



Pope High School
PTSA
everychild.one voice.

HOUND HIGHLIGHTS

A Weekly PTSA E-Newsletter for Pope High School Parents and Students

3001 Hembree Road, Marietta GA 30062, 770-578-7900

Vol. 8, No. 19 • Thursday, January 7, 2010



IMPORTANT DATES

January 8	Report Cards Distributed
January 18	No School – MLK Jr. Holiday
January 21	Open House and PTSA Meeting

FROM THE ADMINISTRATION...

SSAS PLATINUM AWARD

Pope High School has been named by the Governor's Office of Student Achievement a Single Statewide Accountability System (SSAS) winner. Pope is one of only 16 high schools in the state of Georgia to win the Platinum award for outstanding student achievement. Schools must meet three criteria to be considered for this award. 1) Make Adequate Yearly Progress (AYP) for three consecutive years; 2) Demonstrate that at least 35% students exceed standards in all test areas as measured by state assessments; and 3) Demonstrate that at least 98% of students meet or exceed standards as measured by state assessments. It takes the collaborative effort of teachers, principals, and parents working with students to reap this highest level of success.

SPRING PARKING FOR JUNIORS

Please check website on Friday, January 8 for Parking Permit instructions.

GEORGIA HIGH SCHOOL GRADUATION TESTS (GHS GT)

On Tuesday, January 5 all juniors took diagnostic tests in English and Math. Makeup exams are being administered January 7 and 8. Diagnostic tests will be given during class time for Science and Social Studies later this month. Please encourage your students to do their best on these exams, as the results are used to determine their readiness for the upcoming GHS GT in March. More information will be forthcoming regarding GHS GT Prep resources and programs available for your student at Pope.

BENCHMARK TESTS

Benchmark tests for 9th Lit, Math 1, Math 2, Biology and Physics will be given on Tuesday, January 12 with makeup tests given on Wednesday, January 13. These tests measure progress on standards covered on the upcoming End of Course Tests (EOCT) in May. They will be given during normal class periods.

PTSA NEWS

PTSA GENERAL MEETING/OPEN HOUSE

Plan to attend the second semester Open House and PTSA General Meeting, **Thursday, January 21** at 6:30 PM. Come and meet your students' teachers. PTSA will provide cookies and lemonade during your students lunch period in the cafeteria. We will also have Pope Spirit Wear available for purchase.

PTSA NOMINATING COMMITTEE

We are looking for four PTSA members to serve on the committee to find new PTSA officers for the 2010 -2011 school year. If you are interested please contact Louise Briggs at biglou30@bellsouth.net.

PTSA COMMITTEE CHAIR OPENINGS

We have two openings on the PTSA Board. If you would like to get involved we are looking for chairpersons for the Exceptional Children and Legislative Committees. For more information contact Joyce Bahorich at joycepta@comcast.net or Karen Ponticelli at klpont@gmail.com.

FOUNDATION NEWS

The Pope Foundation is looking for sponsors for the second annual Greyhound Gala on **Saturday, February 27**. There are a variety of sponsorship levels available to accommodate any budget. If you, or your company, are interested in becoming a sponsor, or know of a business who might be interested, please contact co-chairs Julie Pederson at barefootedone@aol.com or Dania Tarquina at daniatarquinio@comcast.net.

SCHOOL COUNSELING NEWS

QUEST COLLEGE FAIR

This fair will take place in our own back yard at Lassiter High School on **Wednesday, January 20** from 7:00-8:30 PM. Over 100 colleges from the Southeast and other parts of the country will have admissions representatives on hand to share information with you about their colleges and programs. There will be representatives from several trade programs, professional programs, the military, and Job Corps in attendance. There will also be breakout sessions covering financial aid and the HOPE scholarship, the college admissions process, and NCAA student/athlete information. **DON'T MISS OUT ON THIS GREAT OPPORTUNITY FOR YOUR STUDENTS TO LEARN ABOUT POST-SECONDARY OPTIONS!**

PSAT RESULTS/GAcollege411 WORKSHOP

On **Thursday, January 21** in the Pope cafeteria at 5:45 PM (before spring Open House), we will hold a meeting to discuss the PSAT results. **BRING YOUR CHILD'S PSAT SCORE REPORT WITH YOU TO THIS MEETING.** The PSAT results were distributed to your students in AO.

