

Good afternoon, this is Steve Mares, principal of Athens Drive Magnet High School, with a special announcement for Friday, April 3<sup>rd</sup>. A copy of this special message 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>).

I hope that your week is ending well, and you are remaining safe, continuing to take care of yourselves, your loved ones, each other! I want to again thank you for your continued support and understanding of our efforts to support learning as we deal with COVID-19! In order to keep you informed, here is the information I would like to share with you today:

**AWESOME TRIBUTE TO OUR SENIORS:** If you have not had the opportunity to see the tribute to the Athens Drive Class of 2020, please view it [here](#). We have an amazing Senior Class Advisor (Mr. Remaley), incredible leadership by our Student Government, and just a fantastic Senior Class!! While I am so saddened at the loss of so many rights of passages for our Seniors thus far, I want them to know that we will find ways to honor and celebrate their accomplishments and what they have meant to all of us at Athens Drive Magnet High School during their years here! **ADN!!!**

**SPRING BREAK NEXT WEEK:** Please remember that next week remains Spring Break for our students and staff. I would ask that students continue to check their emails (and families, too, for messages from me!) for information from teachers as we prepare for the launch of our [Remote Learning Schedule](#) beginning Monday, April 13<sup>th</sup>.

**NO CALENDAR CHANGE FOR ATHENS DRIVE MAGNET HIGH SCHOOL:** You may have heard that WCPSS is changing some of the instructional calendars for the District. Please know that there are no changes to the instructional calendar for traditional schools, including Athens Drive Magnet High School. Our [Remote Learning Schedule](#) will begin on Monday, April 13<sup>th</sup>.

**HELPFUL LINKS TO KEEP UP WITH EVER-CHANGING INFORMATION:** Please utilize the following links to help you stay informed:

- [WCPSS COVID-19 Updates](#)
- [Food Distribution Sites](#)
- [Community Resources](#)
- [Advanced Placement \(AP\) Resources](#)
- [Remote Learning Information](#)
- [Learning Resources for all grade levels](#)
- [WCPSS Update to Families on April 1, 2020](#)
- [WCPSS Update to Families on March 31, 2020](#)
- [WCPSS Update to Families on March 24, 2020](#)
- [WCPSS Update to Families on March 20, 2020](#)
- [WCPSS Update to Families on March 17, 2020](#)
- [Technology Support for Remote Learning](#)
- [Digital Citizenship](#)

I hope this information helps you all.

**STUDENT DEVICE DISTRIBUTION:** Please know that our staff has been working tirelessly to identify every student who needs a device to access our Remote Learning, every student that needs a “hotspot” to access the

Internet, and every student who needs both a device and a “hotspot.” We are still trying to reach some of our students, so if you or your student has not spoken to a teacher or staff member since March 16<sup>th</sup>, please reach out to me ([smares@wcpss.net](mailto:smares@wcpss.net)) or check your email or telephone for a message from an Athens Drive Magnet School staff member. Next week we hope to begin the first phase of the Chromebook Distribution plan. The first step will be to provide a Chromebook for those students who only need a device to support their learning. The next step will be to provide "hotspots" to those students who do not have internet access. Finally, we will then provide a Chromebook and a “hotspot” to those students who need both. Please know that this is a daunting task throughout the County to move devices among schools and provide these resources to our students. I will keep you posted on when this distribution will happen next week so that we can continue to work to ensure that every student is able to access our Remote Learning. Thank you for your continued support of our efforts to reach every student as we move to Remote Learning of new instructional material!

**IMPORTANT ADVANCED PLACEMENT (AP) EXAM UPDATES:** We have been receiving information from College Board regarding AP Exams and want to bring you these updates:

- The AP Exam dates will be Monday, May 11<sup>th</sup> through Friday, May 22<sup>nd</sup>, and no AP Exam will conflict with another one. If a student has a valid conflict with the new date then they need to request the makeup day, the student must contact our AP Coordinator Ms. Boothe ([kboothe@wcpss.net](mailto:kboothe@wcpss.net)) so that she can make the change through the system. Please know that College Board has informed us that it must be an actual, valid conflict in order to take the AP Exam on the makeup day. The makeup dates will be the first week of June.
- Since we have already registered all our students who are taking the AP Exams, there is nothing further we need to do to give students access to their AP Exams. Each student will be sent access to take the test with the information the student already provided.
- If a student needs a device to take their AP Exam, he/she must contact Ms. Boothe by Friday, April 24<sup>th</sup> and there is a process that we must complete in order to request one. Students can also take the AP Exam on a smartphone and will be able to upload handwritten work.
- It is imperative that students DO NOT CHEAT on these AP Exams. Please remember that this year the AP Exam will be an unsupervised test administration. However, College Board will be sending AP Test responses/scores to teachers at the end of the 2-week period for them to look for any irregularities in student responses. Also, other techniques and software will be used to detect chat room use, and plagiarism. College Board reminded us that if a student is caught cheating on an AP Exam, every college they have ever sent a test score to (SAT and AP) will be notified of the cheating and the student may miss out on taking any additional SAT or AP Exams in the future. We need to remind our students to do the right thing!
- Students who have already been approved for accommodations (e.g., extended time, etc.) will still get these accommodations. This information automatically transfers into the student portal so, for example, extended time will already be added into their total time.
- Any AP Calculus student who originally signed up to take Calculus BC, but now feels more comfortable taking the AP Calculus AB exam, can do so. The student must contact Ms. Boothe ([kboothe@wcpss.net](mailto:kboothe@wcpss.net)) by Monday, April 20<sup>th</sup>.

