

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 remember that Monday, January 15th is our Martin Luther King, Jr. Holiday and there is no school for students or staff. To honor the values and service that Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. lived out, this long weekend presents a wonderful opportunity for our students not only to study for Final Exams, but also for our students to give back to others in our community.

Please remember that our Final Exams continue all of next week. We have the Biology End-Of-Course (EOC) Exam and English II, English III, and Math I Make-Up Exams on Tuesday, January 16th. First and Second Period North Carolina Final Exams (NCFEs), CTE Post Assessments, and Teacher-Made Final Exams will be given on Wednesday, January 17th. On Thursday, January 18th, we will be administering Third and Fourth Period NCFEs, CTE Post Assessments, and Teacher-Made Final Exams. Friday, January 19th is a Make-Up Exam Day and only students who still need to take an Exam should come to school. Please remember that EOCs, NCFEs, and CTE Post Assessments are State-mandated Exams and all students must take these Exams. There are no Senior Exam Exemptions for those Exams. Final Exams count 20% of a students' final grade. Please also remember that if a student does not have a Final Exam scheduled for that day, he/she should not be on campus.

Please also remember that students are not allowed to check out before the end of any Testing session. Each year it seems that students will communicate with parents to come and pick them up because they are done with their Final Exam. However, no student can be released from their Testing Room until the Final Exam Period is over. Please prearrange to meet with your student after the Final Exam Period is over if a student is leaving campus. On the Athens Drive website (www.wcpss.net/athensdrivehs) we have posted the Permission form for students to be released after their Exam Period.

The Wake County Public School System has announced make-up days for the school days we missed last week. Monday, January 22nd and Monday, February 19th are now school days for students. Monday, January 22nd is now the first day of the Second Semester. Please be sure to make these changes on your calendar.

The Athens Drive Theatre Department will host auditions for the Spring Musical, *In the Heights*, after school on Tuesday, January 23rd through Friday, January 26th. Audition information can be found on Mrs. Hayes' classroom website (<http://bit.ly/2CUZr69>). Please note that no student can audition without a parent or guardian signature on their audition form. Crew applications will be accepted now through Friday, January 26th. For more information, please email Mrs. Hayes at ahayes3@wcpss.net.

Please know that students received their school assignment for the 2018 – 2019 school year during their Drive Time class on Tuesday, January 9th. The assignment strip not only informs you of your school assignment for next year, but also informs you of the type of transportation that will be provided for your student. Further assignment options are also explained in this document.

Please remember that Student Services will not be able to sign driver's eligibility forms until all grades are final for the First Semester. Thus, driver's eligibility forms will not be signed from now through February 1st to ensure that all grades are stored and finalized so that we can verify that students have met the educational requirement for DMV. We will resume signing DMV forms on February 2nd.

Please check the Athens Drive Athletics website (www.wakecountyathletics.com/athensdrivehs) for all of our game dates, times, and rescheduled athletic events. Thank you for supporting our incredible student athletes!

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, enjoyable long weekend. Go JAGS and please take care.