

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://athensdrivepts.com>).

NEW OR UPDATED ANNOUNCEMENTS:

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 5th is going to be held on Friday, November 1st. The Make-Up Day for Friday, September 6th, is going to be held on Friday, December 20th. Thus, Friday, November 1st and Friday, December 20th are now no longer Workdays, but School Days for students. Thank you for your understanding of these calendar changes.

BACK TO SCHOOL NIGHT AT CAROLINA PINES COMMUNITY CENTER: Athens Drive Magnet High School staff are hosting a Back To School Night at the Carolina Pines Community Center (2305 Lake Wheeler Road Raleigh, NC 27603) on Tuesday, September 10th, from 5:00 p.m. until 7:00 p.m., for our families who live in the South Raleigh area and may not be able to attend our Meet the Teacher Night. We will have staff members and WCPSS personnel there providing information on how to use PowerSchool, Graduation Requirements, etc. Presentations will be made in English, Spanish, and Arabic. We will have free food and free school supplies for the families who attend. I look forward to sharing this information with our school family members!

FALL SEMESTER MEET THE TEACHER NIGHT: Due to the closing of school on Thursday, September 5th, our Fall Semester Meet the Teacher Night has been rescheduled for Thursday, September 12th, beginning at 6:00 p.m. You can find the schedule [here](#). At 5:30 p.m., prior to our Meet the Teacher Night, we will be holding a Senior Parent Meeting and at 5:30 p.m. in the Auditorium, and our PTSA will be providing information on how to support our school through volunteering and donating to our PTSA. Thank you for your understanding as we needed to change the date!

SENIOR PARENT MEETING: Mr. Remaley and Ms. Brown will be leading a Senior Parent Meeting prior to our Meet the Teacher Night on Thursday, September 12th from 5:30 p.m. until 5:50 p.m. in the Auditorium. Information will be provided to our parents and students to help all our Seniors and their families navigate this final year of High School, understand graduation requirements, communicate with us regarding scholarships, and provide information regarding other important Senior events. Seniors and parents, please know that time is already ticking on getting started on plans for after Graduation!

ACE MENTOR PROGRAM: The ACE (Architect, Construction, and Engineering) Mentor Program stakeholders in the Triangle Area will be hosting an Interest Meeting on Wednesday, September 10th, beginning at 6:00 p.m. in the Auditorium for students who want to learn more about careers in Architecture, Construction and Engineering fields. Please contact Ms. Carlton (mccarlton@wcpss.net), our Career Development Coordinator, for additional information regarding this great opportunity.

PSAT ADMINISTRATION: The PSAT will be administered on Wednesday, October 16th 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 16th 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 16th.

ATHLETIC EVENT CHANGES: If you are interested in seeing a variety of High School athletics, then Monday, September 9th is your day! We will have our Women's Varsity Tennis Team playing Green Level High School at home beginning at 3:30 p.m., our Men's Varsity Soccer Team playing Millbrook at 4:30 p.m. at home, our Women's Junior Varsity and Varsity Team playing Middle Creek High School at 5:00 p.m. (Junior Varsity) and 6:00 p.m. (Varsity), and our Varsity Football Team will play Enloe beginning at 6:30 p.m. at home. Four different sports, five games, all at Athens Drive. A great night to support our student athletes!

COLLEGE REPRESENTATIVES ON CAMPUS: Throughout the course of the year, we have many college representatives who come to campus to provide information regarding their school. This is a great opportunity for students to meet Admission representatives who often are the individuals who read the students' applications. College representatives will usually be set up in the Crosshall outside of the Attendance Office during Lunch. Sometimes we will move them to a different location if it is a school that draws a larger interest. This is a great opportunity to learn about the various programs that are available, admission requirements, and financial aid available at the College or University. For more information, please contact Ms. Hope (mhope@wcpss.net or 919-233-4050 x24893), our Receptionist for Student Services. This coming week, on Wednesday, September 11th, we will have Saint Augustine's University on campus during "A" Lunch.

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 PLAY AUDITIONS: Our award-winning Athens Drive Magnet High School Theatre Department is excited to announce that our Fall Play this year is *16 in Ten Minutes*. This play features a collection of ten-minute Plays that are linked together to create a unit show and will feature an ensemble cast. Auditions will take place afterschool in the Chorus Room on Wednesday, September 11th and Thursday, September 12th. Students must complete an Audition Form and have parent approval prior to auditioning. Audition and Crew Forms can be found in Ms. Hayes' Room, Trailer 6. Questions can be directed to our Theatre Director, Ms. Hayes (ahayes3@wcpss.net).

