

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>).

## **NEW OR UPDATED ANNOUNCEMENTS:**

**WORKDAY ON WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 9<sup>TH</sup>, NO SCHOOL FOR STUDENTS:** Please remember that Wednesday, October 9<sup>th</sup> is a Workday and there is no school for students. Teachers will be involved in professional learning throughout the day on Wednesday, October 9<sup>th</sup>.

**HOMECOMING:** Next week is Homecoming Week at The Drive! Homecoming 2019 is next Friday, October 11<sup>th</sup> and that means Spirit Week is next week! The Homecoming theme this year is *Disney at the Drive*. Our Homecoming Football game will be on Friday, October 11<sup>th</sup>, beginning at 7:00 p.m., versus Green Hope High School. With Homecoming comes a Pep Rally for the whole school in Jaguar Stadium on October 11<sup>th</sup> at the end of the school day! We will recognize all the Fall Sports Teams, have performances from the cheerleaders and dance teams, recognize our Homecoming King, and celebrate the spirit of Athens! Each grade level chose a Disney movie to represent and the Freshmen are "The Jungle Book;" Sophomores are "Finding Nemo;" Juniors are "Up!;" and Seniors are "Avengers: Endgame." Each Class has designed shirts for Spirit Week, and they will go on sale Monday, October 7<sup>th</sup> in various places around the school, so tell your students to listen for the announcements each day for where and when! Homecoming Spirit Days during the week are: Marvel Monday (wear patriotic stuff or your favorite Marvel shirt!); Tourist Tuesday (dress like a tourist!); Wonderful Wednesday (No School! Teacher Workday!); Team Thursday (wear Class spirit shirts or dress like your class movie theme); and Spirit Friday (orange and blue!)! Thank you for your support in having a great Homecoming Week!

**LAST HOME FOOTBALL GAME TAILGATE:** We have two home football games remaining for this school year, Homecoming on Friday, October 11<sup>th</sup>, and then Senior Night on Friday, October 25<sup>th</sup>. To celebrate the season, our Seniors, and our school, the JAG Club is hosting a Tailgate event at the Friday, October 25<sup>th</sup> football game. The Tailgate will last from 5:00 p.m. until 7:00 p.m. and will be a full BBQ dinner. Athens Drive student tickets can be purchased for \$5.00 at JAG Junction (Wednesday and Thursday during both lunches). On-line tickets for family and friends are \$7.00 and can be purchased on the JAG Club [website](#). We look forward to celebrating our final Friday Night Lights evening together as a school family!

**FREE-AND-REDUCED-PRICE BREAKFAST AND LUNCH STATUS:** If your student receives free or reduced-price breakfast/lunch, please remember that beginning Tuesday, October 8<sup>th</sup>, all students who have not re-enrolled will need to pay full-price for meals. If you still need to renew your application, please use this [link](#) to apply. Paper copies are also available in the Cafeteria and Main Office.

**TUTORING PROVIDED BY THE NATIONAL HONOR SOCIETY:** I am pleased to announce that our National Honor Society (NHS) will be offering a new tutoring opportunity for any Athens Drive students. NHS will have tutors in the Media Center collaborative space every Monday during both "A" and "B" Lunches. NHS will match students and tutors based on their needs when they arrive at the tutoring session. Please let your students know about this resource and encourage them to participate if they need help. The first tutoring session will be this coming Monday, October 7<sup>th</sup>. All students are welcome!

**COLLEGES VISITING ATHENS DRIVE MAGNET HIGH SCHOOL:** Please know that we continue to have representatives from universities meeting with our students during the school day. University representatives are normally 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. Hope in Student Services (919-233-4050 ext. 24893) or visit the Student Services website (<http://adhs-student-services.weebly.com>). On Monday, October 7<sup>th</sup>, a UNC-Charlotte representative will be at Athens Drive Magnet High School to meet with students and on Friday, October 18<sup>th</sup>, a representative from

Meredith College will be on campus to meet with Athens Drive Magnet High School students. The representatives will be located in the Attendance Office Lobby during both lunches.