NACAC COLLEGE FAIR

The NACAC College Fair in Atlanta will be held **Sunday, January 24**, from 12 noon – 4:00 PM at the Georgia International Convention Center. Make plans now to attend the fair. Idea!! Print a page of labels with your name and contact information to use instead of having to write that information every time you stop by a college's table!

FINANCIAL AID NIGHT

Financial Aid Night will be **Tuesday, January 26**, at 7:00 PM in the Pope Theater. A representative from the Georgia Student Finance Commission will present financial aid information including instruction in regard to completing the FAFSA. Bring all your financial aid questions! All parents are encouraged to attend.

SENIOR NEWS

ELECTRONIC APPLICATIONS

Seniors applying to colleges on-line need to submit the applications, ASAP. If the college requires a counselor or teacher recommendation, the counselor/teacher will not be able to access the electronic form until the student has submitted their application. Please check on this process with your child to avoid missing deadlines.

COLLEGE/SCHOLARSHIP RECOMMENDATION REQUESTS

Any senior who has a college admissions or scholarship deadline requiring a counselor or teacher recommendation form or letter in January needs to submit their request to their counselor and teacher **NOW**. The beginning of any term is extremely busy for our staff. We need at least three weeks from the time the student makes the request for form or letter completion until the date when it is due to the college or scholarship office. Any **counselor** recommendation form or letter requires the student to complete a "yellow packet" of information for their counselor and distribution of three to four "green sheets" to teachers/activity sponsors that teachers complete and return to counselors to use to complete/write recommendations. These forms can be obtained in the counseling office in Room 102. Any questions, please contact the counseling office ASAP.

IMPORTANT INFORMATION ABOUT THE COMMON APPLICATION

The Counseling office was sent this message from the Common Application website. If your child is using the Common Application to apply to any colleges, please read on ...**“Important School Forms Information - a Common App member institution (colleges) will not receive counselor or teacher forms and recommendation letters if submitted electronically unless the student has submitted a Common App Online for that college or university. If your student uses the paper version of the Common App, an institutional application, or a pre-populated online application, you must communicate with your teacher(s) and your counselor that they need to **mail** a hard copy of your school forms to the college. Please provide them with an addressed/stamped envelope when you inform them of this need ASAP.**

CLUB & COMMUNITY NEWS

POPE NJROTC

There will be a general meeting **Thursday, January 14** January at 7:00 PM in the NJROTC room at Lassiter High School. All parents and cadets are encouraged to attend.

FROM THE ATHLETIC DIRECTOR...

Congratulations to the boy's basketball team. They defeated Alpharetta Tuesday night. They also finished second in the Woodstock Holiday Tournament.

The girl's basketball team lost a heartbreaker to Alpharetta on Tuesday night.

Both teams will return to action on Friday night. Pope will host Wheeler High School at 6:00 PM and 7:30 PM.

The Swim and Dive Team will compete in the Etowah Invitational on Friday.

Congratulations to the wrestling team. They won the McCallie tournament and finished third at the Brecksville tournament over the holiday break. They will compete in the Region Duels at Centennial this Saturday.

Congratulations to Mary Hoey for being named Gatorade Volleyball Player of the year and Danielle Thompson as runner up.

Congratulations to Thomas O'Rielly for being named 1st team All State in Football.

GO HOUNDS!

Please make pts@popehs.ptsamail.com "an acceptable email address." It is used to distribute Hound Highlights. We will still communicate and subscribe through houndhighlights@popepts.org. Hound Highlights will also be posted on the www.popehigh.com website each Friday.