

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>).

The 2018 – 2019 school year is almost in the books.... While it is hard to believe, the school year will end on Monday, June 10<sup>th</sup> with our last day of Final Exams. We do have a Make-Up Day for Final Exams on Tuesday, June 11<sup>th</sup>, if your student missed a day. Please remember that Wednesday, June 12<sup>th</sup> is a Teacher Workday and not a school day for students.

The final Report Card for the school year will be finalized and mailed home by Tuesday, June 18<sup>th</sup>. Please be on the lookout for your students Report Card in the coming weeks.

Graduation will be held on Wednesday, June 12<sup>th</sup>, beginning at 8:00 p.m. at the Raleigh Convention Center. **All Graduating Seniors need to report in proper Graduation attire by 7:15 p.m.—NO Exceptions—if a Graduating Senior is late, his/her Diploma will be removed from the stage and he/she will not participate in the Graduation Ceremony.** During the ceremony, a professional photographer will be taking pictures of all our students receiving their Diplomas. Information was sent home with students in the envelope with their Graduation tickets. Please remember that Graduation is a time of celebration, but it is important that we have a dignified ceremony that honors all our Graduates in only the highest of manners. Thank you for your help in ensuring that the Class of 2019 Graduates with class and dignity.

If family and friends cannot be at the Raleigh Convention Center on June 12<sup>th</sup> to celebrate Graduation with our Class of 2019, they can watch a live stream of the Graduation. The link to the live stream of our Graduation is: <https://livestream.com/accounts/7023962/wcpss2019>. We are excited to celebrate this awesome ceremony with our entire school family!

Rising Juniors and Seniors have the option of leaving campus during lunch. To have this privilege, an Off-Campus Lunch Pass application must be completed and signed for the 2019 – 2020 school year. Those applications will be available on the Athens Drive Magnet High School website ([www.wcpss.net/athensdrivehs](http://www.wcpss.net/athensdrivehs)) the second week of July.

In addition, if a rising Junior or Senior wants to park on campus next year, the Parking Pass application for the 2019 – 2020 school year will be available on the Athens Drive Magnet High School website ([www.wcpss.net/athensdrivehs](http://www.wcpss.net/athensdrivehs)) the second week of July.

Rising Seniors, current Juniors, please remember that from **June 17<sup>th</sup> through June 21<sup>st</sup>** (Please note that the dates are JUNE 17<sup>th</sup> through JUNE 21<sup>st</sup>—in my last message I made a mistake and put July 17<sup>th</sup> through July 21<sup>st</sup>. I apologize about that mistake!) you will be sitting for Senior Portraits. We want to ensure that every rising Senior gets his/her picture taken for them to be included in the yearbook. Information will be posted on the website and mailed home to students from Strawbridge Studios regarding Senior Portraits. Each rising Senior will get a letter with an appointment date for when they are to be here on campus for their Senior Portrait. If a rising Senior CANNOT make the date/time on the appointment card that was mailed home, then students can go to other Wake County Public School System High Schools and have their pictures taken there. Here is a list of the schools our students can go to in order to get their picture taken:

- Green Hope High: June 24<sup>th</sup> – June 28<sup>th</sup>
- Cary High: July 8<sup>th</sup> – July 12<sup>th</sup>
- Panther Creek: July 15<sup>th</sup> – July 19<sup>th</sup>
- Broughton High: July 22<sup>nd</sup> – July 26<sup>th</sup>
- Rolesville High: July 29<sup>th</sup> – August 2<sup>nd</sup>

You will need to call the Strawbridge Studios Customer Service line (866-624-6229) to change the appointment time if you need to make alternative arrangements. Thank you for being on the lookout for this letter mailed to your home. We are excited for our students as they prepare for their Senior year!

Also, if you are in the Class 2020 (this year's Juniors) and you are interested in Graduating mid-year (at the end of the First Semester) or you would like to apply for Late Arrival (no First Period class) or Early Release (no Fourth Period class) for the 2019 – 2020 school year, forms are available in the Student Services office. Please complete the appropriate forms and return to the Student Services office by June 12<sup>th</sup> so that we can ensure your schedule is correct for the 2019 – 2020 school year.

Just a reminder that the deadline for requesting changes to student course registration has passed. Please be aware that we are working on the master schedule for next school year (and will continue that work through the first day of school in August). Therefore, information in PowerSchool will not be completely accurate until early August. If a student should see course information in PowerSchool, please know that schedules are not finalized until the end of the summer.

Summer School applications are now available in the Student Services office. Completed Summer School application must be returned to the Student Services office by 2:30 p.m. on Friday, June 21<sup>st</sup>. If you have questions about Summer School please contact our Summer School Coordinator, Ms. Johnson ([ajohnson11@wcpss.net](mailto:ajohnson11@wcpss.net)).

If you need to come to the school during the summer, summer office hours for Student Services and the Main Office will be from 8:00 a.m. until 3:00 p.m.

Students interested in joining our Marching Band next year must register online at [www.athensdriveband.com](http://www.athensdriveband.com) by Friday, June 14<sup>th</sup>.

Now that Final Exams have started, Student Services will not be able to sign Driver's Eligibility forms until all Grades and Report Cards are finalized for the Spring Semester. Thus, Driver's Eligibility forms will not be signed from now through June 28<sup>th</sup> to ensure that all grades are stored/finalized so that we can verify that students meet the educational requirements for DMV. Student Services will resume signing Driver's Eligibility forms on July 1<sup>st</sup>.

There is still time to sign up to be a part of the annual Golf Tournament on June 13<sup>th</sup> at Lochmere Golf Club hosted by our JAG Club. Go to the JAG Club website (<https://www.athensdrivejagclub.org/golf-tournament/>) for registration and all the details. You won't want to miss this great day of fun!

This is my final message for the 2018 – 2019 school year, and I thank each one of you for allowing us the honor of serving your student. Please know that I understand the great responsibility that you place on us, and please know that we are passionate about providing all our students a safe, inviting, and rigorous school climate where our students can build on their strengths and interests and reach their ultimate potential. I believe in our teachers, I believe in our students, and I believe that we do have a school family that cares and supports students. Please know that we are committed to excellence and to working hard over the summer to continue to move forward and find ways to strengthen our instructional program, build on our Magnet program, and be prepared to start the 2019 – 2020 school year ready to challenge and meet the needs of all our students. I understand and am thankful for the privilege I have to serve you all, and I continue to be proud to be a part of the Athens Drive family.

I would continue to ask that we all please encourage our students, especially our Seniors, to make positive choices this weekend and throughout the summer! Please continue to check the Athens Drive website ([www.wcpss.net/athensdrivehs](http://www.wcpss.net/athensdrivehs)) throughout the summer for general information to help you stay informed. If I don't see you at Graduation or other activities, I hope you all enjoy a safe, outstanding summer! Go JAGS and please take care.