

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, emailed and texted to our school families, and emailed to the Athens Drive PTSA email group.

Please remember that the last day of the First Quarter is this Wednesday, October 31st. First Quarter Report Cards will be sent home on Friday, November 9th.

I would like to give an update on our partnership with James Kenan High School. After being out of school for the past 41 days, teachers and students finally returned to class this week. In speaking with staff members, they say that this has been a life changing event for all of them and something they will never forget. The principal shared that he had never seen students and staff members so excited about coming to school! During their time away from school, they grew accustomed to receiving numerous phone messages stating they would be returning on a certain date, only to receive a follow-up phone message informing them there had been another setback. I believe they are grateful to be returning to some level of normalcy, even though they are far from the “normal” that existed prior to Hurricane Florence. As they get back into their routines and schedules, we will continue to work together to find ways to partner and support them and build relationships between our two school families. Thank you for your continued kindness shown to the students, staff, and families of James Kenan High School.

Parents of Seniors, the Senior Class had a Senior Class meeting today to receive information regarding ordering their Cap and Gown and other Senior products from Jostens. Please be sure to take time to look over the information that was provided to every Senior and discuss with your Graduate about their Senior orders. If your Senior did not bring home the packet that was distributed, we have extra packets in the Main Office. Please remember that it is the responsibility of every Senior to order their own Cap and Gown, or they can borrow a former Graduate's Cap & Gown (as long as it is the Royal Blue one!). Every Senior will also have to pay the \$50.00 Graduation Fee which is included in the Cap and Gown order. So, even if you borrow a Cap and Gown from someone else, you will still need to pay the Graduation Fee. Jostens will be on campus Friday, November 2nd, and Thursday, December 6th, during both lunches to take orders in person and answer any questions students may have. Please remember that a \$60.00 deposit is required for all orders placed. Please remember that students and families can place their orders on-line as well. If you have any questions, please feel free to contact Mr. Chris Remaley, our Senior Class Advisor, at cremaley@wcpss.net.

Jostens will also be on campus to take Class Ring orders on Thursday, November 1st, during both lunches. The minimum deposit required for Class Ring orders is \$75.00.

This is a reminder to our parents of Seniors that your Senior Ads are due! If you would like to buy a space to congratulate your Senior in the Yearbook, this is the time. Ads can be purchased through the website and range in price based on size. No design ability needed, our students will create and personalize an ad just for you! Upload your photos and provide a message and then wait for the magic to happen. Once our students have created your space they'll email you a proof to ensure your happiness and submit for publication. The deadline for Ads is Tuesday, October 30th, so hurry in now to reserve your space! If you have any questions about ads feel free to email Ms. Luna (eluna@wcpss.net), our Yearbook Advisor. Ms. Luna is out this Semester, and email is the only way to reach her regarding any Senior Ads questions.

Winter Sports tryouts begin next Wednesday, October 31st. If you are interested in trying out for a Winter Sport, please contact the Coach to get tryout times and locations. You must be academically eligible to participate and have up-to-date physical paperwork on file to tryout. The contact information for all the coaches is linked here: [Coaches Contact Information](#). Winter Sports Parent Night will be on Wednesday, November 14th in the Upper Gym beginning at 6:30 p.m.

Our Marching Band will be pulling off a double this weekend, and I wish them well! They will be marching in two competitions in the Charlotte area tomorrow, Saturday, October 27th, and I know they will share their excellence at both competitions!

Auditions for the Spring Musical, *All Shook Up*, will be held on November 29th and November 30th, with a Dance Call held on December 3rd. To prepare students, the Theatre Department will host two audition workshops. The Dance Workshop will be hosted on November 1st after school in the Auditorium from 2:45 p.m. until 4:45 p.m. and will be led by our guest choreographer, Chasta Hamilton, owner of Stage Door Dance. During this workshop, students will be taught the audition choreography that they must perform during the Dance Call on December 3rd. This will be the only opportunity to learn the dance directly from the choreographer before auditions occur. There will be an additional audition workshop lead by Ms. Hayes and Mr. Santangelo on November 8th where they will go over additional audition information and how to select your audition music. For students interested in auditioning for this year's musical, it is highly encouraged that they attend both workshops. For more information, please contact our Theatre Director, Ms. Hayes (ahayes3@wcpss.net).

Please know that we continue to have representatives from universities meeting with our students during the school day. University representatives are located in the area outside of the Attendance office during both lunch periods. This is a great opportunity for our students to learn about the various programs that are available, admission requirements, and financial aid. For more information on the colleges that are visiting, you can contact Ms. Carrillo in Student Services (919-233-4050 ext. 24893) or visit the Student Services website (<http://adhs-student-services.weebly.com>). On Wednesday, October 31st, Appalachian State, Cal Berkeley, UNC Charlotte, UNC Greensboro, East Carolina University, and the University of Alabama will be on campus.

Yearbooks are currently on sale for \$80.00 through the yearbook website (<https://athensdriveyearbook.weebly.com>). Prices will increase in December, so please make sure you purchase now for your lowest price option.

The Band's annual fruit and nut fundraiser is kicking off on Monday, October 22nd. Information on this fundraiser is available online on the band website (www.athensdriveband.com/fundraisers/fruit-and-nut-sale). In addition, any Band student will gladly take your order. Orders need to be placed by Tuesday, November 13th, and orders will be picked up on Friday, December 7th.

Chorus kicked off its Butterbraid and Go Play Save Coupon Book fundraiser last week. See any Chorus student to buy some delicious treats for the upcoming holiday season or a coupon book with over \$12,000.00 worth of coupons!

Our Magnet recruiting season is beginning. We are hosting tours and Open Houses in the coming weeks and months and look forward to showcasing the great things that are happening at Athens Drive. I appreciate your support as we work to share information about our school, Magnet Program, and school family with interested families. Please visit the Magnet Information portion of our Athens Drive website <https://www.wcpss.net/domain/7485> to find information regarding our Medical Sciences and Global Health Initiatives Magnet program.

Athens Drive Magnet High School will be hosting Reality of Money on Thursday, November 15th. 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. To make this event happen for our students, we need approximately 30 volunteers for each session throughout the day. Please consider signing up for the entire day (both sessions) or just one of the sessions. Please follow this link <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/508044eafa923a7fd0-reality> to sign-up to assist. Thank you for your support!

Just a reminder to continue to check the Athens Drive Athletics webpage (<http://www.wakecountyathletics.com/athensdrivehs>) for game times of our Fall sports as we move into the playoff and state championship season and our Winter Sports begin.

Those are all the announcements for this week. Please continue to check the Athens Drive website (www.wcpss.net/athensdrivehs) for general information and to help you stay informed. I hope you all have a wonderful weekend. Go JAGS and please take care.