

Good evening, this is Steve Mares, principal of Athens Drive Magnet High School, with a special message for Tuesday, August 4th. A copy of this special message will be posted on our school website (www.wcpss.net/athensdrivehs), tweeted on our school Twitter account, and emailed and texted to our school families.

NEW OR UPDATED ANNOUNCEMENTS:

DISTRIBUTION OF CURRICULUM MATERIALS TO STUDENTS: Please know that we are working on a plan to distribute instructional materials to our students. We will have three distribution days and it is imperative that our students/families make every effort to come to school on one of our Distribution events to get the textbooks, workbooks, instructional materials, etc. that students will need for a variety of classes. While our teachers are just now working on gathering these materials, we do not have a specific list for every class. However, I did want you to be aware of these events and put them on your calendar to be sure you can attend one of these events:

- Friday, August 14th, from 9:00 a.m. until 3:00 p.m.
- Tuesday, August 18th, from 12:00 p.m. until 3:30 p.m.
- Thursday, August 20th, from 12:00 p.m. until 3:30 p.m.

Please know that this IS NOT a Distribution event for Chromebooks or Hotspots. WCPSS is handling that distribution and I have information later in this message regarding that topic. Our Distribution event is for Athens Drive instructional materials and will be held in the Cafeteria, with students/families entering the building through the Gym/Auditorium Lobby entrance (parking in the Senior Lot in the back of school). Students/Families will proceed through the Courtyard and then turn into the Cafeteria where they will be given their instructional materials. Students/Families will then leave the Cafeteria and exit the school through the Gym/Auditorium Lobby doors. Face coverings will be required for anybody who wishes to enter the school to get their instructional materials. I will be sharing more information with you all as these dates get closer, but I did want you all to be aware of these events. Thank you!

STUDENT SCHEDULES FOR THE 2020 – 2021 SCHOOL YEAR: Please understand that we are continuing to finalize our Master Schedule and student schedules for the 2020 – 2021 school year. With scheduling students for two options—Virtual Academy and Blended Learning—please understand that it is taking additional time to create all our Virtual courses, enter them into PowerSchool, and move our students into those Virtual Academy courses. We are working to ensure that our First Semester courses are accurate and that all students are loaded into either a Virtual Academy course section or Plan B Blended Learning section. Please remember, though, that all students are beginning the 2020 – 2021 school year in remote learning. Our hope is that by early next week students will be able to go into their PowerSchool account and see their final schedule for the year. I will share that day and time when schedules will be finalized in PowerSchool with you as we get closer to the beginning of next week. Thank you, as always, for your understanding as we work to reopen our school in this new learning environment.

SUMMER ORIENTATION SESSIONS FOR RISING NINTH, TENTH, ELEVENTH, AND TWELFTH GRADE STUDENTS: Please know that we are working to finalize multiple virtual Orientation sessions for all grades by next week. As we learn more about our final schedules, policies, etc., I will share final distribution of these Virtual Orientations with you all. Please keep an eye out for this information as we get closer to the middle of next week. Thank you for your understanding of our need to change the way we provide an Orientation for our students prior to the start of the school year!

FIRST TWO WEEKS OF SCHOOL: I know that there has been a lot of discussion about what our first two weeks of school will look like. I also know there seems to be mixed messages about "Meet and Greet," "No

Instruction," "Orientation," etc. While we are still finalizing our plan for teaching and learning for the first two weeks of school, I do want to let you know a few general considerations:

- **First Week Time for Full-Class Orientation and Learning:** There will be time for every Teacher to meet with each class, every day, to take care of the business of orienting students to their class and even beginning instruction where feasible. We feel it is important for students to begin to get into a routine and be engaged each day in every class.
- **First Week Time for Small-Group Discussions:** There will be time for every Teacher to meet with small groups of students to begin developing relationships with every student in a smaller "setting."
- **First Week Time for Teacher Professional Learning Teams (PLT) Work and Planning:** There will be time for every Teacher and our PLTs to meet and continue to plan for the reopening of school.
- **First Week Required Canvas Course for Students:** We are developing a comprehensive Course in Canvas that every student will need to take the first week of school. This course will have all the required trainings, technology information, information about Clubs, Magnet information, discussions of expectations, meeting support staff around the school and learning their roles in supporting teaching and learning, etc. Students will be expected to complete each of the modules for the Course during the first week of school. This will be a self-directed course for our students.
- **Second Week:** At this time, we plan on operating on our Regular Plan B Transition Bell Schedule and teachers will be sharing instruction with students, continuing to orient students, making connections with students, etc.

