

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>).

NEW OR UPDATED ANNOUNCEMENTS:

THURSDAY'S WEATHER: I hope everybody made it through yesterday's storms safely! Thank you for your understanding of Wake County Public School System's decision to close two hours early.

FRIDAY'S SCHOOL CLOSURE: Thank you, also, for your understanding of Wake County Public School System's decision to close school for today. While our school, thankfully, fared well, there were many schools without power, roads flooded, debris in roads, etc. that made it difficult to have a great day of teaching and learning at all our schools. Students will **NOT** need to make-up a day of school for today, as WCPSS has decided to use banked instructional time to count for today's school closing. So, no make-up day needed for today.

NEW DATE FOR MEET THE TEACHER NIGHT AND SENIOR PARENT MEETING—THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 13TH: Please know that next Thursday, February 13th, we will hold our Meet the Teacher Night and Senior Parent Meeting. Thank you for making plans to attend this rescheduled event and meet your student's teachers and get curriculum information. The evening will begin at 5:30 p.m. with a Senior Parent information session (for families of Seniors only) and then the Meet the Teacher Night begins at 6:00 p.m. This schedule can be found on our website at this [link](#).

REPORT CARDS: Parents, please know that First Semester Report Cards will be given to students during Drive Time on Tuesday, February 11th.

COURSE REGISTRATION FOR THE 2020 – 2021 SCHOOL YEAR IS BEGINNING: Students received course information in Drive Time today. All registration information, course listing, timelines, High School Planning Guide, and course descriptions are located on this [link](#) on the Athens Drive website. We encourage parents and students to review the material on guide to ensure that students are registering for courses that meet the graduation requirements. Students must claim their NC EDCloud Student Account in order to register for courses. Please visit this [link](#) on the Athens Drive website or visit the Student Services office to obtain instructions on how students can claim their account. Counselors will meet with all students to assist with the registration process. Registration appointments will be scheduled for all students and students are encouraged to attend their registration meeting. A schedule of appointments will be available outside of the Student Services office. Here is the Registration Timeline:

- **February 10th through March 15th:** Registration portal opens for Ninth and Eleventh Grade students. Counselors will meet individually with 11th Grade students for registration and academic planning. A schedule of appointments will be posted outside of the Student Services office. Registration portal will close for 11th graders on March 15th.
- **February 13th through April 27th:** Counselors will meet individually with Ninth Grade students for registration and academic planning. A schedule of appointments will be posted outside of the Student Services office. Registration portal will close for Ninth Grade students on April 27th.
- **March 10th through April 27th:** Registration Portal opens for Tenth Grade students. Counselors will meet individually with Tenth Grade students for registration and academic planning. A schedule will be posted outside of the Student Services office of appointments. Registration portal will close for Tenth Grade students on April 27th.

Students should complete the High School Registration Work Plan and bring it to their meeting with the Counselors. Helpful Hints for registration:

1. 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 SELECTION.

2. Students should consult with their teacher if they feel that the recommendation for a class is not correct or if they need a recommendation for a class. Students and teachers should dialogue about appropriate courses.
3. 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.
4. 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 10225X0C-English II (H) and 43045X0C-American History (H).

Please know that we build our Master Schedule based on what courses our students register for. We cannot change schedules later when a student changes his/her mind about the courses he/she has registered for. Thank you for helping us ensure that students select the courses they need and the courses they want during this registration period.

COMING HOME WEEK NEXT WEEK! Coming Home Week (Homecoming in the Winter!) starts on Monday, February 10th and that means time to show some school spirit! The theme for Coming Home Week is "Athens on the Air" and so the Spirit Days are based on popular shows: Mandalorian Monday (Star Wars or space theme); Gossip Girl Tuesday (dress preppy); All-American Wednesday (sport jerseys or red, white, and blue); Throwback Thursday (70s, 80s, 90s styles); and of course Friday Night Lights (orange & blue). We will also have a Pep Rally in the Upper Gym at the end of the day on Friday, February 14th. The week will end with four basketball games against Cary High School on Friday Night, February 14th. We will also be recognizing our Seniors for both the Women's and Men's Varsity Basketball teams. I look forward to a great week at The Drive!