**WAKE TECHNICAL COMMUNITY COLLEGE—CAREER AND COLLEGE PROMISE INFORMATION:** On Friday, October 11<sup>th</sup>, we will have Wake Technical Community College representatives available in the Media Center Reference Area to meet with Career and Technical Education (CTE) classes to provide mini-clinics discussing the CTE Course Articulation Agreement. Topics that will be discussed include: What classes qualify for Articulation, information outlining Career and College Promise courses students could take in the Spring to receive College Credit, and information for orientation dates to register for Career and College Promise Courses. If your student is interested in these possibilities, please feel free to reach out to Ms. Carlton, our Career Development Coordinator ([mccarlton@wcpss.net](mailto:mccarlton@wcpss.net) or 919-233-4050 x24905) or Ms. Brown, our Dean of Students ([tbrown3@wcpss.net](mailto:tbrown3@wcpss.net) or 919-233-4050 x24898).

**MARCHING BAND:** Congratulations to our Athens Drive Magnet High School Marching Band who won First Place in Class in their competition last weekend at Hickory Ridge High School in Charlotte. This Saturday, October 5<sup>th</sup> the Marching Band will compete at Midway High School in Newton Grove at 8:20 p.m. This show is only 1 hour away from us! On Saturday, October 12<sup>th</sup>, the Marching Band will be competing in Jacksonville, NC at the White Oak High School competition. This show will also feature the East Carolina University Marching Pirates! While I know this is tough on our students to travel like this, what a wonderful gift to have them perform across the State to display their excellence in Marching and Musicianship for others outside the Triangle area! And, to further demonstrate the excellence of our Band, our Marching Band has now won "First Place in Class" in at least 1 competition each season for the past 24 Consecutive Years! How about our incredible Band?!?!

**ASVAB TEST ADMINISTRATION:** We will be administering the ASVAB Test on Tuesday, October 8<sup>th</sup>, beginning at 7:30 a.m., in the Auditorium. If your student registered for this test administration, please be sure he/she is here on campus, on time, and prepared for this test administration.

**PSAT ADMINISTRATION:** Please remember that we will be administering the PSAT on Wednesday, October 16<sup>th</sup>. We will operate on a Regular Bell Schedule that day, but those students who have registered to take the PSAT will be in their Testing site from the beginning of the day until 11:45 a.m.

**PRE-ACT FOR SOPHOMORES:** Please know that the Pre-ACT will be given to all eligible 10<sup>th</sup> Grade students on Tuesday, November 12<sup>th</sup>. The Pre-ACT is a practice test that predicts how a student will perform on the ACT. Students will need to bring 2 #2 pencils, a calculator, and a photo ID in order to be admitted to this test administration. More information will be coming as this date approaches, but I did want to provide information to our Sophomores about this coming test administration.

**SENIOR PICTURES:** Seniors should have received their Senior Make-Up Picture Appointment Cards in Drive Time this past Tuesday, October 1<sup>st</sup>. If your Senior has not had his/her Senior Portrait made, Wednesday, October 16<sup>th</sup> and Thursday, October 17<sup>th</sup>, are our Senior Picture Make-Ups. Each Senior who has not had their Picture taken has a picture appointment for one of these two days. Please help us ensure that all our Seniors get their picture taken so that we can honor them in our Yearbook. Thank you!

**PTSA REFLECTIONS PROGRAM:** If our students are interested in unleashing their inner artist, we have the perfect opportunity for them—the Reflections Arts Contest. This PTSA-led initiative is a great way for our students to shine. This year's theme, "Look Within," calls for our students' own unique interpretation through the Arts. Categories include: dance, film, literature, music, photography, and visual arts. If your student is interested, please see this [link](#) for more details. Please remember that submissions are due by Friday, October 18<sup>th</sup>.

**JOIN THE PTSA REMINDER:** Please remember that it is still not too late to join the PTSA! The PTSA is an amazing support to the teaching and learning at Athens Drive Magnet High School and I ask that you please join if you have not already. You can use this [link](#) to access member information. Thank you very much to those families that have already joined!

**HOSA DONATIONS BENEFITTING THE LEUKEMIA AND LYMPHOMA SOCIETY (LLS):** Students from a variety of Clubs are participating in the Pennies for Patients Fundraising Campaign. There are still two weeks left to donate “coins” (actually, all forms of money are welcome!) and 100% of the collection will go to support LLS. If you would like to make a general donation, please follow this [link](#) to donate. Thank you for your support!