We will be finalizing this schedule soon and getting it to our entire school family. Thank you for your patience and understanding as we work to ensure we have the best plan of action for student learning, engagement, and achievement!

DEVICE DISTRIBUTION FOR STUDENTS: Please know that we had many of our school family members complete the WCPSS Technology Survey stating that they need a device and/or need a hotspot to participate in remote learning. In addition, we are reaching out to our families who did not complete this Survey or who we have not heard from regarding a need for a Chromebook or Hotspot. I did want to inform you that WCPSS has announced that those students who completed the Survey and shared their needs can pick up their Chromebooks and Hotspots at the following locations: Leesville Road High School, Knightdale High School, South Garner High School, Enloe High School, and Apex High School. The Distribution times, starting on Monday, August 17th and lasting throughout the week, are as follows: Monday 9:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m., Tuesday 9:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m., Wednesday 8:00 a.m. - 8:00 p.m., Thursday 8:00 a.m. - 8:00 p.m., Friday 9:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m., and Saturday 9:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m. As I get additional information from WCPSS I will certainly share it with you. However, please know that if you need a Chromebook or Hotspot, you must attend one of these Distribution events, as we will not be having any distribution events at our school. Also, if you have already been given a Chromebook and it does not work or you are having issues with it, you can come to one of these Distribution events to have it looked at. Thank you for ensuring you get a device so that all our students can be engaged in teaching and learning from the start of the school year!

STUDENT AND PARENT GUIDES TO TECHNOLOGY: Wake County Public School System (WCPSS) has created an outstanding resource for students and parents to support remote learning this school year. The [Student and Parent Guide to Technology](#) is a great resource to show students how to log into their Wake IDs, student email account, how to set up and use Chromebooks and Internet Hotspots, how to connect to Wi-Fi, how to use both Google Classroom and Canvas learning management systems, and so much more. WCPSS will continue to add resources and updates to this site, so please be sure to bookmark it.

VIRTUAL ACADEMY STUDENT NUMBERS: I have had several emails asking about the total enrollment for our Virtual Academy. As of today, here are the number of students who have enrolled in our Virtual Academy:

- Total Students: 978
- Percent of All Students: Approximately 47%
- Ninth Grade Students: 243
- Tenth Grade Students: 284
- Eleventh Grade Students: 236
- Twelfth Grade Students: 215

ACTION REQUIRED—CLASS OF 2021 VACCINATION REQUIREMENT INFORMATION: In accordance with North Carolina State Law, all students attending public schools entering the 12th Grade are required to receive a booster dose of Meningococcal vaccine. Most medical providers in Wake County are seeing appointments for health assessments and immunizations. At this time, the NC Immunization Program has stated they will not be extending the immunization requirements due to COVID-19. **All required immunizations are due by the first day of school.** If the parent/student has not provided immunization documentation after 30 calendar days from the start of school, the student **MUST** be excluded from school until documentation is provided. Please email all immunizations, including the Meningococcal vaccine, to Ms. Sidney, our Registrar, at psidney@wcpss.net. Thank you for your attention to this vital information.

SPECIAL EDUCATION STUDENTS AND REMOTE LEARNING: WCPSS has posted additional information for students with Individual Education Plans regarding the move to our Plan B Transition reopening of school. You can find this information at this [LINK](#). Please know that we will work to support all our students in whatever learning environment they are participating in.

SAT ADMINISTRATION SCHEDULED FOR THIS SATURDAY HAS BEEN CANCELED: Please know that the SAT Administration that was scheduled to be given at Athens Drive has been canceled. All WCPSS testing sites have canceled this Administration. Please know that we continue to work with CollegeBoard so that we can return safely as a SAT Administration site in the coming months. Thank you for your understanding.