SPRING SPORTS TRYOUTS: Most Spring Sports will begin on Wednesday, February 12th. The date, times, and locations for all of the spring sports can be found [here](#). If you have any questions regarding tryouts, please contact the Coach of the sport you are interested in trying out for or our Athletic Director, Travis Seese (tseese@wcpss.net). You can find the contact information for all our coaches [here](#). If your student is planning to play a sport this spring please go to the [Athens Athletics website](#) and sign up for our email list at the top of the page to receive important information throughout the Spring.

MID-YEAR CLASS RANK AND SCHOOL REPORTS: Mid-Year Class Rank will be run next week on Friday, February 14th. Seniors that have applied to a College/University that requires a Mid-Year School Report to be submitted must complete a Request form. The request form is available at the Front Desk of the Student Services Office. Counselors will only send Mid-Year School Reports for students that complete the Request form.

STATE EMPLOYEES CREDIT UNION PEOPLE HELPING PEOPLE SCHOLARSHIP: Parents of Seniors, the State Employee's Credit Union's \$10,000.00 People Helping People 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 Wednesday, February 19th, by 3:00 p.m. in the Student Services Office. Please know that all [applications](#) (available on the Athens Drive Magnet High School Student Services website under the Scholarship tab) must be typed and printed for submission. 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!

PTSA SCHOLARSHIPS: Parents of Seniors, if your Senior is interested in applying for one of the PTSA's \$500.00 PTSA Scholarships they provide to Graduating Seniors, your Senior must be a member of the PTSA by the end of February. Seniors (and any families that have not joined yet!) can sign-up to be a PTSA member at this [link](#). Please remember that the PTSA will be at the Senior Parent Meeting to help Seniors join the PTSA and be eligible for these Scholarships.

ACT PREPARATION: Please know that all Juniors will be taking the ACT on Tuesday, February 25th. The State of North Carolina pays for the administration of the ACT to all Juniors. In order to prepare for the ACT, Juniors will be precoding their Answer Sheets and receiving information about the ACT during Drive Time on Tuesday, February 11th. Please find below links to overviews of each Test to begin to prepare your Junior for this test administration:

- [ACT English Test](#)
- [ACT Mathematics Test](#)
- [ACT Reading Test](#)
- [ACT Science Test](#)
- [ACT Writing Test](#)

PSAT AND PRE-ACT SCORE REPORTS WILL BE GIVEN TO STUDENTS IN DRIVE TIME NEXT WEEK: If you student took the PSAT or the Pre-ACT earlier this year, we will give them their Score Reports in Drive Time on Tuesday, February 11th. If you have any questions regarding these scores, please feel free to contact Ms. Brown (tbrown3@wcpss.net or 919-233-4050 Ext. 24898), our Dean of Students, in Student Services.

WINTER GUARD COMPETITION: Congratulations to our Athens Drive Winter Guard last weekend as they placed Second out of eleven groups at their competition. Tomorrow, Saturday, February 8th, at 5:00 p.m., they will be competing at Apex Friendship High School. They have been working hard on their program and I am proud of both their efforts and the way they represent us at their competitions!

BASEBALL FUNDRAISER ON SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 8TH: Our Baseball team is hosting a fundraiser from 7:00 a.m. until 4:00 p.m. at Steve's Place Deli at 6320 Capital Blvd. Suite 119, Plantation Square, in Raleigh. The owners of Steve's Place are donating 50% of the day's proceeds to our Baseball program.

HEALTH SCIENCE CAREER ACADEMY FUNDRAISER ON WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 19TH: Our Health Science Career Academy will be hosting a fundraiser on Wednesday, February 19th, from 5:00 p.m. until 9:00 p.m. at Mod Pizza at Waverly Place. Portions of the proceeds sold will go to our Health Science Career Academy. Thank you for your support of our students!

CURRICULUM NIGHT AND RISING FRESHMEN ORIENTATION: On Thursday, February 27th, 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 for the 2020 – 2021 School Year. 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. and end at 7:00 p.m. We look forward to sharing information and welcoming our newest JAGS to The Drive!