- As usual, students' work will be scored by College Board's network of college faculty and AP teachers, and will be reported on a 1–5 scale. They have informed us that they anticipate releasing scores as close to the usual July timeframe as possible.

Thank you for your attention to these important updates regarding Advanced Placement Exams.

**COURSE REGISTRATION FOR THE 2020 – 2021 SCHOOL YEAR:** Please know that it is imperative that we continue to have all Ninth through Eleventh Grade students register for classes for the 2020 – 2021 school year! In order to ensure that we get Registration information for every student, we need to ask students and their families to assist us in getting every student registered for classes. For any student who has not completed their registration for classes for next year, a [Course Registration form](#) has been created. Please complete the form accurately and correctly because our Counselors will utilize the information provided on this form to input Course Registration into PowerSchool. All registration information, course listings, timelines, High School Planning Guide, and Course Descriptions are located [here](#) on the Athens Drive website (click on the “Students” tab and then “Course Registration”). If students have questions regarding Course Registration, please email your Counselor directly.

<u>Student Last Name</u>	<u>Counselor</u>	<u>Counselor Email Address</u>
A-Di	Ms. Telfair	stelfair@wcpss.net
Do-La	Ms. Boothe	kboothe@wcpss.net
Le-Ri	Mr. Wright	jwright@wcpss.net
Ro-Z	Ms. Hegarty	chegarty@wcpss.net

Helpful Hints for registration:

- Students should register for the 8 primary courses and 3 alternate courses that they wish to take and make sure that there are 3 alternates. **ALTERNATE COURSES SHOULD BE COURSES STUDENTS ARE WILLING TO TAKE. STUDENT SERVICES WILL NOT CHANGE A COURSE IF THE STUDENT HAS REGISTERED FOR IT AS A PRIMARY OR AN ALTERNATE.**
- Students in the STEM Academy should register for the STEM section for English I-V, Math (II & III only), Social Studies, & Science (Biology & Chemistry Only). These courses will be denoted with a W at the end of the course code. This information will be shared in the STEM meetings that will be scheduled.
- Students in the HSCA Academy (beginning with the Class of 2022) will be cohorted in their English and Social Study courses. These students should register for:
  - Class of 2023
    - 10225X0C-English II (H) and 43045X0C- American History (H) or AP Human Geography or AP US History.
  - Class of 2022
    - 10235X0C-English III (H) and 43055X0C-American History II or AP US History.

Thank you for your assistance in having all our students register for classes for the 2020 – 2021 school year!

**TRANSCRIPT REQUEST:** I wanted to be sure to provide a reminder to everybody regarding Transcripts. As we move forward over the next couple of weeks (and possibly beyond), the District's Central Records Department will be supporting all transcript requests for students. Pick-up options are not available at Central Records, as all

Crossroads buildings are closed to the public. However, we can manage requests electronically and via mail. Students who need a transcript sent to a College/University in the State of North Carolina should make a request via [CFNC.org](http://CFNC.org). All other request should be done via the WCPSS [ScribOrder portal](#) and WCPSS Central Records Department will handle the requests. Because this is a national emergency, most colleges/universities/scholarships will be pushing back their deadlines, so please do not stress about this. However, if a student should need a paper copy of their transcript, the following three options will be available:

- They can receive an unofficial transcript mailed directly to them.
- WCPSS can mail an official transcript to the scholarship committee or coordinator.
- WCPSS can mail an official transcript home for them to add to their scholarship packet. The envelope will be signed and sealed and WCPSS will put it in a second envelope for mailing. This is a temporary option available only while students are not able to pick up official transcripts here at Athens Drive Magnet High School.

Students will need to ask for Option #3 in the “special instructions” section. Again, this is a temporary option based on the present circumstances we are all dealing with.