SAT PREP CLASSES AT ATHENS DRIVE MAGNET HIGH SCHOOL: If you have a Junior or Senior who is planning to take the SAT this Fall, the Athens SAT Prep Course is ready to assist them in their preparation. The class can be done online or in-person if WCPSS permits in the coming weeks. Either way, we are here to help students who need SAT/ACT prep! [CLICK HERE](#) to access the 2020 – 2021 SAT Prep Course flyer. Contact Mr. Remaley (cremaley@wcpss.net) if you have any questions.

ATHENS DRIVE GEAR TEAM SHOP ORDERING: If you are interested in ordering any Athens Drive gear, please visit the team shop at this [LINK](#). As part of this effort, you will also find a fundraising page for our JAG Club, the Booster Club for Athens Athletics. They are sponsoring this team shop and are trying to offer quality sportswear at the lowest possible price. If you would like to consider donating to the JAG Club to support our student athletes and athletic programs, you can contribute on this team page. Thank you for your support of our students!

SENIOR EXAM EXEMPTIONS: I did recently receive the following information from WCPSS regarding Senior Exam Exemptions that I am sure our Seniors want to know about: *“High schools are asked to observe the following guidance for senior exam exemptions in 2020-2021. Students will be exempt from their exam for any course that does not require state testing and for which the student has a final average of C or better. For the 2020-2021 school year, absences will not be considered in the determination of senior exam exemptions.”* I hope this motivates our Seniors to engage in learning and finish their Senior year strong!

EMAIL FROM ME REGARDING VIRTUAL ACADEMY: If you registered for our Virtual Academy, you should have received an email that included a letter from me regarding your acceptance into our Virtual Academy.

If you did register and did not get a letter, you can read the letter at this [LINK](#) to my messages on our webpage. If you registered for our Virtual Academy and you did not get an email, then we have incorrect email information for you. Please contact me if you did not receive an email and I will work to get your email contact information updated in our system. Thank you for your attention to this.

MOE'S RESTAURANTS DONATION FOR OUR FOOD DISTRIBUTION: Due to the impact of Hurricane Isaias, we had to postpone our distribution of MOE's meals today. The new date for our distribution of these meals is Thursday, August 6th. Here is the information that I had previously shared about this food distribution: I am excited to announce that MOE's restaurants have teamed with our Cafeteria Nutrition Services team and No Kid Hungry NC to donate supper meals from MOE's restaurants. Representatives from MOE's restaurants will be at our Food Distribution on (new date—Thursday, August 6th), from 11:00 a.m. until 1:00 p.m. (or until the food runs out) to provide these meals. I appreciate the collaboration of these organizations to support our Food Distribution efforts to our families!

CLOSING MESSAGE: First, I am very thankful that we only had a glancing blow from Hurricane Isaias last night. I hope you all made it through unscathed and had a fantastic day today. I want to apologize about having to say so many times throughout this message statements like, “we are still finalizing,” “You will hear something next week,” etc. Please know that I do strive to be timely, open, honest, and transparent in my communication with you all. However, I also like to be thorough and correct before I share information. I do not like it when I need to “walk something back” after you have already planned on my original statements. So, please understand that I do realize that school begins in less than two weeks and you want details. However, please also understand that we are still fine-tuning our plans so that we offer only the best teaching and learning in this new reality. Please know that I take personal responsibility for everything we do, and when you finally get all of the details, I want you to have confidence that it is what we believe to be the best for teaching and learning. Thank you for your support! Please continue to check the [Athens Drive website](#) for general information and to help you stay informed. As always, please continue to be safe and take care of yourselves, your loved ones, and each other. **GO JAGS!**

REMINDER ANNOUNCEMENTS FROM PREVIOUS WEEKLY MESSAGES:

CHANGE TO THE START OF THE SCHOOL YEAR: I would imagine that you all have heard, seen, or received information from the Wake County Public School System (WCPSS) regarding the change that was approved by the WCPSS Board of Education yesterday afternoon for the start of the 2020 – 2021 school year. **ALL STUDENTS WILL BEGIN THE YEAR IN ONLINE INSTRUCTION.** Monday, August 17th will still be the first day of school for our students, but all students will begin the year in online learning. We have already shifted gears and are beginning to plan for this instructional delivery and please know that we will be communicating details over the course of the next few weeks.

