

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://athensdrivepts.com>).

Please remember that Friday, February 15th is an Early Release Day and school will be dismissed at 11:35 a.m. for all students. In addition, 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.

Our Brain Game Team is completing in the Playoffs tomorrow, Saturday February 9th, versus Durham School of the Arts and Cardinal Gibbons! We wish them well and look forward to seeing them on WRAL sharing their knowledge!

Our Winter Guard has started their competition season well, finishing in First Place last weekend at Cleveland High School! Tomorrow, Saturday, February 9th, they compete at 3:45 p.m. at Holly Springs 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!

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!

Parents of Seniors, if your Senior is interested in applying for one of the three \$500.00 PTSA Scholarships they provide to Graduating Seniors, your Senior must be a member of the PTSA by February 15th. Seniors (and any families that have not joined yet!) can sign-up to be a PTSA member at <https://bit.ly/2MBzHOI>.

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 will be run on February 12th; therefore, Mid-Year Transcripts will not be sent to Colleges/Universities until after this date. Students can request a copy of their updated Class Rank after February 12th. Forms are available in the Student Services office.

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.

Singing Valentines will be on sale Monday, February 11th; Tuesday, February 12th; and Wednesday, February 13th, during lunch and immediately after school. Purchase a song for your student for only \$5.00! Singing Valentines will be delivered during First Period, Second Period, and A Lunch Third Period. Thank you for supporting our Choral program!

Thank you to all our students who have moved their cars from the No Parking areas along Jaguar Park Drive. I know this has caused some frustration and I have spoken with many students and parents regarding the enforcement of the No Parking areas. However, I appreciate our students being responsible and doing the right thing. Please remember that Juniors or Seniors who need to drive to school and need a parking space, parking spaces are available on campus for a pro-rated amount for the remainder of the year. Otherwise, if students do not purchase a parking space on campus, they will have to find a space somewhere off campus where they can legally park. Thank you for helping our students take care of this so that our students do not get ticketed for parking illegally around our campus.

Looking ahead, please know that we will be administering the ACT Test to all Juniors on Wednesday, February 20th. The State of North Carolina pays for the administration of the ACT to all Juniors. We shared information with our Juniors during our Drive Time class on Thursday of this week.

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!

Also on Thursday, February 21st, our Concert Bands will be performing a Chamber Concert 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.

We are planning a 40th Anniversary Celebration at Athens Drive to be held on Thursday, March 14th. As we celebrate 40 years of excellence at The Drive, we would like to offer all alumni, and families associated with Athens Drive, who are interested in being a part of our Celebration to please email Ms. Tonya Hinton (tchinton@wcpss.net). We would love for alumni, and/or families of alumni, to share photos, stories, and ideas for this upcoming special celebration! We are planning on tours of the school, attendance at athletic events, Band Concert, and a special panel of former principals and school leaders to share stories and answer questions. We look forward to celebrating this milestone together as a school family!

Congratulations to our Men's Swimming Team for finishing Fourth in the State at the State Championships this week!! Our team performed well and represented The Drive in a positive manner! We even had a swimmer break a State Record and our Medley Relay Team set a new State Record! We also have Wrestlers competing in the State championships this weekend and we wish them well! Our Men's Basketball Team has Senior Night tonight, so please come out and support them in a crucial game for First Place in the Tri 6 Conference. Next Friday is our Senior Night for our Women's Basketball Team. In addition, Spring Sports Tryouts begin soon. If your student wants to play on a Spring Sports Team, he/she needs to be sure he/she knows when any mandatory meetings are, when tryouts are being held, has checked his/her eligibility, has his/her physical and forms

completed, and is ready to play. Please be sure to continue to check the Athens Drive Athletics website (www.wakecountyathletics.com/athensdrivehs) to find out the most up-to-date game information for all of our teams and the dates and times for all athletic events.

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 weekend. Go JAGS and please take care.