

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:**

**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.

**MELBOURNE ROAD BRIDGE CLOSURE:** We have received information from the North Carolina Department of Transportation that the Melbourne Road over I-440 bridge closure project is planned to begin on Monday, September 30<sup>th</sup>, with a duration of nearly a year (351 days). If you or your student takes this route to/from school, please be sure you adjust your commute to accommodate this closure.

**HISTORICALLY BLACK COLLEGES AND UNIVERSITIES (HBCU) FAIR:** The HBCU Fair for students will be held tomorrow, Saturday, September 21<sup>st</sup>, beginning at 10:00 a.m. and ending at 2:00 p.m. in Holiday Gym on the campus of Needham B. Broughton High School. Over 30 college representatives, alumnus, and more are expected to be at this event to provide students with information regarding HBCUs.

**PARK AND MOREHEAD-CAIN SCHOLARSHIP INFORMATION:** The applications for the school nominations for the Park Scholarship (N. C. State University) and the Morehead-Cain Scholarship (University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill) are available in the Student Services office. For more information about these Scholarship opportunities, please visit the Scholarship page on the Student Services website <http://adhs-student-services.weebly.com/>.

**THE GOODNIGHT SCHOLARSHIP:** The Goodnight Scholarship is a premier scholarship program valued at \$20,500 per year for outstanding students from North Carolina high schools and community colleges majoring in STEM and education disciplines. Informational Meetings for the Goodnight Scholars Programs will be hosted at Athens Drive Magnet High School Library (Reference Area) on Friday, September 27<sup>th</sup> during “A” Lunch, and Tuesday, October 1<sup>st</sup> during “B” Lunch.

**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.

**FALL PARENT INFORMATION SESSION:** Our Fall Parent Information session led by our Counselors 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!

**MATH I END-OF-COURSE AND 8<sup>TH</sup> GRADE END-OF-GRADE TEST RESULTS:** Individual student reports for the Math I End-Of-Course Test and the 8<sup>th</sup> Grade End-Of-Grade Tests will be given out during Drive Time on Tuesday, September 24<sup>th</sup>. These reports provide information on how your student performed on the Math I End-Of-Course Test or the 8<sup>th</sup> Grade End-Of-Grade Tests which were given at the end of the Spring Semester for the 2018 – 2019 school year. Please remember that these scores are only one of many indicators of how well your student is achieving.

**ACADEMIC PROGRESS:** It is hard to believe that we are already four weeks into the First Quarter of the school year. Thank you for your efforts as we work together to support the academic growth of our students. Please be on the lookout for First Quarter Interim Reports that will be coming home next week. Please remember that PowerSchool is a great way to continue to monitor your student's academic achievement throughout the year. Please also remember that the First Quarter ends on Thursday, October 31<sup>st</sup>, and Report Cards will be sent home on Friday, November 8<sup>th</sup>.

**PTSA MEETING:** There will be a PTSA Meeting on Tuesday evening, September 24<sup>th</sup>, beginning at 6:30 p.m. in the Library. All families are welcome to attend.

**ATHLETICS:** We have a home Football Game tonight versus Apex Friendship High School. We will be inducting our Third Class into the Athens Drive Hall of Fame at tonight's game. 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. As always, I thank you for your incredible support of our school, and I hope each of you enjoys a wonderful weekend. Go JAGS and please take care.

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

**PICTURE DAY:** We had Picture Day 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/>.

**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>).

**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.

**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.

**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/>).