

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 Athens Drive Theatre Department's Spring Musical, *All Shook Up!* is next week! The show will run from Wednesday, March 6th through Saturday, March 9th. All shows begin at 7:00 p.m. in the Auditorium. This Musical is based on William Shakespeare's *Twelfth Night* and features the music of the King of Rock, Elvis Presley! Tickets are \$10.00 and can be purchased at the door. As a bonus, on Wednesday, March 6th, we will feature a student rush night where students can attend for \$5.00 with a valid student ID. Please come support the over 60 students that have been working tirelessly to produce a magical show. If you have any questions, please email Ms. Hayes (ahayes3@wcpss.net).

The Athens Drive Magnet High School Food Pantry is now open! Our Food Pantry is a collaborative effort with the Food Bank of North Carolina to serve Athens Drive Magnet High School, A.B. Combs Elementary School, Dillard Drive Middle School, and Centennial Middle School students and their families. We are so excited about this opportunity allowing us to reach our families in a new way, as we know that our students have difficulty learning when they are hungry. If we have the opportunity to help meet this basic need for our students and their families, we are excited to take it. Our Food Pantry will operate from 2:00 p.m. until 3:15 on Tuesdays and Thursdays. If you need to make an appointment to shop outside of our regular hours of operation, please contact Ms. Boothe (kboothe@wcpss.net or (919) 233-4050 ext. 24894) and she can assist you. Thank you for your support of this new endeavor to support our students and their families.

The registration portal for Advanced Placement (AP) Exams has now closed. Students who have registered for an AP Exam should check their email (the email that was used on the Total Registration portal) for an announcement from our AP testing Coordinator. If a student has changed their mind and would like to cancel their AP Exam, the student must contact Ms. Brown or Ms. Boothe in the Student Services office prior to Tuesday, March 5th, at 3:00 p.m. If a student does not cancel before this date and does not take the AP Exam, that student will be subject to an Unused AP Exam fee.

Please know that we have an Early Release next Friday, March 8th. Students will be dismissed at 11:35 a.m.

Counselors are currently conducting Junior Conferences. A copy of the schedule for Junior conferences is located outside of the Student Services office. Please encourage your student to attend their conferences because counselors will be assisting each student with course registration for the 2019 – 2020 school year as well as providing information to assist students with preparing for their Senior year.

Counselors will be conducting Sophomore Conferences starting March 18th. A copy of the schedule for Sophomore conferences is located outside of the Student Services office.

Counselors are currently conducting Freshman Conferences. Counselors will meet with students individually to assist students with course registration for the 2019 – 2020 school year.

Seniors had the opportunity to verify the correct spelling of their name for their Diploma during Drive-Time. Ask your Senior if they signed-off on their Name Verification during Drive-Time, and if they did not, then please encourage them to go to Student Services as soon as possible and verify it. This is important information that we will use to print Diplomas and create the Graduation Program.

Seniors, Jostens will be distributing Cap and Gown orders on March 25th during both Lunches in the Gym Lobby. Seniors who have yet to order need to do so as soon as possible, otherwise they will not receive their Cap and Gown until Jostens returns in April. Cap and Gown ordering can be done online by visiting www.jostens.com. Payment balances must be paid before the Cap and Gown can be picked up. If you have any questions about balances or other Senior items, please contact Mr. Remaley (cremaley@wcpss.net) for answers to your questions.

The application for Athens Drive Magnet High School PTSA Senior Scholarship is available on the Student Services website (<http://adhs-student-services.weebly.com/scholarships.html>). Information on the PTSA Senior Scholarship can also be found on the PTSA website (<https://athensdriveptsa.com/class-news/senior-page/senior-scholarship/>) as well. All applications are due to the Student Services office by Friday, April 5th.

The Charles A. Moss, Jr. UNC Freshman Scholarship honors and promotes Athens Drive Magnet High School students who are accepted to attend the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill and are in economically challenged situations. This scholarship was originated by the siblings of Charles Moss to honor his work in their mother's name. Charles is the proud father of two Athens Drive graduates, who is a strong proponent of the school and the surrounding community. The purpose of the Scholarship is to promote the values the family strongly holds. The Scholarship will award approximately \$5,000.00 towards the winning student's Freshman year university expenses. The award will be divided between the first and second semester costs with first semester attendance and academic requirements to attain in order to retain the scholarship for second semester. Visit the Student Services website (<http://adhs-student-services.weebly.com/scholarships.html>) for information on this and other Scholarships.

Juniors, the final SAT Prep Course of the year is starting April 22nd and 23rd to prepare students for the June SAT Test. Any Juniors interested in registering for this class can contact Mr. Remaley (cremaley@wcpss.net) for details. Course information can also be found on the front page of the Athens website (<https://www.wcpss.net/athensdrivehs>).

We are planning a 40th Anniversary Celebration at Athens Drive to be held on Thursday, March 14th. Our plan is to begin the festivities from 3:30 p.m. until 5:15 p.m. with faculty and student alumni meeting and greeting, and we will have tours of the school available. From 5:30 p.m. until 6:30 p.m., we will be hosting a 40th Anniversary Panel in the Auditorium. We will have many former Principals and school leaders on the panel to share stories and history. In addition, we also have several athletic events happening that night for alumni and families to attend, and at 7:00 p.m. we will have a Band Concert in the Auditorium as well. Please email Ms. Tonya Hinton (tchinton@wcpss.net) if you are interested in assisting with this event or would like additional information. We would love for alumni, and/or families of alumni, to share photos, stories, and ideas for this upcoming special celebration! We look forward to a great night celebrating 40 years of excellence at The Drive!

Looking ahead, we ask you to save the date for our Spring Beautification Day that will be held on Saturday, April 13th, 9:00 a.m. until 12:00 noon. We will mulch, weed, and clean up our gardens in front of the school as well as some other garden maintenance and clean-up efforts. This is a great opportunity for students to earn Volunteer Service Hours and support our school! If you would like to help and/or lead an area of clean up, please contact John Sykes at jsykes02@bellsouth.net. Thank you for all you give to the Athens Drive family!

We finished our Winter Athletic Season last night and I was very impressed with the outstanding achievements of our student athletes and teams! We finished with the Second highest Team Score for a Wake County Public School System (WCPSS) school in Swimming, finishing Fourth in the State. We are one of only three WCPSS schools that had a Wrestler in the State Championships matches. And, we were one of only five WCPSS schools who had both the Men's and Women's team make it to the Second Round of the Basketball State Championships. We also finished one point out of the lead for the Wells Fargo Cup standing in the Winter season for the Tri 6 Conference. I am proud of our coaches, student athletes, athletic director, and all our families for their support of our athletic program! Our Spring Sports have started....even though we have had to postpone several competitions already due to the weather... and I look forward to a fun and successful Spring of sports! To stay on top of all of the games dates and times, please be sure to continue to check the Athens Drive Athletics website (www.wakecountyathletics.com/athensdrivehs) to find out the most up-to-date information. Thank you, as always, for all your support of our 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, warm, and dry weekend—let's hope the sun comes out at some point!! Go JAGS and please take care.