**SENIOR SLIDE SHOW INFORMATION:** The Senior members of our Student Government are creating a Senior Slide Show. Seniors can submit up to 10 pictures or videos to be included in the Senior Slide Show at the following link: <https://photos.app.goo.gl/xwd3xutPwFNjxuRF6>. Please keep the pictures or videos appropriate, and Mr. Remaley and his team of Seniors will put it together and will share the final Slide Show with everyone once completed. I can’t wait to view it!

**SENIOR SPIRIT WEEK:** As another way to honor our Seniors and continue to bring them together virtually, the Student Government is also sponsoring a Senior Spirit Week after Spring Break! Monday, April 13<sup>th</sup> through Friday, April 17<sup>th</sup>, the Spirit Days are: "Movie and Chill Monday" and Seniors can post their favorite movie and pajamas to their *instagram* stories using the tag *@jagnationad* or post to *twitter #adnstayinghomeweek*. Tuesday is "Taste a Recipe Tuesday" and Seniors can share their favorite recipe. Then there is "Whatcha Working Wit Wednesday" and Seniors can post a Tik Tok. Then, "Throwback Thursday" where Seniors can post their favorite memory from The Drive. Finally, "For the Class of 2020 Friday" where Seniors can show off their college apparel.

**SENIOR CAP AND GOWN DISTRIBUTION:** Please know that we are in contact with WCPSS and Jostens (our Senior merchandising company) and we are working out plans to have our Seniors pick-up their Cap and Gowns. We are working on a curbside “drive-through” opportunity and are waiting on WCPSS to approve our plans. We certainly want our Seniors to have their Cap and Gowns!

**SENIOR GIFT:** One way we want to honor our Seniors is with a special gift. When we finalize our plans to distribute Caps and Gowns, we will also be giving EVERY Senior a yard sign to let the world know that the ADN Class of 2020 is ready to make their mark on the world! Here is what it looks like:



I am fired up that we can make this possible for all our Graduating Seniors! Congratulations Seniors, again, on your outstanding achievements!

**SENIOR REMIND MESSAGE FROM MR. REMALEY:** Please know that it is not too late to join the Senior Remind message that Mr. Remaley sends out. Students, and their families, can join this Message Group. With ever-evolving changes, this is critical that our Seniors and their families have joined this Message Group. Please use the class code: **@remaley-5** on the Remind app. If you are not using the app, then you can text the class code to the number: **81010**. Thank you!

**SCHOLARSHIP OPPORTUNITIES FOR OUR SENIORS:** What a great time for our Seniors to be searching for Scholarships and completing Scholarship applications! Please remember that our PTSA is still offering their three annual \$500.00 Scholarships to Seniors who are PTSA members. The three Scholarship categories are: Civic Minded; Overcoming Adversity; and All Around. Seniors can get more information about eligibility and find the online application on the PTSA website [here](#). Applications will be accepted through Thursday, April 30<sup>th</sup>. Scholarships will be awarded in May (the exact date is still to be determined). Please also remember that our Student Services keeps a long list of Scholarships for our students to apply for. Please visit our Student Services Scholarship [website](#) to see that list.

**FOOD DISTRIBUTION:** I want to remind our school family that we continue to provide our Food Distribution services to our school families and local community Monday through Friday, from 11:00 a.m. until 1:00 p.m. Please also know that we have received communication that we can continue with our Food Distribution next week during Spring Break. Thus, we will be open from Monday through Friday (yes, even on the Good Friday Holiday on Friday, April 10<sup>th</sup>) from 11:00 a.m. until 1:00 p.m. of next week. Please know that an updated list of all Food Distribution sites can be found at this [link](#). Please continue to share this information with anybody in our community, whether they are students of ours or not, who need this resource during these challenging times. Thank you for your help in taking care of our school families and our community!

**CLOSING THOUGHTS AND TAKE CARE:** I can only continue to share how inspired I am by our school family! Our staff is working diligently and is dedicated to preparing to launch our Remote Learning Schedule and new teaching and learning beginning Monday, April 13<sup>th</sup>. Our students are taking care of business, reaching out to their teachers, and doing what they need to do in order to continue with learning. Our families are supporting our students despite the enormous pressures and stress created by the ramifications of COVID-19. And, our community partners are still supporting our school and our families in a myriad of ways so that we can all get through this pandemic as safely as possible. Thank you so much for your support, and thank you for your flexibility and patience as information is rolled out. Please know that as things change in the coming days, I will continue to communicate with you over Spring Break. Please know that all of us care passionately about our students and want to give them our best! We are in this together, and we will get through this! We are one day closer to sharing our stories of how we grew as individuals, a school family, a community, a nation, and a world!

Please know that I continue to keep our entire Athens Drive school family close to my heart and in my thoughts!  
Please continue to be safe and take care of yourselves and each other. Go JAGS!