

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>).

What a great night last night celebrating 40 years of excellence at The Drive! It was wonderful to have so many former students and staff members come together to share their experiences in building the foundation of our school family! It was inspiring to hear the stories about students and staff who truly made a difference in the first 40 years! We have begun to put together pictures and history regarding our first 40 years and you can see the work in progress at <http://bit.ly/historyofathensdrive>. We will continue to build this site over the years to capture the stories of Athens Drive. Thank you all for being a part of our special school family! Please know that we realize what a privilege we have in teaching your (our!) students! Thank you for allowing us the honor of serving your student and family as we work together to help every student reach his/her ultimate potential!

As part of our 40<sup>th</sup> Anniversary celebration, we are starting a 40 for 40 campaign. Through this effort we are asking that our school family members (past and present) donate \$40.00 dollars for our 40 years of history to provide funding for our current student and staff needs and begin to fund a new Scholarship Fund for our Graduating Jaguar students who are planning to attend college, major in Education, and become teachers. We are hoping that through this campaign we can make a positive difference now and help create a legacy for the future. If you would like to contribute, please visit the campaign link at: <http://bit.ly/athensat40>. Thank you for your consideration in donating and making a difference!

Our Counselors will be conducting Sophomore Registration Conferences starting Monday, March 18<sup>th</sup>. A copy of the schedule for Sophomore 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 Junior year. Counselors are still meeting with Ninth Grade students individually to assist students with course registration for them as well.

Our school has been selected to participate in the CWRA+ assessment. The CWRA+ is a required part of Wake County Public School System's (WCPSS) broader effort to develop a balanced assessment system as outlined by our Strategic Plan. This test measures concepts, like Critical Thinking, which we are not able to measure using only End-Of-Course and North Carolina Final Exams. It also provides our Superintendent with valuable data on how we are doing as a School and District. This assessment lasts approximately 90 minutes. Last week we gave information to approximately 200 Juniors who were randomly selected to take this assessment. We will be giving the CWRA+ in small groups on Tuesday, Wednesday, and Thursday of next week to those students.

Please remember that the Third Quarter ends on Tuesday, March 26<sup>th</sup> and the Fourth Quarter begins the next day, on Wednesday, March 27<sup>th</sup>. I know this has been a long stretch of classes without breaks, and I just want to ask parents to help remind our students, including our Seniors, to stay focused on finishing the Third Quarter strong and building for a great ending to the 2018 – 2019 school year. Please remember that Third Quarter Report Cards will go home on Friday, April 5<sup>th</sup>.

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 p.m. on Tuesdays and Thursdays. If you need to make an appointment to shop outside of our regular hours of operation, please contact Ms. Kendall Boothe ([kboothe@wcpss.net](mailto: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.

Seniors have had the opportunity to verify the correct spelling of their name for their Diploma. Ask your Senior if they signed-off on their Name Verification during Drive-Time, and if they did not, then please encourage

them 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 25<sup>th</sup> 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](http://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](mailto: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 5<sup>th</sup>.

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.

The 2019 Prom will be at the Sheraton Hotel in Downtown Raleigh on May 4<sup>th</sup> from 8:00 p.m. until 11:30 p.m. If you are willing to help us plan and prepare for this event, there are multiple opportunities to help make this the best Prom ever! Please use this link (<http://tinyurl.com/admhspromvolunteers>) to indicate how you can help. Feel free to contact Scott Maxwell ([smaxwell@wcpss.net](mailto:smaxwell@wcpss.net)) if you have any questions or want any additional information.

Prom tickets are on sale online NOW. Tickets are \$30.00 each and all ticket purchases are non-refundable. Tickets bought online can be picked up from April 29<sup>th</sup> through May 2<sup>nd</sup> in the Gym Lobby. Tickets will also be on sale after school from April 29<sup>th</sup> through May 2<sup>nd</sup> in the Gym Lobby—cash only! Please remember that only students who are currently either a Junior or a Senior may purchase a ticket. All Athens Drive students need to complete a Prom Application form which can be found on the Athens Drive website (<https://www.wcpss.net/domain/9728>) and requires a parent/guardian signature. Any guest who wants to attend the Prom with a current Athens Drive Junior or Senior student must complete a Guest Application form, which can be found on the Athens Drive website as well. Completed Guest Application forms must be submitted by no later than April 23<sup>rd</sup>. Please remember that all fees and fines must be cleared prior to the purchase of a Prom ticket. This includes Library, School, Parking, Athletic, and Arts fees/fines. Thank you for your support of this wonderful tradition for our students!

The Athens Drive Student Government is once again sponsoring the Cinderella Project. The Cinderella Project is an opportunity for students to get free Prom dresses, shoes, accessories, and a limited amount of men's suit coats, pants, and shoes. We are currently taking donations of any of these items by dropping them off in Room 1920. Mark your calendars for the following dates when students can stop by and see what we have to offer: April 4<sup>th</sup> and 5<sup>th</sup> during Lunch and After School in the Library, and then on April 6<sup>th</sup> from 10:00 a.m. until 2:00 p.m. in the Cafeteria. If you are on Instagram, then follow us at: @adcinderella (you can even reserve a dress through Instagram!). If you have any questions, please direct them to Scott Maxwell ([smaxwell@wcpss.net](mailto:smaxwell@wcpss.net)) or Chris Remaley ([cremaley@wcpss.net](mailto:cremaley@wcpss.net)).

Also, students can go to The Prom Shoppe, an outreach ministry for Apex United Methodist Church, that provides prom dresses, shoes, jewelry, and accessories to area teens at no cost. The Prom Shoppe will be open

Friday, March 15<sup>th</sup>, between the hours of 3:00 p.m. and 7:00 p.m., and on Saturday, March 16<sup>th</sup>, from 10:00 a.m. until 1:00 p.m. The Prom Shoppe is located at the Apex United Methodist Church Christian Life Center, at 100 S. Hughes Street in Apex. For more information, please contact Stacy Kivett ([prom.shoppe@apexumcfamily.org](mailto:prom.shoppe@apexumcfamily.org)).

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

Looking ahead, we ask you to save the date for our Spring Beautification Day that will be held on Saturday, April 13<sup>th</sup>, 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 ([jsykes02@bellsouth.net](mailto:jsykes02@bellsouth.net)). Thank you for all you give to the Athens Drive family!

We have had a very successful week of athletics at The Drive! I continue to be proud of the way that our student-athletes represent us on the court, track, course, and fields! Please remember that we have a home game, meet, or match of some sort almost every night of the week. Please remember that the most up-to-date game dates and times are always posted on the Athens Drive Athletics website ([www.wakecountyathletics.com/athensdrivehs](http://www.wakecountyathletics.com/athensdrivehs)). In addition, please be sure to follow @athensjags on Twitter for up-to-date information on Jaguar athletics. 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](http://www.wcpss.net/athensdrivehs)) for general information to help you stay informed. I hope you all have an enjoyable, safe, wonderful weekend! Go JAGS and please take care.