



Pope High School
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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. 14 ♦ Thursday, November 12, 2009



IMPORTANT DATES

November 9-20	Food Drive
November 23-27	No School – Thanksgiving Break
December 12	Shop With A Greyhound (SWAG)
December 15-18	Fall Exams

FROM THE ADMINISTRATION...

POPE HIGH SCHOOL NAMED 2009 GEORGIA SCHOOL OF EXCELLENCE

Five Cobb County schools have been named 2009 Georgia Schools of Excellence by the Georgia Department of Education. For the second consecutive year, Cobb had the highest number of Schools of Excellence from any school district in the state! Ford Elementary, Mableton Elementary, Teasley Elementary, Dodgen Middle and **Pope High** schools are among just 27 across Georgia to receive the honor. Georgia Schools of Excellence are selected based on overall excellence and gains in student achievement. The Georgia Schools of Excellence program began in 1984 and has become a badge of honor for schools across the state. Cobb County schools have received 50 Georgia School of Excellence designations since the program's inception, including 15 in the past three years.

Superintendent Fred Sanderson said, "The number one priority for Cobb County is student success, and for the second year in a row the district leads Georgia with the highest number of schools of excellence. In fact over the last three years, fifteen different CCSD schools have received this distinguished status from the state. All of this success is thanks to our students, parents, teachers and administrators who have worked extremely hard to maintain a clear focus on learning and achievement. With these recognitions and the fact that more than 94 percent of our schools making Adequate Yearly Progress in 2009, one would be hard pressed to describe this school system as anything else than thriving." Details about the Georgia Schools of Excellence program, including selection criteria, are available from the Department of Education's web site at www.gadoe.org.

NEW SCHOOL CALENDAR

The School Board voted to approve the balanced calendar for the 2010-2011, 2011-2012 and 2012-2013 school years. First day of school is first week of August; one-week vacation breaks at mid-term in September and February; last day of school is Friday before Memorial Day. Visit www.cobbk12.org for more information.

FALL EXAM SCHEDULE

Final exams will be Tuesday through Friday, December 15-18. Details and the early dismissal form are on the last page of this Hound Highlights and can also be found on the Pope Web site.

SHOP WITH A GREYHOUND

Time is drawing near for the big shopping day on December 12th and we are so excited!! We have raised about \$2,500 so far. It's not too late to make a donation toward supporting the children of Clarkdale and Brumby Elementary. Just mail your tax deductible donation (payable to Pope High School), Attention: Ashley Jimerson at Pope High School, 3001 Hembree Road, Marietta, GA 30062 . Consider supporting just "One Child" for \$100.

Students interested in volunteering for SWAG please register in groups of 4 online under SWAG on the Pope website. Please submit your \$15 application fee and \$100 group donation which you raise to either Ms. Jimerson or Mrs. Kelly. T-shirts will arrive the Monday after Thanksgiving so start turning in your money and permission form.

Don't forget to see our write up in the East Cobber this month!

BUILDING LED SIGN ANNOUNCEMENT

Do you want to tell your child happy birthday or send a message to a friend for a special occasion? Advertise on the electronic board near the PPO entrance for \$3.00 a day. Mail checks payable to Pope High School Attn: L. Hickey/Sign Announcements or pay in person. **One week advance notice is required along with payment-no exceptions.**

PTSA NEWS

FACULTY & STAFF HOLIDAY DESSERT BUFFET

The annual Faculty & Staff Holiday Dessert Buffet will be on December 9. The Staff Appreciation Committee is looking for parents and/or students to donate a **HOMEMADE** sweet treat to this annual event. We need a variety of pies, cakes, candies, fudge, cookies, brownies, and more! Please bring your dessert, in a disposable container, to school by 9:30 AM on December 9 - there will be a cart outside PPO. Also include a copy of your recipe - we get requests every year! This event is a highlight for our teachers and staff and your participation is greatly appreciated. Please email Tonia Pondiscio pontonia@comcast.net or Linn Hodges linnhodges@aol.com and tell us what you'll be making!

