

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:

THANK YOU FOR YOUR SUPPORT OF OUR FINAL EXAMS AND THE END OF THE FIRST SEMESTER: I appreciate your understanding of our Final Exam schedule this week to test all our students! I am thankful to have students who were committed to preparing for their Final Exams and finishing the Semester in a positive manner. Please remember that Second Quarter and First Semester Report Cards will be sent home with students on Friday, February 7th.

SCHEDULE FOR NEXT WEEK: Due to our Final Exam Schedule, the close of the First Semester, beginning of the Second Semester, and a Teacher Workday, next week's schedule is different. Here is what next week will look like:

- Monday, January 27th: Make-Up Final Exam Day: Only those students who need to make-up a Final Exam need to come on Monday. Make-Up Exams begin at 7:25 a.m., so please be sure all students who need to make-up a Final Exam are here on-time ready to test beginning at 7:25 a.m.
- Tuesday, January 28th: This is a Regular School Day and the First Day of the Third Quarter and Second Semester. Students will begin the day in Drive Time where they will receive a new schedule for the Second Semester. Students must follow that schedule.
- Wednesday, January 29th: Teacher Workday and no school for students.
- Thursday, January 30th: This is a Regular School Day. Seniors will be celebrating at their Senior Breakfast during part of First Period and at 5:00 p.m. we will have our Mid-Year Graduation ceremony in the Auditorium.
- Friday, January 31st: This is a Regular School Day.

Thank you for your understanding of our schedule for next week!

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!

MID-YEAR GRADUATION: I look forward to celebrating with our Seniors who are Graduating Mid-Year! Our Mid-Year Graduation ceremony will be held on Thursday, January 30th, beginning at 5:00 p.m. in our Auditorium. No tickets are needed for this ceremony. It is always a great day to celebrate with our students when they earn their Diploma!

SENIOR BREAKFAST MEETING—UPDATED INFORMATION: The location of the final Senior Breakfast Parent meeting that will be held on Monday, January 27th has changed. This important meeting will now be held in Mr. Remaley's Room, Room 2618, from 6:00 p.m. until 8:00 p.m. In addition to finalizing plans for the Senior Breakfast that will be held on Thursday, January 30th, we will be assembling gift and raffle bags during the meeting. Much help is needed and welcomed! Thank you for your support of this wonderful event!

SENIOR BREAKFAST: On Thursday, January 30th, our Seniors will start their day with our Senior Breakfast during the last hour of First Period. Seniors will report to First Period and be dismissed by announcement to the Upper Gym for an incredible breakfast, followed by some amazing prize giveaways! This event is completely sponsored by our Senior Parents and we are so grateful for their efforts and generosity!

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.

SENIOR SHIRTS: Mr. Remaley still has several orders of Senior Sportswear that need to be picked up in Room 2618, so if your Senior has not picked up their items, please ask them to stop by and get it! There are extra t-shirts available in all 3 designs for \$10.00 each while supplies last!

PTSA MEETING ON TUESDAY, JANUARY 28TH AT 6:30 P.M.: Please join us for our monthly PTSA meeting beginning at 6:30 p.m. in the Library. All families are welcome to attend!

WINTER GALA: It is almost time 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 next week 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!

FUTURE TEACHERS INFORMATION SESSION ON THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 6TH: Ms. Carolann Wade, from the Wake County Public School System (WCPSS), will be on campus on Thursday, February 6th, during both lunches, to share information about WCPSS Future Teachers Program. If you have a Senior who is planning to pursue a degree in Education and wants to teach in a WCPSS school upon completion of a teacher education program, this is an important session to attend. Additional information about this program can be found at this [link](#).

MEET THE TEACHER NIGHT FOR SECOND SEMESTER: If you are planning ahead, please keep Thursday, February 6th open for our Meet the Teacher Night for the Second Semester. 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](#).

ACT PREPARATION: Please know that all Juniors will be taking the ACT on Tuesday, February 25th. 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](#)

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!

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!

DRIVER'S ELIGIBILITY FORMS: 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 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.

ATHLETICS: We are entering the final weeks of our Winter Athletic season and some teams are already competing at our Conference Tournaments and in the State Playoffs. Our Basketball teams have games tonight and I wish our Cheerleading and Swim teams well as they both are participating in competition tomorrow. 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 enjoy a safe, wonderful 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!

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/>).