are interested in Graduating mid-year (at the end of the First Semester) or you would like to apply for Late Arrival (no First Period class) or Early Release (no Fourth Period class) for the 2019 – 2020 school year, forms are available in the Student Services office. Please complete the appropriate forms and return to the Student Services office by June 4<sup>th</sup> so that we can ensure your schedule is correct for the 2019 – 2020 school year.

As part of our 40<sup>th</sup> Anniversary celebration, we are starting a 40 for 40 campaign. Through this effort we are asking that our school family members (past and present) donate \$40.00 dollars for our 40 years of history to provide funding for our current student and staff needs and begin to fund a new Scholarship Fund for our Graduating Jaguar students who are planning to attend college, major in Education, and become teachers. We are hoping that through this campaign we can make a positive difference now and help create a legacy for the future. If you would like to contribute, please visit the campaign link at: <http://bit.ly/athensat40>. Thank you for your consideration in donating and making a difference!

The Athens Drive Magnet High School Food Pantry is now open! Our Food Pantry is a collaborative effort with the Food Bank of North Carolina to serve Athens Drive Magnet High School, A.B. Combs Elementary School, Dillard Drive Middle School, and Centennial Middle School students and their families. We are so excited about this opportunity allowing us to reach our families in a new way, as we know that our students have difficulty learning when they are hungry. If we have the opportunity to help meet this basic need for our students and their families, we are excited to take it. Our Food Pantry will operate from 2:00 p.m. until 3:15 p.m. on Tuesdays and Thursdays. If you need to make an appointment to shop outside of our regular hours of operation, please contact Ms. Kendall Boothe ([kboothe@wcpss.net](mailto:kboothe@wcpss.net) or (919) 233-4050 ext. 24894) and she can assist you. Thank you for your support of this new endeavor to support our students and their families.

Please continue to support all our student athletes competing in our Spring sports! Senior Nights, final Conference games, and Conference championship games and meets are approaching! Enjoy the beautiful weather, watch some exciting and entertaining sporting events, and support our talented student athletes. Please be sure to check the Athens Drive Athletics website ([www.wakecountyathletics.com/athensdrivehs](http://www.wakecountyathletics.com/athensdrivehs)) to see the most updated schedule for our Spring sports and come out and support our incredible student athletes.

Those are all the announcements for this week. I will not be sending a weekly message next week. Please continue to check the Athens Drive website ([www.wcpss.net/athensdrivehs](http://www.wcpss.net/athensdrivehs)) for general information to help you stay informed.

As we move into Spring Break, I want to take a moment to thank each of you for your support of our students, staff, and our school! Please know that all of us at Athens Drive understand the privilege and honor we have of teaching your student. Thank you for placing your trust in us to teach your student and help him/her reach his/her ultimate potential! It is always a great day to be a JAG, and I continue to be thankful to be a part of such an amazing school family. Whether your Spring Break plans include travel away from Raleigh or you will be staying in town, I hope each of you has a safe, enjoyable, and fun Spring Break! Please enjoy this special time with your family! Go JAGS and please take care.