EXTENDED CURRICULUM STUDENTS RETURNING TO SCHOOL: We are making plans for our students who receive instruction through our Regional Programs Extended Curriculum classes to return to Athens Drive for daily classroom instruction beginning on Tuesday, September 8th. We will all be getting additional information regarding this transition back to our school, but we are excited to plan for these students to return to The Drive each day for instruction on September 8th!

REOPENING OF SCHOOL: I wanted to continue to list these links to resources that WCPSS has already shared to provide information to families regarding this new reopening plan:

- [Information for Wake County families](#)
- [WCPSS Virtual Academy](#)
- [Return to Campus Information for Wake County families](#)
- [School Calendar](#)
- [Bus Transportation Information](#)
- [Frequently Asked Questions](#)

STAY CONNECTED THROUGHOUT THE YEAR: To stay connected to my messages and get other updates from WCPSS and Athens Drive Magnet High School, please make note of the following:

- **SchoolMessenger:** This is the system that we use to get messages to our school families. School families can set their contact preferences with their SchoolMessenger account. Please visit <https://www.wcpss.net/schoolmessenger> to update your preferences, read FAQ document, and read instructions on how to create a parent SchoolMessenger account.
- **Text messages:** You can also opt-in to receive text messages through our SchoolMessenger system. Please visit <https://www.wcpss.net/schoolmessenger> as well to get this information.
- **Emails:** We will automatically send you an email if we have your correct information on file. If you are not receiving this message via email, please email Ms. Gattens (emgattens@wcpss.net), our School Receptionist, with your correct email address.
- **Athens Drive Magnet High School Website:** My weekly (or more often...) Principal Messages are posted and archived on our [website](#). You can access these Principal Messages by clicking on the link in the banner towards the top of the website or scroll down our website for another banner across the webpage with icons and click on the Principal's Message link.
- **PowerSchool Accounts:** In High School, all students need an NCEdCloud account, and parents are encouraged to maintain their own parent PowerSchool account. If you need to open a student and/or parent PowerSchool account, please follow the directions on the WCPSS [website](#).

Thank you for your efforts to keep updated on all that is happening at The Drive!

SOCIAL MEDIA ACCOUNTS: Athens Drive Magnet High School has a variety of Social Media Accounts that students, staff, school families, and the community can follow to stay abreast of what is happening at The Drive. This is an updated list from the list I sent out earlier in the week:

- **Instagram:**
 - School Instagram: @AthensHSMagnet
 - Student Services: @athensdrive_studentservices
 - The Torch (Yearbook): @athens_torch
 - The Oracle (Newspaper): @athensoracle
 - ATV (Morning News Program): @atvjagnews
 - Athens Athletics: @athensjags
 - Athens Jag Club: @adhsjaguars
- **Twitter:**
 - School Twitter: @AthensHSMagnet
 - Student Services: @ADHSSStudentSvc
 - PTSA: @AthensDrivePTSA
 - The Torch (Yearbook): @athenstorch
 - The Oracle (Newspaper): @athensoracle
 - ATV (Morning News Program): @atvjagnews

- Athens Athletics: @athensjags
- Athens Drive Student Government: @ADHSExecBoard
- STEM Academy: @AthensSTEM
- Health Science Career Academy: @ADHS_HSA
- **Facebook:**
 - School Facebook: Athens Drive Magnet High School
- **Remind:** text to 81010
 - Senior Class Messages from Mr. Remaley, Senior Class Advisor: @theremaley
 - Remind Class information from our Student Services Team:
 - Class of 2021 is @fae99c
 - Class of 2022 is @admhscl
 - Class of 2023 is @c44694k
 - Class of 2024 is @haghfb

Please know that you can find this information on our [website](#) with active links to these sites. Thank you for keeping up-to-speed with everything that happens at The Drive!

