

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 Third Quarter Report Cards were given to students today during Drive Time. Please be sure to talk with your student about his/her achievement and remind him/her that there is still a lot of time left to finish the year strong! Please know we appreciate the support you provide for us to work together to help all our students reach their ultimate potential!

Please join us tonight, Friday Night, April 5<sup>th</sup>, beginning at 7:00 p.m. for our Chorus Spring Cafe! Hear our amazingly talented students perform and then enjoy snacks in the Auditorium Lobby after the concert! The concert will be held in the Auditorium and admission is free!

The Athens Student Government is once again sponsoring the Cinderella Project. The Cinderella Project is an opportunity for students to get free Prom dresses, shoes, accessories and a limited amount of men's suit coats, pants and shoes. Students have already had opportunities to select dresses, etc., and there is one more opportunity—tomorrow, Saturday, April 6<sup>th</sup>, from 10:00 a.m. until 2:00 p.m. in the Cafeteria. If you are on Instagram, then follow us at: @adncinderella (you can even reserve a dress through Instagram!). If you have any questions regarding our Cinderella Project, please contact Mr. Maxwell ([smaxwell@wcpss.net](mailto:smaxwell@wcpss.net)) or Mr. Remaley ([cremaley@wcpss.net](mailto:cremaley@wcpss.net)).

Don't forget that on Thursday, April 11<sup>th</sup>, we are celebrating our Gradmen! I am looking forward to this year's Gradman celebration beginning at 7:00 p.m. on Thursday, April 11<sup>th</sup>! The Gradman 2019 Talent Show "*The Suite Life of the Gradmen*" will be held in the Auditorium, and tickets can be purchased at the door for \$5.00. What is Gradman? It is a talent show put on by the Student Government featuring 12 Seniors chosen by the Senior Class representing categories like Mr. Intelligent, Mr. Cute, Mr. Athletic, and more. Each Gradman has selected a charity to represent, the event is scored by a panel of judges, and the winning Gradman earns a check written to their Charity in their name! All proceeds from ticket sales, t-shirt sales, and donations will be given to the winner's Charity. 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 and make a difference!

The Student Government will be holding elections for the 2019 – 2020 school year on April 26<sup>th</sup>. Student Government is a great opportunity for students to build leadership skills and represent their school. Applications can be picked up in Mr. Maxwell's Room (Room 2620) or Mr. Remaley's Room (Room 2618) and must be completed by next Friday, April 12<sup>th</sup>. If you have any questions, please contact Mr. Maxwell ([smaxwell@wcpss.net](mailto:smaxwell@wcpss.net)).

Our Spring Beautification Day will be held on next Saturday, April 13<sup>th</sup>, 9:00 a.m. 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. This is a great opportunity for students to earn Volunteer Service Hours and support our school! 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)). Thank you for all you give to the Athens Drive family!

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.

I would like to make our entire school family aware of upcoming opportunities to provide support for parents across the district on Mental Wellness and Social Media. There are currently two K-12 events scheduled to offer support and resources focused on these topics and this is a collaborative effort between the WCPSS Counseling and Student Services and WCPSS Technology Services. The events currently scheduled are:

- Tuesday, April 9<sup>th</sup>, from 6:00 p.m. until 7:30 p.m. at Heritage High School (<https://www.wcpss.net/heritagehs>)
- Thursday, April 11<sup>th</sup>, from 6:00 p.m. until 7:30 p.m. at Crossroads FLEX (<https://www.wcpss.net/crossroadsflexhs>)

The presenters are Crystal Reardon, WCPSS Director of Counseling and Student Services, and Allison Reid, from WCPSS Technology Services. The discussion will be focused on the impact of mental wellness on the use of technology.

Our Winter Percussion Ensemble will be traveling to Dayton, Ohio next week to compete in the World Winter Percussion Championships! We wish our students well and look forward to hearing positive results on how they represented The Drive!

On Tuesday, April 9<sup>th</sup>, our JAG Club is hosting a Fundraiser at City Barbecue. Whether you dine-in, take-out, or order on-line, the JAG Club will receive 25% of sales. Please go to the Athens Drive JAG Club website (<https://www.athensdrivejagclub.org/fundraiser-city-barbecue/>) to find additional information and get a digital or printed copy of the barcode.

Please remember that next Friday, April 12<sup>th</sup>, is the final day of school before our Spring Break. There is no school for students from Monday, April 15<sup>th</sup>, through Monday, April 22<sup>nd</sup>. Students need to be in class, on time, ready to learn by 7:25 a.m. on Tuesday, April 23<sup>rd</sup> to begin the final push to finish the school year strong!

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.

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.

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.

The Debutante Program sponsored by Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority, Incorporated, Alpha Theta Omega Chapter and ATO, Incorporated offers young ladies an opportunity to obtain a Scholarship or an award to further their education beyond high school. Young ladies who will be rising High School Seniors may express their interest in participation in the Debutante Program by signing up in the Student Services office. Please see Ms. Carillo in the Student Services office to sign-up for this opportunity.

Juniors interested in taking the 4<sup>th</sup> and final SAT Prep Course of the year to prepare for the June SAT Test need to register soon by contacting Mr. Remaley ([cremaley@wcpss.net](mailto:cremaley@wcpss.net)). Classes start immediately after Spring Break on Tuesday, April 23<sup>rd</sup> and Wednesday, April 24<sup>th</sup>.

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!

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!

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.

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. If you are willing to help us plan and prepare for this event, there are multiple opportunities to help make this the best Prom ever! Please use this link (<http://tinyurl.com/admhspromvolunteers>) to indicate how you can help. Feel free to contact Scott Maxwell ([smaxwell@wcpss.net](mailto:smaxwell@wcpss.net)) if you have any questions or want any additional information.

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!

Please remember that we have a home game, meet, or match of some sort almost every night of the week. Please remember that the most up-to-date game dates and times are always posted on the Athens Drive Athletics website ([www.wakecountyathletics.com/athensdrivehs](http://www.wakecountyathletics.com/athensdrivehs)). In addition, please be sure to follow @athensjags on Twitter for up-to-date information on Jaguar athletics. Thank you, as always, for all your support of our student athletes!

Those are all the announcements for this 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. I hope you all have an enjoyable, safe, and wonderful weekend! Go JAGS and please take care.