ATHENS' GOT TALENT! We are beginning a new tradition at The Drive--*Athens' Got Talent* which will be held on April 2nd beginning at 7:00 p.m. The Student Government is putting on a Talent Show open to ANY student, any grade level, and even staff members! Cost of admission is \$5.00, and all proceeds will go to charity! If your student has a talent (e.g., singing, dancing, comedy, anything!) encourage them to sign-up for an audition time by going to this [link](#) and signing up today! Audition dates are February 5th, 19th, and 26th. This is the perfect platform to show just how much "Athens' Got Talent!" Please contact Mr. Remaley (cremaley@wcpss.net) if you have questions.

ATHLETICS: We have a lot to be proud of with regards to our Winter student athletes! Our Cheerleaders performed very well at their Championships, we have Wrestlers competing in Regional Championships, our Swim Team is competing at the State Championships today, our Track Team will be sending individuals to the State Meet, and our Basketball Teams continue to play hard during their final regular season games. Please continue to check the Athens Drive Athletics website (www.wakecountyathletics.com/athensdrivehs) for all our game dates and times. Thank you for supporting our incredible student athletes! I continue to be proud of the way our student athletes, students, coaches, and families all represent Athens Drive so well.

THANK YOU! Those are all the announcements for this week. Please continue to check the Athens Drive website (www.wcpss.net/athensdrivehs) for general information and to help you stay informed. . I hope you all have a safe, dry weekend. Go JAGS and please take care.

REMINDER ANNOUNCEMENTS FROM PREVIOUS WEEKLY MESSAGES:

THE 1 MILLION PROJECT: Athens Drive Magnet High School has been selected as one of the Wake County Public School System (WCPSS) schools who are participating in [The 1 Million Project](#). The mission of the 1 Million Project is to help 1 million high school students who do not have reliable Internet access at home reach their full potential by giving them mobile hotspots and free high-speed Internet access. In short, this project gives free wireless hotspots to students in need with the ultimate goal of bridging the homework gap.

For students to participate in this program:

- students must be enrolled at Athens Drive Magnet High School;
- have a device that will connect to the internet;
- have limited or unreliable access to internet connections; and
- turn in a signed Consent form.

If you are interested in learning more or signing up to receive a free wireless hotspot, please contact Ms. Burnette (pburnette@wcpss.net) or Ms. Ruthven (kruthven@wcpss.net). Thank you for your support of this project!

MAGNET SCHOOL OF DISTINCTION: We received notification this week that we were selected as a Magnet School of Distinction by Magnet Schools of America! This award recognizes schools that demonstrate the ability to raise student academic achievement, promote racial and socioeconomic diversity, provide integrated curricula and instruction, and create strong family and community partnerships that enhance their Magnet theme. For the last three years we have been recognized as either a Magnet School of Distinction or a Magnet School of Excellence! I am proud to serve in a school and with a school family that is committed to our core values and in providing the best educational opportunities for our students! Thank you for your support of our efforts and for allowing us to serve your (our!) students!

CAMPBELL UNIVERSITY SPECIAL VISIT TO CAMPUS: An Admission Counselor from Campbell University will be meeting with students that are interested in learning more about Campbell University. The Meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, February 26th, from 10:30 a.m. until 11:10 a.m. Students that are interested in meeting with the Campbell University Admission Counselor must register in the Student Services Office by February 24th. Once a student signs-up they will receive a pass to attend the meeting.

FLU SEASON REMINDERS: The peak of the cold and flu season is upon us. We have several cases of the flu in our building among students and staff. To prevent widespread illness in the school, please be sure to follow these guidelines. The best thing you can do is to keep your student home when sick, as this will help stop the spread of illness to other student and teachers. Please keep them home when they show any of these symptoms: fever of 100 degrees F or higher; nausea or vomiting; severe headache; diarrhea; red, watery eyes with yellow drainage; and undiagnosed rash. Students should stay home until they have been naturally without fever for at least 24 hours. If you are called to pick up a sick child at school, plan to arrive swiftly. If you know your child has been exposed to someone diagnosed with the flu virus, call your doctor immediately to find out what to do. Thank you for your support in keeping our students and staff healthy!