SENIOR INFORMATION: I wanted to be sure that our Seniors and their families have the information they need to start the year in a positive manner. Here is information for them:

- **SENIOR EVENTS:** I have had several Seniors and their families reach out to me and ask about our Senior events and if they will still happen. On a positive note, most of our Senior events happen later in the school year, so our hope is that our Senior events will be able to happen. In addition, we also are looking at adding additional events or changing some of our events based on our experiences last year and some of the fun, family-inspired events we were able to create and host during the pandemic. So, at this time (and yes, things could change...!), we have a place reserved for Prom, we have a Mid-Year Graduation scheduled, we are working with Jostens to plan for Cap and Gown ordering and distribution, we have calendar dates selected for our Senior Breakfast, Senior Picnic, Senior Awards Assembly, etc. Obviously, we will have to wait to see what transpires with the COVID-19 pandemic, in what capacity we are able to gather in large groups, what learning environment we are operating in, etc. However, please know that we are working to ensure that the incredible Class of 2021 have a memorable year and are appropriately honored for their accomplishments!
- **CLASS OF 2021 MID-YEAR GRADUATION:** If you have a rising Senior who is interested in Graduating Mid-Year (in January 2021 after the end of the First Semester), forms are available on the Student Services website for you to let us know. You can access the Mid-Year Graduation form by following this link: [Mid-Year Graduation Form](#). Please complete the form, scan it, and email it to Ms. Brown, our Dean of Students, at tbrown3@wcpss.net by Wednesday, July 29th. If you are unable to access this form, please come to school and ring the bell at the Front Door to get assistance with completing this form.
- **SENIORS—EARLY DISMISSAL OR LATE ARRIVAL ON SCHEDULE:** If you are interested in having a Late Arrival (No First Period) or Early Dismissal (No Fourth Period) for the 2020 – 2021 school year, that form is posted on the Athens website ([Early Dismissal/Late Arrival Form](#)) and is available in our Student Services office. The Early Dismissal or Late Arrival form must be completed, scanned, and emailed to Ms. Telfair (stelfair@wcpss.net) by Wednesday, July 29th. If you are unable to access this form, please come to school and ring the bell at the Front Door to get assistance with completing this form.

- **RIISING SENIOR PICTURES HAVE BEGUN!** Congratulations to the Class of 2021!! You are now Seniors and I am counting on you for positive leadership in the coming year! No matter what the 2020 – 2021 school year will look like, it will be a fantastic year and I am proud that you have made it this far and are ready to prepare for life after The Drive! One of the first right of passages for the Class of 2021 is Senior Pictures! This year, Senior pictures will be taken through Evan Pike Photography. Evan Pike is a local photographer and is accommodating social distancing and CDC measures. Our Seniors will be photographed outside and on campus. All students will need to have 2 poses taken (both will be used in the Yearbook—one will be a headshot and one a 3/4 length). Please understand that due to the COVID-19 pandemic, we will **NOT** have draped/tux pictures this year (see [ADMHS Senior Photography website](#) for more details). Scheduling for Senior pictures will be done online, and picture dates span from July 20th through August 7th. **Please note that sessions could be cancelled and adjusted based on our Governor’s orders, WCPSS Board of Education policies and procedures, and our own ability to open the school for this service as the summer progresses.** Once a student schedules their picture, please make sure you look for emails from Evan Pike if we do need to adjust Senior portrait dates. Please review this information for Senior Pictures:

- Seniors will need 2 portraits for the Yearbook, both of which will be taken in a single complimentary session.
- Please make sure the Senior wears outfit(s) appropriate for publication in the Yearbook. Please nothing strapless and avoid t-shirts with inappropriate messages.
- Please be aware that locations vary by date, so please wait for your photographer at the following outside locations:
 - July 20th through July 24th: Main Entrance, where our Flagpole and Globe are located.
 - July 27th through July 31st: Gym Entrance
 - August 3rd through August 7th: Library Entrance
 - When you arrive, the photographer might be in the middle of another session but should not be too far away.
- Use the site below to book your complimentary session and please add "mail@evanpike.com" to your email client's safe list or check your spam folder if you don't see a confirmation email after booking:
 - <http://admhsseniors.com/> - Senior Photo Scheduling Site
 - <http://menu.admhsseniors.com/> - Price menu and FAQ
- After your session, you will have the option to purchase set collections or build your own collection. By default, your proofing gallery will be set to prearranged collections. If you want to build your own collection, please contact Evan Pike to switch your gallery to custom collection pricing.
- Please remember that there is no sitting fee, the session is complimentary, and purchasing is optional.

