

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:**

**MEET THE TEACHER NIGHT:** Thank you so much to the parents who came to our Meet the Teacher Night last night! It was great to see so many family members be a part of this important evening to build relationships, connect with teachers, and continue to be more engaged in our school family. Thank you for all the support you provide as we work together to help our students reach their highest potential!

**CLUB FAIR:** We will be hosting a Club Fair on Monday, September 16<sup>th</sup> during both lunches to allow all students to explore and sign-up for Clubs they may be interested in. The Club Fair will be in the Gym Lobby and the Hallways in front of Student Services and the Main Office.

**PICTURE DAY:** We had Picture Day today on campus for all Freshmen, Sophomores, and Juniors. Our Seniors had their Senior Portraits completed over the summer, and if your Senior did not have their Senior Portrait done, we will have a Make-Up Senior Portrait Day on campus on Wednesday and Thursday, October 16<sup>th</sup> and 17<sup>th</sup>. If you would like to order pictures of your student but did not submit any forms or payments, you can still order pictures on-line at <https://www.strawbridge.net/>.

**SENIOR COUNSELOR MEETINGS:** Senior Conferences, please know that our Counselors will begin meeting with Seniors on Monday, September 16<sup>th</sup>. Every Senior will meet with his/her Counselor to discuss information pertinent to Graduation, Scholarships, and Post-Secondary goals. A schedule of conferences has been posted outside of the Student Services office. Please encourage your student to attend their scheduled meeting to prepare him/herself for their Senior year and plan for life after The Drive.

**COLLEGE 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>).

**DIGITAL PORTFOLIO:** Next week, during Advantage Time, we will either be creating a Digital Portfolio for every student or building on the Digital Portfolio if a student already has one. Our goal is that every student at Athens Drive will have a Digital Portfolio and utilize it to collect artifacts, products, and reflections that show their effort, progress, and achievements in both their academic and personal life. We want this Digital Portfolio to be a resource that students can take to an interview, share with the colleges they are applying for, use for an application, or use for any future career they may be interested in. Please be sure to ask your student about the development of their individual portfolio.

**MILITARY APPRECIATION WEEK NEXT WEEK:** Next week we will be hosting Military Appreciation Week. During the week each branch of the military will highlight various careers related to STEM, Health Science, Business, Marketing, Human Services, and Information Technology.

**ARMED SERVICE VOCATIONAL APTITUDE BATTERY EXAM (ASVAB):** On Tuesday, September 24<sup>th</sup> at 2:30 p.m. in the Media Center, we are going to have information for students who are interested in learning more about the ASVAB Exam. The ASVAB will be administered at Athens Drive Magnet High School on Tuesday, October 8<sup>th</sup>, from 7:30 a.m. until 11:30 a.m. in the Auditorium. For more information about this Exam, or to register for this Exam, please contact our Career Development Coordinator, Ms. Melonie Carlton ([mccarlton@wcpss.net](mailto:mccarlton@wcpss.net)) or visit Career Website: [www.athenscareercorner.weebly.com](http://www.athenscareercorner.weebly.com) and click on Military tab at the top.

**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:** We have a Home Football Game tonight versus Middle Creek High School. This is an Endowment Game, so please know that no JAGS Club passes or any other Pass will be accepted. Ticket price is \$8.00. Next week we are celebrating the induction of a new Class into our Hall of Fame during our Friday Night Football Game versus Apex Friendship High School. Please check our Athletic Team schedules on our Athens Drive Athletics website (<http://www.wakecountyathletics.com/athensdrivehs>) for the game dates and times of all of our athletic events. Thank you for your continued support of our student athletes as they compete on the field, track, and court!

**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. I hope you all have a wonderful, safe weekend! Go JAGS and please take care.

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

**MAKE-UP DAYS DUE TO SCHOOL CLOSINGS FOR HURRICANE DORIAN:** Please know that WCPSS has announced the Make-Up Days for the two days of school we lost this week due to the impact of Hurricane Dorian. The Make-Up Day for Thursday, September 5<sup>th</sup> is going to be held on Friday, November 1<sup>st</sup>. The Make-Up Day for Friday, September 6<sup>th</sup>, is going to be held on Friday, December 20<sup>th</sup>. Thus, Friday, November 1<sup>st</sup> and Friday, December 20<sup>th</sup> are now no longer Workdays, but School Days for students. Thank you for your understanding of these calendar changes.

**PSAT ADMINISTRATION:** The PSAT will be administered on Wednesday, October 16<sup>th</sup> at Athens Drive Magnet High School. Students that are interested in taking the test, but do not meet the WCPSS criteria for taking the test for free, must register and pay the \$17.00 exam fee. Students must complete a PSAT registration form and submit full payment by Monday, September 16<sup>th</sup> at 2:30 p.m. Registration forms are available in the Student Services office or on the Athens Drive Magnet Drive High School website (<https://www.wcpss.net/domain/15925>). Payments can be made on-line on the Athens Drive Magnet High School webpage or in the Student Services Office. Checks or Money Orders must be made payable to Athens Drive Magnet High School and cash (exact change only) will be accepted as well. You can submit payments in the Student Services Office before school, during Lunch, or after school until 2:30 p.m. daily. Please be sure the registration form and payment are made prior to 2:30 p.m. on Monday, September 16<sup>th</sup>.

**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.

**FALL PARENT INFORMATION SESSION:** Please mark your calendars for our Fall Parent Information session led by our Counselors that will be held on Thursday, September 26<sup>th</sup>, from 5:30 p.m. until 7:30 p.m., in the Auditorium and Gym Lobby. The purpose of this session is to provide parents with information and tools necessary to assist your student transition through high school and beyond. The topics that will be discussed include: How to Apply for Financial Aid, Scholarships, & Grants; College Admission Requirements; How to get Internships and Apprenticeship Opportunities; New AP Testing Process; and other pertinent transition information. We will also have College Admission counselors from various colleges, Military recruiters, and Financial Aid advisors here to answer parent questions. We look forward to working with you to help our students reach their goals after Graduation!

**AFTERSCHOOL ACTIVITY BUSES:** Our Afterschool Activity Buses begin their runs on Monday, September 9<sup>th</sup>. Please understand the following about our Activity Buses: Only students involved in a

supervised activity after school are allowed to ride the Activity Bus (e.g., Tutoring, Clubs, Athletics, Rehearsals, Arts, etc.); students will need an Activity Bus Pass to get on an Activity Bus signed by the staff member who was supervising them; the Activity Buses stop only at the prescribed stops on their routes; the Activity Buses will pick up students in the Bus Loop—the same area where students arrive and depart by bus every day; and students need to be at the Bus Loop no later than 4:55 p.m. as the Activity Buses will leave at 5:00 p.m. Activity Bus Routes will be posted in the Main Office, Student Services Office, and posted on our website.

**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.

**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/>).