

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>).

It was great to have the building filled with students again to start the new year, even if it was for a shortened few days...! I hope you all had a wonderful break, and thank you for continuing to allow us to serve your student and your family again in this new year!

Please remember that next week is a full week, and our last week, of classes prior to our Final Exams for the First Semester courses. Please remember that Friday, January 11th, is now a regular school day, and our Final Exams begin on Monday, January 14th, due to the inclement weather we had in December.

Our revised Final Exam Schedule is posted to our website (<https://bit.ly/2L2TEgq>). Please know that today all students received a hard copy of the Final Exam Schedule so that they are aware of when/where each of their Final Exams are going to be held. Please know that our teachers are beginning to give review materials and other Exam information to students during class. However, it is important for our students to study outside of class for their Exams. 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 also remember that if a student does not have a Final Exam scheduled for that day, he/she does not need to be on campus. Thank you for your attention to our Final Exam Schedule.

Tickets for the Winter Charity Gala go on sale starting on Monday, January 8th. Tickets will be sold during both lunches all week long. Tickets cost \$20.00 each (cash only), and a Rules of Conduct form must be handed in at the time of purchase. The Rules of Conduct form can be found on our school website (<https://bit.ly/2RqWfGL>). The Winter Charity Gala will be held on Saturday, January 26th, from 7:00 p.m. until 10:00 p.m. at Chatham Station in Cary. If you have any questions regarding this event, please see Ms. Worrell (kworrell@wcpss.net) or Ms. Pipal (lpipal@wcpss.net).

Wednesday, January 9th, we will host our Winter Chorus Concert beginning at 7:00 p.m. in the Auditorium. Admission is free, and refreshments will be served afterwards, so please join us for some fabulous singing!

Thursday, January 10th, we will have our Winter Orchestra Concert beginning at 7:00 p.m. in the Auditorium. Admission is free to this concert and you will want to hear our talented students perform!

The Senior Breakfast is an annual tradition at Athens Drive that helps kick-off our Seniors' final Semester of High School. This year we will be holding our Senior Breakfast on Thursday, January 24th. In addition to breakfast, each student's name will be included in the raffle for a chance to win one of the many door prizes that are donated. This special and memorable event is entirely funded by donations from parents/guardians and local businesses. If you would like to make a tax-deductible donation or learn more, please visit the Senior Breakfast page on the Athens Drive PTSA website (<https://athensdriveptsa.com/class-news/senior-page/senior-breakfast/>). Please know that you can donate online by using the secure PayPal, donate gift cards or unwanted NEW gifts, or send in cash or check written out to the ADMHS PTSA (with a note in the memo for "Senior Breakfast") to help cover the expenses for the breakfast. Please place your donation in an envelope marked "PTSA: Senior Breakfast" and bring in to the Front Office. If you have any questions or want to know how you can help, please email seniors@athensdriveptsa.com with any questions. Thank you for your support of this fun recognition for our Seniors!

Once Final Exams begin on January 14th, Student Services will not be able to sign Driver's Eligibility forms until all grades and report cards are finalized. Thus, Driver's Eligibility forms will not be signed from Monday, January 14th through Friday, February 1st 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 Monday, February 4th.

Schedule Change forms for the Spring Semester will be available in the Student Services office and on our website beginning Friday, January 11th. Only Schedule Change requests completed on the Schedule Change form will be reviewed (no email or phone request will be accepted). All completed Schedule Change forms must be submitted to the Student Services office by Friday, February 1st, by 2:30 p.m.

The Third Quarter SAT Prep Course is currently enrolling Juniors planning to take the SAT Test in March. Space is limited, so please contact Mr. Remaley (cremaley@wcpss.net) for additional information.

We are planning a 40th Anniversary Celebration at Athens Drive this Spring. 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! More details to come on this exciting event!

Our Magnet Coordinator, Ms. Tonya Hinton, is coordinating our Magnet Tours for families interested in finding out additional information about Athens Drive Magnet High School. If you are interested in helping out with a Tour (they are held from 9:30 a.m. until 10:30 a.m.) on the following dates: Monday, January 7th; and Wednesday, January 23rd, please sign-up to assist (<https://bit.ly/2zSoBPg>) or contact Ms. Hinton at (tchinton@wcpss.net). Thank you for your support of our efforts to attract families to The Drive!

Please know that we continue to have representatives from universities meeting with our students during the school day. University representatives are 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 Ms. Carrillo in Student Services (919-233-4050 ext. 24893) or visit the Student Services website (<http://adhs-student-services.weebly.com>).

Our Winter Athletic season continues to move forward with positive results. I am proud of the sportsmanship and effort our student athletes put forth representing our school. Please 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!

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 and enjoyable weekend. Go JAGS and please take care.