If you have any concerns, please do not hesitate to visit the [ADMHS Senior Photography website](#), contact Ms. Luna (eluna@wcpss.net), our Yearbook Advisor, or contact Evan Pike (evanpike@gmail.com).

TRANSITION INFORMATION FOR OUR SPANISH-SPEAKING FAMILIES: WCPSS has made mini-videos for our Spanish speaking families explaining different topics with regards to the reopening of school. I hope this information is helpful:

- **Plan B de Instrucción Combinada para el Año Escolar 2020-2021.**
 - Los padres recibirán información sobre el Plan B de Instrucción Combinada para el Año Escolar 2020-2021. <https://youtu.be/PWnOgBUmlFY>
- **Información sobre la Academia Virtual de WCPSS**
 - Los padres de WCPSS se informarán sobre la Academia Virtual de WCPSS y cuál es el proceso para aplicar. <https://youtu.be/Vpg65ZuV1hQ>
- **Requisito de Revisión de Salud para Entrar la Escuela**
 - Los padres recibirán información sobre el proceso de la revisión de salud para que los estudiantes puedan entrar a la escuela todos los días. <https://youtu.be/Ze387GwqVVg>
- **Requisitos de Revisión de Salud para Abordar el Autobús**
 - Los padres recibirán información sobre el proceso que los estudiantes tienen que seguir para poder abordar el autobús escolar todos los días. <https://youtu.be/TfezbihTRIA>
- **Requisitos sobre el Protector Facial, Distanciamiento Social y Lavado de Manos**
 - Los padres recibirán información sobre los requisitos que los estudiantes tienen que seguir con el protector facial, distanciamiento social y lavado de manos. <https://youtu.be/GAbEVXldeag>
- **Resume del Guía de Regreso Escolar 2020-21**
 - Resume del Guía de Regreso Escolar 2020-21 <https://youtu.be/xvKlohNnog8>

FREE OR REDUCED PRICE MEALS: Please be sure to go the [MySchoolApps](#) website to apply for Free or Reduced Price meals. Please know that this year any student who qualifies for Reduced Price meals will get meals Free. So, whether a student qualifies to receive either Free or Reduced Price meals, the meals will all be Free for those students. As I mentioned earlier in my message, we are planning to have a “drive-through” meal pick-up for our students who are learning remotely so that they can continue to receive meals. As soon as we have finalized those plans, I will communicate that with you. Thank you for taking care important process!

ATHLETIC PARTICIPATION UPDATE: The North Carolina High School Athletic Association (NCHSAA) has postponed the start of the Fall athletic season until at least September 1st. Between now and the end of August the NCHSAA will be evaluating when and how to return to athletics safely. You can read the full statement from the athletic association [here](#). Please make sure you subscribe to the Athens Drive Magnet High School Athletic Department email group and follow our Athletic Department on Twitter (@athensjags) and Instagram (@athensjags) to get up-to-date information. If have not subscribed to the Athletic Department email group, you can do so by visiting the Athens Athletics [webpage](#) and entering your email address at the top of the page.

PTSA INFORMATION: Here is information that Ms. Lysa Fulbright, our PTSA President, wanted me to share with you all: Welcome Freshmen Parents and Welcome Back Sophomore, Junior, and Senior Parents! Start the new school year off right by joining the Athens Drive PTSA. Your membership dues and donations go to supporting our awesome PTSA Programs, such as Classroom Supply Grants, Senior Scholarships, Athens Achievers Student Recognition, and more! You will also receive The Athens Alert, a weekly email updating you on PTSA and other school events. There are two ways to join: [1] Join and pay online [HERE](#) using PayPal, or [2] Print and fill out the Membership Form [HERE](#) and mail it in with your payment. For more information about the PTSA, please visit our website at <https://athensdriveptsa.com/>. Thank you for your support of our school through your participation in the PTSA!