**CHORUS FUNDRAISER:** Chorus is planning a trip this year to Nashville to participate in the Heritage Choral Festival, and they are raising funds to help offset the cost for students. One of those Fundraisers is providing Butterbraids/Cookie Dough/Coffee Beans purchases through Legacy Fundraising. If you have any interest in purchasing something to support our Chorus, please click this [link](#) to order. All orders and payments take place on-line, and the products will be delivered to the Chorus room on Thursday, November 14<sup>th</sup> and can be picked up immediately after school. All profits from this sale will go towards offsetting the cost of the trip for our students. Thank you for your support of our students!

**ATHENS DRIVE BASEBALL CAR WASH FUNDRAISER:** The Athens Drive Baseball Team will be holding a Car Wash Fundraiser on Saturday, October 12<sup>th</sup>, at the McDonald’s in Crossroads in Cary from 9:00 a.m. until 3:00 p.m. Cars are \$5.00 and Large Trucks and SUVs are \$10.00. Thank you for your support of our Baseball Team.

**ATHLETICS:** Our Fall athletic teams are winding down their regular seasons and will begin having their Senior Nights, Conference Tournaments, and State Playoffs in the coming weeks. Please remember that we have a bye-week this week, so there is no Football Game tonight. For the most up-to-date schedule information, please check the Athens Drive Athletics website (<http://www.wakecountyathletics.com/athensdrivehs>) to stay aware of all game dates, game times, and any changes to our Athletic competitions. I am proud of the leadership and sportsmanship that our student athletes display!

**THANK YOU!:** 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 and to help you stay informed. As always, I thank you for your incredible support of our school, and I hope each of you enjoys a wonderful, much cooler, weekend! Go JAGS and please take care.

## **REMINDER ANNOUNCEMENTS FROM PREVIOUS WEEKLY MESSAGES:**

**MAKE-UP DAY OF SCHOOL CHANGED:** Please know that WCPSS announced this week that we are changing one of the Make-Up Days for the two days of school we lost due to the impact of Hurricane Dorian. The Make-Up Day for Thursday, September 5<sup>th</sup> is going to now be held on Thursday, October 31<sup>st</sup>. This is a change from the originally announced Make-Up Day of Friday, November 1<sup>st</sup>. Thus, Thursday, October 31<sup>st</sup> is now a school day for students and Friday, November 1<sup>st</sup> is not a school day for students. Thank you for your attention to this change in our instructional calendar.

**STUDENT SERVICES WEBSITE:** Please visit the [Student Services Website](#) to get information about upcoming events, scholarship opportunities, enrichment opportunities in the community, etc. You can also sign-up for the Student Services Remind message to get up-to-date information for each Class. Sign-up information is located outside of the Student Services office or on the Student Services website.

**COLUMBIA UNIVERSITY PRESENTATION:** Columbia University offers a comprehensive array of academic programs, including three undergraduate schools, thirteen graduate and professional schools, a world-renowned medical center, four affiliated colleges and seminaries, twenty-six libraries, and nearly two hundred research centers and institutes. An information session for Columbia University will be held at the Athens Drive Magnet High School Auditorium on Wednesday, October 16<sup>th</sup>, beginning at 7:00 p.m. Come learn about academics and the Core Curriculum, undergraduate research, student life, housing, internships and career planning, financial aid, and the admissions process. You will have the opportunity to meet and ask questions of our regional admissions officer. Please click [HERE](#) to register for this event.

**SENIOR CLASS REMIND SIGN-UP:** Senior parents, Mr. Remaley is our Senior Advisor and he does an outstanding job communicating with our Seniors and Senior families. Please know that now is the time to join Mr. Remaley's Senior Text Message group! You can send the text message: @theremaley to the number 81010 (or you can use 919-800-0977) to sign up today! This is the BEST way to stay current with Senior information, so you don't miss a thing!