PTSA COMMUNITY OUTREACH

Stuffed Animal/Teddy Bear Drive: Children's Healthcare of Atlanta (CHOA) needs your help! Originally started over five years ago by senior Lesley Hanley, Pope High School joined forces last year, and this program continues to grow thanks to your generosity. Teddy bears and stuffed animals are distributed by CHOA staff to comfort scared and sick children as they arrive at the hospital, as well as children suffering with long term illnesses. Please help Lesley and CHOA by purchasing a teddy bear or stuffed animal to donate before the holidays. All stuffed animals must be **NEW** with tags attached. Please bring your teddy bear or stuffed animal to the white bin by the PPO Office before **December 18**.

Toy Drive and Stocking Drive: AP US History and PTSA Community Outreach are supporting MUST Ministries and Cobb Christmas by sponsoring a toy and stocking drive for Cobb County children in need. New, unwrapped toys for newborn to age 18 are needed, as well as small items to fill stockings. Specifically, toys are needed for boys of all ages, and teenage girls. Toy suggestions include sports balls, action figures, board games, tool sets, hot wheel cars, videos, video games, CDs, watch, backpack, wallet, photo album/scrapbook, cosmetics and health/beauty. Diapers are always appreciated for infants. No gift cards, candy, or toy weapons, please. Suggested stocking items include the following: socks, gloves/mittens, small toys/games, coloring books, playing cards, books, puzzles, miniature toiletries, disposable cameras, pencils, crayons, or other similar items appropriate for either gender. Please place all toy and stocking donations in the white bin by the PPO Office before **December 15**.

Ronald McDonald House Tab Collection Drive: Please start saving your soda can, soup can or any other aluminum can tabs for the children of Atlanta's Ronald McDonald House. Collection boxes will soon be placed all around the school for this year-round collection drive. The tabs contain pure high-quality aluminum and are completely recyclable. The money earned from the tabs help offset the House expenses. By collecting and recycling the tabs, you will help care for the families who stay at the Ronald McDonald House each year.

If you have questions concerning any of the Community Outreach activities, please e-mail Cassie Rogers at cassie.n.rogers@lmco.com

FOUNDATION NEWS

GREYHOUND GALA

The Pope Foundation is looking for a chairperson to spearhead sponsorships for the second annual Greyhound Gala which will be held on February 27, 2010. If you are interested in this position, please email us at info@popehighschoolfoundation.com.

COLD WEATHER IS COMING!

Before you know it, cold weather will be upon us, and that means turning on your heat! If you would like to save money on your gas heating bills and make money for Pope at the same time, please consider switching to Georgia Natural Gas (GNG). Because of a special relationship between GNG and Pope, GNG will pay us \$40 for each new customer who changes to GNG...AND \$5 a month for every month they stay a customer. It's a simple process to change. Call 1-866-ONLY-GNG and a customer service representative will assist you. Once you have a GNG account number, you can then 'link' your card to Pope. You'll start saving, AND earn money for Pope!

If you are already a GNG customer, please take a few minutes to link your GNG account to Pope. Go to www.popehigh.com and click on the Georgia Natural Gas logo scrolling across the bottom. Then, click on the TrueBlueSchools tab, then Existing Customer. Complete the required information and send it, and you'll be on your way to helping Pope!

SCHOOL COUNSELING NEWS

SCHOLARSHIPS

Visit the School Counseling page on the Pope Web Site for information about scholarships. Two recent additions are the Robert C. Byrd Scholarship and Georgia Scholar information. The scholarship page is updated with many current scholarship opportunities.

CLUB & COMMUNITY NEWS

FOOD DRIVE

SGA is teaming up with FBLA and Interact for a school wide food drive. Students can bring cans to AO periods from November 9 through November 20. The grade with the most donations will win a hat day! All food will go to the Center for Family Resources who will provide a Thanksgiving meal to over 1000 Cobb families. Suggested items are dressing mix, cranberry sauce, canned or instant potatoes, canned green and yellow veggies, graham cracker pie crust mix, and pumpkin pie mix, dried or canned milk, and roasting pans. In addition to these items, CFR welcomes dried beans, peanut butter, canned meat, tuna, rice, pasta, soup, and canned fruit.

FROM THE ATHLETIC DIRECTOR ...

