

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 e-mailed to the Athens Drive PTSA email group.

Please know how proud I am to be a JAG again this week! Students have done an outstanding job this Spirit Week finalizing our donations of food, participating in Spirit Days, preparing spirit decorations, participating in our outstanding Pep Rally, and all of our other Homecoming activities we have had. I appreciate that our students can have both a fun week and also maintain a positive learning environment! I look forward to tonight's Homecoming football game against Jordan High School beginning at 7:00 p.m. and the Homecoming Dance immediately following the game.

I want to ensure that all of our students who qualify for Free and Reduced Price meals keep those benefits for this year. If your family qualifies and you have not completed an application for the 2017 – 2018 school year, we ask that you complete an application immediately. Beginning Monday, October 9th, any student without an approved application for the 2017 – 2018 school year will be expected to pay full price for breakfast and lunch. To complete the application, families can apply online to qualify for free and reduced meals by going to <https://www.wcpss.net/meals> where there is information about the Free and Reduced Price meals program, frequently asked questions, and the new online application. Families may also receive a hard-copy of the application in our Front Office, Students Services Office, and Cafeteria. Thank you for your support in taking care of this requirement.

Parents of Seniors, please remember that Jostens will be on campus in the Gym Lobby on Monday, October 9th, during lunch, to take Senior orders for Cap, Gown, Tassel, Diploma Cover, Graduation announcements, and other Senior products. A \$60.00 deposit is required for the Senior to place a Senior order. Information was provided to Seniors this week regarding this event and information can be found on-line at Jostens.com.

The PTSA is holding their next meeting on Tuesday, October 10th beginning at 7:00 p.m. in the Athens Drive Magnet High School Library. All families are invited to attend this meeting. 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 done so. Thank you very much to those families that have already joined!

The PSAT will be administered on Wednesday, October 11th for students that registered for the test. Details regarding the test and location of the PSAT test administration will be given to students in their First Period class. If you have questions please contact Ms. Seese, the Athens Drive Magnet High School Testing Coordinator, at vseese@wcpss.net.

On Thursday evening, October 12th, beginning at 7:00 p.m. in the Auditorium, our Concert Ensembles will perform a *Chamber Concert*. Admission is FREE and refreshments will be served following the concert. The Chamber Concert will feature a variety of music ensembles—from duets to instrumental choirs. This will be a very entertaining evening and a great "kickoff" to our Arts programs concert season!

North Wake College and Career Academy (NWCCA) is an innovative Early College High School. The school is a partnership between Wake County Public School System (WCPSS) and Wake Tech Community College (WTCC). Students can complete their High School Diploma taking honors and AP level courses and earn business education credentials through WCPSS Career and Technical Education (CTE). Students can also earn a WTCC certificate in one of five program areas (Culinary Arts, Early Childhood Education, Emergency Medical Science, Hospitality Management, and IT-Tech Support) and are eligible to enroll in additional college level courses through WTCC to earn free, transferable college credits while still in High School. For more information about NWCCA, please feel free to visit with their representatives on Friday, October 13th, in the Athens Drive Magnet High School Library, at 9:00 a.m.

Grab your shovels, pitchforks, and gardening tools as it is that time that we make Athens Drive Magnet High School clean and green! The Athens Drive Magnet High School Fall Beautification Day will be held on

Saturday, October 14th from 9 a.m. until 12:00 noon in front of the school. Students are welcomed and encouraged to participate in this event. Parents are welcome too! We desperately need wheelbarrows, pitchforks, shovels, rakes and other assorted gardening tools for the event as we have truckloads of mulch being delivered that will need to be put into the gardens! For more information or if you can provide gardening equipment for the event, please contact John Sykes, at 919-862-3873 or via email at jsykes02@bellsouth.net.

Thank you to everyone who participated in the Athens Drive Magnet High School Food Drive, sponsored by the Athens Drive Student Government and the LEO Club! The food that was donated by our Athens family members will be a huge help to our students and our community members who might be suffering from food insecurity. A total of 1,174 pounds of food was donated during the 3-week food drive! 153 pounds of food was donated to the Athens Drive Backpack Buddies program and 1,021 pounds of food was donated to the Food Bank of Central and Eastern North Carolina. Thank you for your support in helping our students learn the value of service.

The Wake County Public School System offers a Career to College Promise where students can start working toward their College and Career Goals while in High School for free. There will be a Career to College Promise information meeting on Tuesday, October 17th, in the Athens Drive Magnet High School Auditorium at 6:00 p.m. for students and parents that are interested in taking College Courses while at Athens Drive Magnet High School.

Congratulations to our Women's Golf Team who captured the Tri 6 Regular Season title and the Conference Tournament Championship this week! Jenny Chang broke the State record for both Men and Women by scoring a 61 at the Tournament! Congratulations to the Team and we wish them well as they begin State Playoff competition! Our other 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 check the Athens Drive website (<http://www.wakecountyathletics.com/athensdrivehs>) for game dates and times and come out and support our Student Athletes for their last remaining games, Senior Nights, and playoff competition!

Those are all of the announcements for this week. I hope you all enjoy the Homecoming festivities tonight and have a wonderful weekend. Go JAGS and please take care.