**STUDENTS MUST HAVE A VALID PARKING PASS TO PARK ON CAMPUS:** I would like to ask all students and parents to help us ensure that only those students who have a valid Parking Pass park on campus. We have several students already who are parking on campus who do not have a valid Parking Pass. Please understand that any student who parks on campus must have a Parking Pass and park only in their assigned space. It is important for us to know who is parking in each space and have parent permission for students to drive and park on campus. Please also understand that Athens does not retain any of the money collected for the Parking Passes—the money collected for Parking Passes goes directly to Wake County Public School System and pays for our Security Officer on Campus who patrols the outside of the school. If a Junior or Senior want to purchase a Parking Pass, they can still purchase one. Students interested in securing a Parking pass for the 2019 – 2020 school year should carefully read and follow the guidelines on the application. To complete the Parking Pass Application process, please complete the on-line parking registration. Then, please print & complete the two-page paper application. Please note Parent's signature must be notarized on the second page of the application. Please complete the On-Line Payment to pay for the Parking pass. You will then need to print your On-Line Receipt to include with your application. Please make a clear photocopy of your valid North Carolina Driver's License (permanent photo—a permit temporary license will not be accepted) and vehicle registration(s). Finally, please remember that students must have cleared all fees or fines they have, as a Parking Tag will not be issued if the student has any outstanding fees or fines owed.

**STUDENTS LEAVING CAMPUS FOR LUNCH:** As we discussed in our Class Meetings, Juniors and Seniors who have an approved Off-Campus Lunch Pass are the only students who may leave campus for lunch. A Junior or Senior student cannot leave campus during lunch without having an authorized Off-Campus Lunch Pass. Freshmen and Sophomores are NEVER allowed to leave campus during the school day, unless on an approved school trip. If a Junior or Senior would like to purchase a Lunch Pass (the cost is \$5.00 for the year), please print and complete the one-page paper application. Please note that the parent's signature must be notarized on the application. Please complete the On-Line Payment to pay for the Off-Campus Lunch pass. You will then need to print your On-Line Receipt to include with your application. Finally, please remember that students must have cleared all fees or fines they have, as an Off-Campus Lunch pass will not be issued if the student has any outstanding fees or fines owed.

**VOLUNTEERING AT ATHENS DRIVE:** Please remember that if you would like to volunteer at Athens Drive, or in any Wake County Public School System school, you must register or reactivate prior to helping with any tutoring, office support, PTSA, sports, band, or club activity this school year. You can register to Volunteer at a computer in the Library during school hours. Thank you for helping us maintain a safe school climate conducive to learning.

**GRADUATION:** I am fired up to announce that our Graduation date and time for our Class of 2020 has been finalized! Our Seniors will be Graduating on Wednesday, June 10<sup>th</sup>, 2020 at 6:00 p.m. at Reynolds Coliseum! Please note the change in venue for this year—the Class of 2020 will be Graduating at Reynolds Coliseum instead of the Raleigh Convention Center. Please be sure to save this date and time to celebrate the accomplishments of the Class of 2020! In addition, Seniors need to also be sure they attend the mandatory Graduation Rehearsal on Monday, June 8<sup>th</sup>, 2020 from 6:00 p.m. until 8:00 p.m. at Reynolds Coliseum.

**ATHENS DRIVE SPIRIT WEAR:** JAG Junction, the store located in the Gym Lobby where we sell Jaguar shirts and other items, will be open every Wednesday and Thursday, during both "A" and "B" lunches. If your student wants any Jaguar attire, this is a great opportunity for him/her to purchase it. Thank you!

**ATHLETICS—PAWS AND BRICKS:** Our Athletic Booster Club, the JAG Club, will be selling customized bricks and paws at the entrance to JAG Stadium again this year. If you are interested in purchasing one for your

student athlete, please visit this link ([Paws and Bricks](#)). If you have questions, contact Diane Huggins ([dianeshuggins@yahoo.com](mailto:dianeshuggins@yahoo.com)).

**ATHLETICS—JAG CLUB:** Are you interested in helping with the JAG Club this year? Please email Lori Airee ([my6blessings@yahoo.com](mailto:my6blessings@yahoo.com)) for more information on how to become involved.

**ATHLETICS—SPORTS PASSES:** Sports passes are now available for the 2019 – 2020 school year. Sports passes are good for admission to all Athens Drive Athletics home events, except for Endowment Games and Playoff Games. You can purchase Sports passes for the coming year at this link (<https://www.athensdrivejagclub.org/membership/>).