Congratulations to the football team. They finished their season by defeating Walton for the 1st time since 2000. The crowd and atmosphere around Pope was amazing. The final score was 24-16. Pope finished tied for 4th in the region, but we lost the tiebreaker. The overall record was 6-4, and the team finished on a 5 game winning streak. Congratulations on a great season.

Congratulations to the competition cheerleading team. They finished 4th at regional qualifying and are headed for the state competition this Friday in Columbus. Good luck!

Congratulations to Molly Schnek! She finished 9th in the state for cross country.

The basketball season gets started this Friday at Pope. The Greyhounds are hosting Kennesaw Mountain. The girls play at 6:00 PM and the boys play at 7:30 PM.

This past weekend, the Atlanta Junior Rowing Association successfully competed in the *Head of the Hooch* in Chattanooga, TN, the second largest regatta of its type in the country. This coming weekend, Sat. Nov. 14, AJRA will be competing in the final event of the season, *Henley on the Hooch*, held on the Chattahoochee River at the Roswell River Landing on Azalea Drive. Everyone is invited. For more information, please visit ajracrew.com

BASKETBALL NEWS

Want a reserved seat for all home basketball games? Buy a stadium chair from the Basketball Tip-off Club and we will reserve your favorite seat AND buy you a hotdog and Coke at each home game! Order soon as they're going fast!! Go to www.popebasketball.com and click on the link "order chair", you can pay via PayPal with a credit or debit card. We'll see you December 1, at our first home game!

VARSITY LADIES GYMNASTICS TEAM

Students interested in competing for Pope Gymnastics should plan to attend the informational meeting on Wednesday, November 18 at 8 AM in the Guidance Conference Room. If you currently compete in club gymnastics, please bring a copy of your club competition schedule. Students not able to attend the meeting that morning should see Coach Bruce in Room 102.

POWDER PUFF FOOTBALL

The Powder Puff Football games will be November 20 on the main football field. Freshmen vs. sophomore game will be at 6:30 PM and the junior vs. senior game will be at 7:30 PM. We will be collecting donations, and all proceeds go towards the Special Olympic Foundation. This is going to be a fun social event and we encourage everyone to come and cheer for their grade/children.

GO HOUNDS!

Please make ptsa@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.

Fall 2009 Exam Schedule

Tuesday
Zero Exam
1 st 8:25- 9:15
No AO
2 nd 9:20-10:10
3 rd 10:15-11:05
4 th 11:10-12:00
5 th 12:05-12:55
6 th 1:00- 1:50
7th Exam 1:55-3:25

Wednesday
No Zero
1 st 8:25-9:20
No AO
2 nd 9:25-10:20
3 rd 10:25- 11:20
4 th 11:25- 12:20
5th Exam 12:25-1:50
6th Exam 1:55- 3:25
7 th Will not meet

Thursday
No Zero
1st Exam 8:25-9:50
AO 9:55-10:10
3rd Exam 10:15- 11:40

Friday
No Zero
2nd Exam 8:25-9:50
AO 9:55-10:10
4th Exam 10:15- 11:40

**Buses will run at regular time each day!!!
Afternoon bus dismissal will be at 3:25 PM**

Tuesday, December 15, 2009

Regular school day with 7th period extended for the exam.

Wednesday, December 16, 2009

Zero period and 7th period will not meet. Students who have 6th period lunch may leave school early.

Thursday, December 17, and Friday, December 18, 2009

Students will be dismissed from school at 11:40 a.m. after the second exam of the day. **If students have 3rd or 4th period lunch, they may leave at 9:50 after the first exam of the day.**

Parents who **do not want** their student(s) to leave early MUST complete the form below and return it to Pope High School no later than Tuesday, December 15, 2009. **Early dismissal will be authorized for all students unless the school receives this form back by Tuesday, December 15, 2009.** A study hall will be provided on both Thursday and Friday for students who remain at Pope. Lunch will be served as usual.

I **do not** want my student to leave early on the following days:

- _____ My son/daughter may **not** leave school early on December 16, 2009.
 _____ My son/daughter may **not** leave school early on December 17, 2009.
 _____ My son/daughter may **not** leave school early on December 18, 2009.

Student's Name _____ Grade _____ Student ID # _____

Parent's Name _____ Parent's Signature _____