

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 is hard to believe that the school year is winding down! I thank you for your support during our Final Exam Schedule and in helping us finish the year strong! We have two final days of instruction next week, Monday and Tuesday, June 3<sup>rd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup>. Then, we have four days of Final Exams beginning on Wednesday, June 5<sup>th</sup> for our students and then one day, Tuesday, June 11<sup>th</sup>, of Make-Up Exams for those students who may have missed taking an Exam during their regularly scheduled time. Today during Drive Time we reviewed the Final Exam Schedule with our students to ensure they understood when and where their Final Exams will be given. Please be sure that our students are on-time each day during Final Exams so that we can begin testing as soon as possible. Thank you for your support of this effort.

If a student does not have a Final Exam on a Final Exam Day next week, the student should not be on campus. Please know that each day our staff will be either administering or proctoring a Final Exam. If a student does come to campus, he/she will be in the Cafeteria or Auditorium in a quiet Study Hall for the entire day. Students are allowed to leave to go home once the Final Exam Period has ended (please note—not once they have individually completed the exam or their testing site has completed their test, but at the end of the Final Exam Period), and the student does not have any more Final Exams that day. In that case, students should plan on leaving campus immediately and cannot return to school. If a student does not leave campus after their Final Exam Period has ended, he/she will be expected to report to the Cafeteria or Auditorium for a quiet Study Hall for the remainder of the day.

Seniors, please remember that there is a **MANDATORY** Senior Graduation Practice on Monday, June 3<sup>rd</sup>, at 6:00 p.m. Seniors need to report to the Raleigh Convention Center no later than 5:15 p.m.! This is a **MANDATORY** Rehearsal and no Graduating Senior can miss this practice. If a Senior fails to participate in our Graduation Rehearsal, the Senior will **not** participate in Graduation. Seniors will receive their tickets to Graduation at this practice. Any Senior who owes a fee or fine as well as any Senior in academic jeopardy will not receive their tickets. Please plan ahead and allow time for traffic and parking. Attendance at the Practice is required in order to participate in Graduation on June 12<sup>th</sup>. If a Senior is not familiar with the Convention Center and downtown area, then I encourage him/her to take time this weekend and drive downtown to help get familiar with streets, parking, and where to enter the Convention Center from McDowell Street (the side with the shimmer wall that looks like a tree blowing in the breeze). Thank you for helping us ensure ALL of our Seniors are able to walk across the stage on June 12<sup>th</sup> and receive their Diploma!

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!

Parents of Seniors, please help us ensure that all qualified Seniors Graduate on June 12<sup>th</sup>. If your Senior still needs to pass a course or courses, pay fines and fees, etc., please support us by helping your Senior meet these obligations. Seniors who do not meet these Graduation requirements will not participate in Graduation exercises.

Students interested in joining our Marching Band next year must register online at [www.athensdriveband.com](http://www.athensdriveband.com) by Friday, June 7th.

Once Final Exams begin on June 5<sup>th</sup> 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 June 5<sup>th</sup> 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>.

Rising Seniors, current Juniors, please remember that from July 17<sup>th</sup> through July 21<sup>st</sup> 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 4<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)).

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!

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 would ask that we encourage all our students, but especially our Seniors, to make positive choices this weekend and throughout the next week leading up until Graduation! I continue to wish all our students the best success on Exams! I hope you all enjoy a safe, wonderful weekend! Go JAGS and please take care.