FOOD DISTRIBUTION: Please know that we are continuing 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 know that

hot lunches for the day and breakfast for the next day will be provided. This service will continue through the summer. 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!

DRIVERS EDUCATION UPDATE: Jordan Driving School is not accepting any new registration forms at this time. Once the class schedule has been determined for the school year, it along with the 2020 - 2021 Driver Education Registration form will be posted at www.jordandriving.com. Continue to monitor the Jordan Driving website for updates on the upcoming school year. Please see the [Drivers Education Update](#) from WCPSS for additional information.

PROCESS FOR OBTAINING A DRIVER'S ELIGIBILITY CERTIFICATE: To meet the needs of our students and families, we will be implementing the following process to allow students to receive a Driver's Eligibility Certificate (DEC) while our school building is closed due to COVID-19. Please remember that DEC's are only valid for 30 days; therefore, students are only eligible to receive a DEC during this time if they have a **confirmed appointment with the NCDMV within 30 days of the date of the request**. You will start by sending an email request to Ms. Teresa Brown (tbrown3@wcpss.net), Dean of Students, and include the email from NCDMV confirming the date/time of the appointment. You will receive an email confirming the date/time you can come to the high school to receive the DEC. Once your appointment is confirmed with us, the following steps will be taken:

- Step 1: Scan or take a photo of the following:
 - Student's birth certificate or passport
 - Completed Driver's Education Certificate (if it has not been emailed ahead of time)
 - Proof of address if the current address is different than the one listed on the Driver's Education Certificate or the address listed in PowerSchool. Address must be verified for the NC Real ID.
 - Email this information to Ms. Brown, our designated contact at the school. This will limit the amount of paper that has to be exchanged by staff and students. If you are unable to scan or take a photo of the document, then you will need to bring all these documents with you to the appointment.
- Step 2: Bring the following documents to the appointment:
 - Student's birth certificate or passport
 - Completed Driver's Education Certificate (if it has not been emailed ahead of time)
 - Proof of address if the current address is different than the one listed on the Driver's Education Certificate or the address listed in PowerSchool. Address must be verified for the NC Real ID.
- Step 3: Receiving the DEC:
 - Once you arrive for your appointment, a staff member will meet you at the front door of the school (entrance by the flagpole) to receive the DEC. It is important that we limit the amount of direct contact and maintain at least 6 feet of social distance. For this reason, please limit the number of family members (preferably just the student and a parent or guardian) who attend the appointment. Please arrive at the school promptly for your scheduled appointment to ensure that we can follow the social distancing guidelines that have been established.
 - Staff will check the student's grades for adequate progress. The student must have passed 70% of the courses taken in the prior semester to receive a DEC.
 - Once grades have been verified and all other documents are in place, the DEC can be issued to the student.

Thank you for your understanding and support of this process to continue to provide DEC's to our students.

SUMMER HOURS FOR SCHOOL OPENING: Please know that we will have a few staff on campus each day from 8:00 a.m. until 2:00 p.m. Please understand that due to the COVID-19 pandemic, the building is closed for visitors. However, for families who have important business, the building is open to take care of those student/family needs. Please know that to best protect our staff and visitors, anybody on campus must always wear a mask/face covering. Thank you for your understanding.

DONATIONS OF HEALTH SUPPLIES TO OUR SCHOOL: I am so thankful to serve in such a tremendous school family! I appreciate those families who have reached out to offer to donate Health supplies and Personal Protection Equipment to our school to use for the upcoming school year. While I do appreciate it, please understand that to best protect our staff and students, we can only accept face covering donations that have been purchased from WCPSS-approved vendors, to ensure they meet WCPSS standards. So, while I am thankful for the offers, I would ask that we wait until we get closer to the start of the school year to see what/how donations can be made to the school if you are so moved to do. Thank you, again, for thinking about our school family as you think about service to your community!