

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 Monday, February 18th is a Teacher Workday, and there is no school for students on Monday, February 18th. We will have a regular school day on Tuesday, February 19th, as that day is now a make-up day for the inclement weather we had earlier in the year. Originally Tuesday, February 19th was supposed to be a Teacher Workday, but it is now a Regular School Day. I hope our students and families enjoy the three-day weekend.

Our Indoor Percussion Ensemble will be performing at Panther Creek High School tomorrow, Saturday, February 16th, at 1:30 p.m. This is their first competition of the season, they have been practicing hard, and we wish them well!

We will be hosting our Spring Sports Parent Night on Tuesday, February 19th beginning at 6:30 p.m. in the Upper Gym. Parents of all our Spring Sports teams student athletes need to attend this meeting. Thank you for your support of our student athletes!

We will be administering the ACT on Wednesday, February 20th. The ACT will be given to all Juniors and it is imperative that we begin this test administration at 7:25 a.m. All our Juniors will need to bring a photo identification, number 2 pencils, and a calculator. Students may also choose to bring a snack to eat during the break. Please understand that no electronic devices will be allowed in the testing room. Please also know that students can choose up to four colleges to send their ACT score to for free.

Also, on Wednesday, February 20th, please mark your calendar to attend our Curriculum Night and Rising Freshmen Orientation. Curriculum information will be provided for each Class to assist families in preparing for Course Registration. We will have Counselors and Staff members available from all our Departments to assist with sharing curriculum information in addition to information regarding Clubs, Arts, and Athletics. The evening will begin at 5:30 p.m.

A representative from Campbell University will be available to meet with Athens Drive Magnet High School Students during both Lunches on Thursday, February 21st. If you are interested in attending Campbell University, this is a great opportunity to learn about the various programs that are available, admission requirements, and receive Financial Aid information.

Ms. Carlton, our Career Development Coordinator has asked for Parent Volunteers for our Career Conversations event that will be held on Thursday, February 21st. If you would like help, please sign-up at this link: <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/508044eafa923a7fd0-career3>. Thank you!

I am excited for our Chamber Concert that will be held this Thursday, February 21st, beginning at 7:00 p.m. in our Auditorium. This concert will feature the small instrumental sub-groups that comprise our large bands. Come and hear saxophone ensembles, clarinet choirs, brass ensembles, and other amazing groups. The concert is free, and refreshments will be served afterwards. What a great variety of talent, incredible artistry, and a wonderful opportunity to see and hear the talent of our students.

Ninth Grade through Eleventh Grade students will receive the 2019 – 2020 Course Registration Guide in Drive Time on Friday, February 22nd. We encourage parents to review the Course Registration Guide with their student and discuss what courses their student would like to take during the 2019 – 2020 academic school year. Counselors will be meeting with every student to assist with the registration process in the coming months. Schedules for registration meeting will be posted outside of the Student Services office and will be shared with all staff. Please encourage your student to attend their registration session to ensure that they register for the correct courses for the 2019 – 2020 academic school year.

A mandatory meeting is scheduled for all Juniors in the Health Science Career Academy on Friday, February 22nd during Second Period in the Auditorium. Students should report directly to the Auditorium after Drive Time. A mandatory meeting is scheduled for all Juniors in the STEM Academy on Friday, February 22nd during Fourth Period in the Auditorium. Students should report directly to the Auditorium after Third Period.

Parents of Seniors, the State Employee's Credit Union's \$10,000.00 Scholarship application is now available! To be eligible for the Scholarship the student or their parent should be a member, or eligible to be a member, of the State Employee's Credit Union. The student also needs to be attending one of the 16 UNC system Universities, have an unweighted Grade Point Average of a 2.5 or higher, and demonstrate leadership, excellence of character, integrity, and community involvement. The student also must file a Federal Application for Student Aid (FAFSA) as part of the application. Students will need to submit the completed application, and as part of the application, students should submit one recommendation letter from someone (no family members, please) who can speak to their community involvement. The recommendation is due at the same time as the application. The deadline to submit the application is Tuesday, February 19th, by 3:00 p.m. in the Student Services Office. Please know that all applications must be typed and printed for submission. You can access the application via <http://adhs-student-services.weebly.com/scholarships.html>. This is a great scholarship that at least one of our Seniors will be awarded, so please be sure your student is considering this opportunity!

Seniors, if the College or University that you have applied to requires a Mid-Year Transcript, you must request a copy to be sent from Student Services. A sign-up form is available in the Student Services office. Mid-Year Rank was run on February 12th. Forms are available in the Student Services office for Seniors to request a copy of their updated Class Rank.

The window for registering for Advanced Placement (AP) exams is now open and the link to register on-line is now available on the Athens Drive website (<https://www.wcpss.net/athensdrivehs>). The window for registering for an AP Exam will close on February 26th at 9:00 p.m. Students will NOT be able to register for AP Exams after this day and time. All students interested in taking an AP exam must complete registration online via www.TotalRegistration.net/AP/343196. Student answer sheets will be formulated from the information that is provided on the on-line system, therefore it is imperative that students complete the on-line registration accurately and completely. Students need to be sure that they utilize their Wake County Public School System (WCPSS) email to register for their AP Exam(s). AP Exams will be administered May 6th through 17th. Please contact Ms. Brown (tbrown3@wcpss.net or 919-233-4050 Ext. 24898) or Ms. Boothe (kboothe@wcpss.net or 919-233-4050 Ext. 24894) in the Student Services office if you have further questions.

We are planning a 40th Anniversary Celebration at Athens Drive to be held on Thursday, March 14th. Our plan is to begin the festivities from 3:30 p.m. until 5:15 p.m. with faculty and student alumni meeting and greeting and we will have tours of the school available. From 5:30 p.m. until 6:30 p.m., we will be hosting a 40th Anniversary Panel in the Auditorium. We will have many former Principals and school leaders on the panel to share stories and history. In addition, we also have several athletic events happening that night for alumni and families to attend, and at 7:00 p.m. we will have a Band Concert in the Auditorium as well. Please email Ms. Tonya Hinton (tchinton@wcpss.net) if you are interested in assisting with this event or would like additional information. We would love for alumni, and/or families of alumni, to share photos, stories, and ideas for this upcoming special celebration! We look forward to a great night celebrating 40 years of excellence at The Drive!

Looking ahead, we ask you to save the date for our Spring Beautification Day that will be held on Saturday, April 13th, 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 at jsykes02@bellsouth.net. Thank you for all you give to the Athens Drive family!

Our Winter Sports are coming to an end with Conference Tournament and State Championship competitions for our teams. Our Spring Sports teams have begun to prepare for their seasons as well. I look forward to continuing to finish our Winter Sports in a positive way and beginning a fun, spirited, and successful Spring Sports season as well! To stay on top of all of the games dates and times, please be sure to continue to check the

Athens Drive Athletics website (www.wakecountyathletics.com/athensdrivehs) to find out the most up-to-date information. Thank you 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) for general information to help you stay informed. I hope you all have a safe, wonderful, extended President's Day weekend. Go JAGS and please take care.