

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, emailed and texted to our school families, and e-mailed to the Athens Drive PTSA email group.

Please plan on attending our next PTSA Meeting that will be held on Tuesday, February 13th, beginning at 7:00 p.m., in the Library. As I shared in last week's message, we are asking for additional parent support in our PTSA for the rest of this year and in the coming year. Please consider sharing your gifts and talents with our school and help us continue to build an incredible school community!

The window for registering for Advanced Placement (AP) exams is now open and will remain open through March 5th. All students who are taking an AP Exam must register online via Total Registration. The Total Registration portal is available on the Athens Drive Magnet High School website (www.wcpss.net/athensdrivehs). Please contact Ms. Brown, our Dean of Students, in Student Services if you have further questions.

I would like to inform our entire school family that on February 21st and February 22nd, a team from AdvancED will be at our school conducting our Accreditation Review. Accreditation happens every five years and is an important process for our school to undertake. We have been preparing for their visit and will be asking students, families, and community partners to assist us during their visit. Thank you for your support of our school as we continue to look at what we can do to continuously improve!

Parents of Seniors, it is that time of the year when many scholarship opportunities are available for students. I encourage you to take advantage of these resources. You can find some scholarship information on our Student Services website—go to the Athens Drive website (www.wcpss.net/athensdrivehs), click on Students, click on Student Services, and then click on Scholarships. In addition to those scholarships, I did want to let our Seniors know that the application for this year's State Employee's Credit Union's (SECU) \$10,000 Scholarship is now available in Student Services. The SECU People Helping People Scholarship is only available to graduating public high school Seniors who are either members of SECU or the child of a parent/guardian who is a member of SECU. They should also be attending one of the 16 UNC system universities, have a GPA of a 2.5 or higher unweighted, and lastly demonstrate leadership, excellence of character, integrity and community involvement. The student also must file a Federal Application for Student Aid (FAFSA) form as part of the application. Students will need to submit an SECU Application and Community Involvement Essay, two letters of recommendation, and community involvement essay. The deadline to submit to be considered for an interview is February 19th by 3:00 p.m.

Please remember that our Chorus is selling Singing Valentine's outside the Auditorium both during lunch and immediately after school next week. Sales will continue through lunch on Tuesday, February 13th. Valentines will be delivered on Wednesday, February 14th.

Please remember to hold Thursday, March 1st on your calendar. That is the night we will be holding our rising Tenth through Twelfth Grade Curriculum Night and our Freshmen Open House. Information regarding this event will be posted on our website. The evening will begin at 5:30 p.m. in grade-level specific meetings. Then, parents and students will have the opportunity to visit all curricular areas to get detailed information about courses and course sequences. Registration for rising 10th, 11th, and 12th Grade students will take place during the month of March. Please know that Teachers will be entering course recommendations for students and Counselors will be working with our students to support them in correctly selecting classes to meet their post-secondary goals. We will also be distributing a Registration Packet to students that includes course offerings and course sequencing information. That information will be distributed in the next few weeks.

Tryouts for our Spring sports start on Wednesday, February 14th. In order for a student to participate in tryouts, the student must be eligible and have an up-to-date physical. We have scheduled a Spring Sports Parent Night on Wednesday, February 21st, beginning at 6:30 p.m. in the Upper Gym. The Spring sports game schedule is posted on the Athens Drive Athletics website (www.wakecountyathletics.com/athensdrivehs). As we move into

Conference and State Playoffs for our Winter Sports, please be sure to continue to check the Athens Drive Athletics website to find out the most up-to-date game dates and times for all athletic events. In addition, please be sure to follow @athensjags on Twitter for up-to-date information on Jaguar athletics.

Those are all of 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.