

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:

DR. MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR. HOLIDAY ON MONDAY, JANUARY 20TH: Please remember that Monday, January 20th is our Dr. 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 to not only enjoy the end of the Semester and prepare for Final Exams, but also for our students to give back to others in our community.

FIRST SEMESTER FINAL EXAM SCHEDULE: Please know that our Final Exams for the First Semester will begin on Tuesday, January 21st. We have posted the First Semester Final Exam Schedule to this [link](#) on Athens Drive Magnet High School's website. Please remember that there is still time for our students to study for their Final Exams. Students were provided with a schedule that they personalized to know exactly when and where they need to be in order to take their Final Exams. Our Final Exams will begin on Tuesday, January 21st with the administration of the English II EOC Test, the Math I EOC Test, and the English III NCFE. On Wednesday, January 22nd, we will administer the Biology EOC Test and the Math III EOC Test. If your student is not taking one of these EOC or NCFE Exams, he/she does not need to come to school those days. Beginning on Thursday, January 23rd, we will have First and Second Period NCFEs, CTE Post-Assessments, and Teacher-Made Exams. On Friday, January 24th, we will have Third and Fourth Period NCFEs, CTE Post-Assessments, and Teacher-Made Exams. Then, on Monday, January 27th, we will have Make-Up Exams for any students who may have missed a scheduled Exam earlier in the testing schedule. 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 student's final grade. Please remember that if a student does not have a Final Exam scheduled for that day, he/she does not need to 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. Thank you for your attention to our Final Exam Schedule and I know our students will do well on their Tests!

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!

SCHEDULE CHANGE FORMS FOR SECOND SEMESTER CLASSES: Schedule Change Forms for the Spring Semester are available for students in the Student Services office and on-line. Please remember that schedule changes will only be considered for the following reasons:

1. The student is enrolled in a course the student has already completed and received credit.
2. The student is enrolled in a course for which the student has not met the prerequisite.
3. The student does not have a full schedule of 4 classes.

4. The student wants to move up/drop down a level in a core class (Must have signed Release form if dropping Honors/AP course).
5. The student needs a course for Promotion and/or Graduation.

If students meet one of the above criteria, then a Request for Schedule Change form may be completed and returned to the Student Services office by 2:30 p.m. on Friday, January 24th. Please know that the student request must meet one of the above criteria to be considered for a schedule change. No schedule changes are guaranteed, and there will be no schedule changes made for teacher preference or lunch preference. Also, there will be no schedule changes to elective courses unless a student is enrolled in a course the student has already passed or has not met the prerequisite for the course. Thank you for your understanding.

DRIVER'S ELIGIBILITY FORMS: Once Final Exams begin on Tuesday, January 21st, Student Services will not be able to sign Driver's Eligibility forms until all grades and Report Cards are finalized for the Semester. Thus, Driver's Eligibility forms will not be signed from Tuesday, January 21st through Wednesday, January 29th to ensure that all grades are stored/finalized for us to verify that students meet the educational requirements for DMV. Student Services will resume signing Driver's Eligibility forms again on Thursday, January 30th.

MID-YEAR CLASS RANK AND SCHOOL REPORTS: Mid-Year Class Rank will be run 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 will be available at the Front Desk of the Student Services Office beginning Tuesday, January 21st. Counselors will only send Mid-Year School Reports for students that complete the Request form.

SAT PREP COURSE STARTING SOON: Juniors who are planning on taking the SAT on Saturday, March 14th may want to sign up for the SAT Prep Course offered at Athens Drive. The Third Quarter SAT Prep Course is starting on Monday, February 3rd and Tuesday, February 4th to prepare for that SAT Test administration. Classes meet once a week on either Mondays from 6:00 p.m. until 9:00 p.m. or Tuesdays from 3:00 p.m. until 6:00 p.m. Please contact Mr. Remaley (cremaley@wcpss.net) or visit the Athens Drive website for more information. Space is limited, so register now!

SENIOR BREAKFAST—OPPORTUNITY TO SUPPORT THIS EVENT: Please remember that this awesome event for our Seniors is entirely funded and run by Senior parents, so much help is needed! To donate now to help us prepare for this special event, please use this [link](#). Please click [here](#) to donate Gift Cards or other Raffle Prizes to support our Senior Breakfast. This is a great opportunity for your company to support our efforts as well! Please contact DeLana Anderson (scottdelana@aol.com) or Kathy Carmer (klkcarmer@gmail.com) if you have any questions. Thank you for your support!

WINTER GALA: It is time again for our Second Annual Athens Drive Winter Gala! This year's organization to receive all the proceeds from this event is WakeMed Children's Hospital. Our goal is to raise \$10,000.00 to support this worthy organization! The Winter Gala will be held on Saturday, February 1st, from 7:00 p.m. until 10:00 p.m. at Chatham Station in downtown Cary. This dance is open to all students in all grade levels and it is semi-formal attire. Tickets will continue to be sold the week after Final Exams during both lunches. Tickets are \$20.00 (please remember that all proceeds go directly to WakeMed Children's Hospital) and there is also an on-line option to purchase tickets and/or make a donation through an Eventbrite site found at this [link](#). There is also a Venmo log-in you can use for donations @ADMHS-HSA. Completed student behavior contracts and guest applications need to accompany ticket purchases and can be found at the link listed above. I am so proud of the work our students have done to coordinate this fun event and raise money for WakeMed Children's Hospital!

ATHLETICS: Due to Final Exams, our Athletic Schedule is very light next week. 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!

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 stay warm and enjoy a safe, wonderful, and long weekend! Go JAGS and please take care.

REMINDER ANNOUNCEMENTS FROM PREVIOUS WEEKLY MESSAGES:

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/>).