TUTORING PROVIDED BY THE NATIONAL HONOR SOCIETY: I am pleased to announce that our National Honor Society (NHS) will be offering a new tutoring opportunity for any Athens Drive students. NHS will have tutors in the Media Center collaborative space every Monday during both “A” and “B” Lunches. NHS will match students and tutors based on their needs when they arrive at the tutoring session. Please let your students know about this resource and encourage them to participate if they need help. The first tutoring session will be this coming Monday, October 7th. All students are welcome!

STUDENT SERVICES WEBSITE: Please visit the [Student Services Website](#) to get information about upcoming events, scholarship opportunities, enrichment opportunities in the community, etc. You can also sign-up for the Student Services Remind message to get up-to-date information for each Class. Sign-up information is located outside of the Student Services office or on the Student Services website.

STUDENT SERVICES INSTAGRAM ACCOUNT: The Athens Drive Magnet High School Student Services Department has a new Instagram account. Follow us at [athensdrive_studentservices](#) to get Counselors’ updates, scholarship information, information on college presentations on campus, and much more. Please spread the word as we work to ensure our students are connected to the multitude of information to support them here at school and with their transition to post-secondary school or career plans!

COLLEGES VISITING ATHENS DRIVE MAGNET HIGH SCHOOL: Please know that we continue to have representatives from universities meeting with our students during the school day. University representatives are normally located in the area outside of the Attendance Office during both lunch periods. This is a great opportunity for our students to learn about the various programs that are available, admission requirements, and financial aid. For more information on the colleges that are visiting, you can contact Student Services (919-233-4050 ext. 24893) or visit the Student Services website (<http://adhs-student-services.weebly.com>).

SENIOR CLASS PICTURE: Our Senior Class took their whole class group picture for the Yearbook this week. Students and families can purchase the large panoramic picture online for \$15.00 by visiting www.strawbridge.com and use the code: FM318608.

SENIOR CLASS REMIND SIGN-UP: Senior parents, Mr. Remaley is our Senior Advisor and he does an outstanding job communicating with our Seniors and Senior families. Please know that now is the time to join Mr. Remaley's Senior Text Message group! You can send the text message: @theremaley to the number 81010 (or you can use 919-800-0977) to sign up today! This is the BEST way to stay current with Senior information, so you don't miss a thing!

JOIN THE PTSA REMINDER: Please remember that it is still not too late to join the PTSA! The PTSA is an amazing support to the teaching and learning at Athens Drive Magnet High School and I ask that you please join if you have not already. You can use this [link](#) to access member information. Thank you very much to those families that have already joined!

GRADUATION: I am fired up to announce that our Graduation date and time for our Class of 2020 has been finalized! Our Seniors will be Graduating on Wednesday, June 10th, 2020 at 6:00 p.m. at Reynolds Coliseum! Please note the change in venue for this year—the Class of 2020 will be Graduating at Reynolds Coliseum instead of the Raleigh Convention Center. Please be sure to save this date and time to celebrate the accomplishments of the Class of 2020! In addition, Seniors need to also be sure they attend the mandatory Graduation Rehearsal on Monday, June 8th, 2020 from 6:00 p.m. until 8:00 p.m. at Reynolds Coliseum.

ATHENS DRIVE SPIRIT WEAR: JAG Junction, the store located in the Gym Lobby where we sell Jaguar shirts and other items, will be open every Wednesday and Thursday, during both “A” and “B” lunches. If your student wants any Jaguar attire, this is a great opportunity for him/her to purchase it. Thank you!

ATHLETICS—PAWS AND BRICKS: Our Athletic Booster Club, the JAG Club, will be selling customized bricks and paws at the entrance to JAG Stadium again this year. If you are interested in purchasing one for your

student athlete, please visit this link ([Paws and Bricks](#)). If you have questions, contact Diane Huggins (dianeshuggins@yahoo.com).

ATHLETICS—JAG CLUB: Are you interested in helping with the JAG Club this year? Please email Lori Airee (my6blessings@yahoo.com) for more information on how to become involved.

ATHLETICS—SPORTS PASSES: Sports passes are now available for the 2019 – 2020 school year. Sports passes are good for admission to all Athens Drive Athletics home events, except for Endowment Games and Playoff Games. You can purchase Sports passes for the coming year at this link (<https://www.athensdrivejagclub.org/membership/>).