THEATRE DEPARTMENT CELEBRATION: The Theatre Department will be hosting their annual third week of school celebration afterschool on Tuesday, September 10th in the Auditorium from 2:30 p.m. until 4:30 p.m. Advanced Theatre students will be leading attendees in discussions regarding the Theatre Department and upcoming productions (including our recently announced Spring Musical, *9 to 5, the Musical!*, along with teaching a few theatre games. Any students that are interested in learning more about the Theatre Department are welcome to attend! Students may see Ms. Hayes in Trailer 6 for more information.

CHORUS INFORMATION: Parents, do you have a student in chorus? Please join us on Monday, September 9th at 6:30 p.m. in the Chorus Room for information, snacks, and informal performances from our students! There will be computers set up for you to become a Wake County Public School System Volunteer, which is important if you plan to help or chaperone this school year! We look forward to seeing you there.

SCHOOL PICTURE DAY INFORMATION: We will be hosting our School-wide Picture Day on Friday, September 13th. Information regarding student pictures and picture forms were sent home with students the first week of school. There are extra school picture forms located in the Main Office. It is important that all students are here to get their pictures taken so that we have pictures for the Yearbook, pictures to use for Identifications, pictures to use for Off-Campus Lunch Passes, etc. Thank you for your support of our efforts!

CLUB FAIR: We will be hosting a Club Fair on Monday, September 16th 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. We will be announcing this during the day for students to know about this opportunity.

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 26th, 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 9th. 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.

ATHLETICS: As you can imagine, due to the impact of Hurricane Dorian, our Athletic Schedule has been changed. 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. We will still have our Home Football Game next Friday, September 13th, versus Middle Creek High School, beginning at 7:00 p.m. 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) for general information and to help you stay informed. I hope that our entire Athens Drive school family was/is safe from the impact of Hurricane Dorian. Please, as always, take care of yourself and each other. Enjoy your weekend. Go JAGS and please take care.

REMINDER ANNOUNCEMENTS FROM PREVIOUS WEEKLY MESSAGES:

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!

DRESS CODE: Please know that through our Class meetings and through individual conversations with students, we are trying to remind students about the Dress Code and maintaining appropriate dress at school. Wake County Public School System (WCPSS) has adopted a new [Dress Code Policy](#). Please help us be sure that students do not wear strapless shirts and dresses, tank-tops, short-shorts, clothing that reveals undergarments, and other clothing that violates the dress code. Hats, hoodies, do-rags, and bandanas will also not be allowed to be worn on school grounds. I would ask that we work together to be sure our students dress appropriately and focus on learning. I thank you for your support!

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.

SENIOR COUNSELOR MEETINGS: Senior parents, please know that our Guidance Counselors will be scheduling Senior meetings with all our Seniors. It is important that Seniors attend their Senior meeting in the coming weeks so that they are set-up for success, and we can support them in reaching their post-Athens Drive goals!

PTSA INFORMATION: Our first PTSA Meeting was held on Tuesday night and I appreciated the large number of parents who attended and are getting involved! I attend every meeting as well, and I appreciate the opportunity to share information and receive feedback from our families. I am thankful for all our parents who help in a myriad of ways to support our students, staff, and school! If you are interested in serving in any capacity, please email our PTSA President, Lysa Fulbright, at president@athensdriveptsa.com. Please also continue to check the PTSA website (<https://athensdriveptsa.com>) to get additional information. If you did not receive the Athens Alert email and if you want to be added to the PTSA email list to receive weekly updates and information about what's happening at The Drive, please send your name and email address to Lysa Fulbright at president@athensdriveptsa.com. Thank you for making a positive difference!

CARPOOL INFORMATION: We have added [carpool maps](#) to our website to assist families in understanding where to drop students off in the morning and where to pick students up in the afternoon.

BEING A GOOD NEIGHBOR: As we begin a new school year, I would like to remind all our students and families to be respectful of our Athens Drive neighbors. Please remind your students to park legally, drive in a safe manner, throw trash away properly in trash cans, and use appropriate language as they walk, drive, and move around our school campus. We want to be responsible and respectful neighbors, and I ask that we all represent The Drive in only the highest manner. Thanks for helping to carry on over 40-year tradition of excellence both inside and outside of the classroom!

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 10th, 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 8th, 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).

ATHLETICS—JAG CLUB: Are you interested in helping with the JAG Club this year? Please email Lori Airee (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/>).