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 (<u>https://www.wcpss.net/athensdrivehs</u>), emailed and texted to our school families, and linked to the PTSA Athens Alert newsletter (<u>https://athensdriveptsa.com</u>).

The Counselors, Mr. Remaley, and I had a chance to meet with our Senior Class today during Drive Time. It was great to share information with our Seniors regarding staying focused to finish this year strong, share yearend Senior activities information, share Graduation information, provide information about transitioning to college and final transcript procedures, and provide a form for students to share scholarship information with us so that we can recognize their achievements at our Senior Assembly. I am excited about this time of the year as we begin to reflect on the achievements of our students and I can look forward to handing Diplomas to all our Seniors on Wednesday, June 12<sup>th</sup>!!

Seniors, Jostens will be on campus on Monday, March 25<sup>th</sup> during both lunches in the Gym Lobby to deliver Cap & Gowns and Senior products. All items must be paid for in full before students can receive their products. Online payments must be made 48 hours prior to the delivery date on Monday. Cash or Money Order only will be accepted on the delivery date. If you still need to place an order, please go to <u>www.jostens.com</u>. This is an exciting time for us and for our Seniors—only 48 more school days until Graduation!

During our Senior Meeting today, we also reminded our Seniors that they should have verified the correct spelling of their name for their Diploma. Ask your Senior if they signed-off on their Name Verification, and if 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.

Please remember that the Third Quarter ends on Tuesday, March  $26^{th}$  and the Fourth Quarter begins the next day, on Wednesday, March  $27^{th}$ . I know this has been a long stretch of classes without breaks, and I just want to ask parents to help remind all our students 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>.

Also, on Tuesday, March 26th, we will have a PTSA Meeting beginning at 6:30 p.m. in the Library. All Athens Drive families are invited to attend.

Friday, March 29<sup>th</sup> is a Teacher Workday and there is no school for students. Students do not come to school next Friday, March 29<sup>th</sup>.

Course registration for the 2019 - 2020 school year continues to move forward. We are continuing to meet with our students to complete their course selections for next year. Please be talking with your student about the courses they are selecting for next year as we work to ensure that all our students are on a path to Graduate and reach their post-Secondary goals.

Athens Drive Magnet High School will be hosting Reality Of Money on Thursday, April 25<sup>th</sup>. This financial interactive simulation, sponsored by State Employees Credit Union and the Athens Drive Business Alliance, is designed to help students understand basic household budgeting and decision making. Participating students will learn the real-life costs associated with their choices as they assume the role of an adult. This will be a great learning experience for them and for you as a volunteer. In order to make this opportunity possible, we need many volunteers for each session throughout the day. Qualifications to volunteer are simple and include the ability to interact with students and experience with paying bills and/or managing a family or personal budget. Please consider signing up for the entire day (both sessions). However, if you are only available to volunteer for one session, indicate in which session you would like to participate. Lunch will be provided for you if volunteering for both sessions. Volunteer orientation will take place from 7:00 a.m. until 7:15 a.m. on the morning of the event. If you are registering only for the afternoon session, another volunteer will brief you on your role prior to the session and you may check in any time prior to 11:15 a.m. The registration link to register to volunteer at our Reality of Money is: <u>https://www.signupgenius.com/go/508044eafa923a7fd0-spring2</u>. Thank you for your willingness to serve in this manner!

Please know that there are only two Driver Education classes remaining for this school year. If your student would like to be in the April or May class, you will need to submit a Registration form as soon as possible as there are only a few seats still available. Registration forms can be obtained in the Front Office or online at the Jordan Driving School website (www.JordanDriving.com).

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: <u>http://bit.ly/athensat40</u>. Thank you for your consideration in donating and making a difference!

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 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 application for Athens Drive Magnet High School PTSA Senior Scholarship is available on the Student Services website (<u>http://adhs-student-services.weebly.com/scholarships.html</u>). Information on the PTSA Senior Scholarship can also be found on the PTSA website (<u>https://athensdriveptsa.com/class-news/senior-page/senior-scholarship/</u>) 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 (<u>http://tinyurl.com/admhspromvolunteers</u>) to indicate how you can help. Feel free to contact Scott Maxwell (<u>smaxwell@wcpss.net</u>) 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 а Prom Application form which can 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: @adncinderella (you can even reserve a dress through Instagram!). If you have any questions, please direct them to Scott Maxwell (smaxwell@wcpss.net) or Chris Remaley (cremaley@wcpss.net).

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 (<u>cremaley@wcpss.net</u>) for details. Course information can also be found on the front page of the Athens website (<u>https://www.wcpss.net/athensdrivehs</u>).

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 (jsykes02@bellsouth.net). Thank you for all you give to the Athens Drive family!

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 (<u>www.wakecountyathletics.com/athensdrivehs</u>). 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 (<u>www.wcpss.net/athensdrivehs</u>) for general information to help you stay informed. I hope you all have an enjoyable, safe, and wonderful weekend! Go JAGS and please take care.