



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. 7, No. 18 ♦ Thursday, January 15, 2009



Send submissions to popehoundhighlights@comcast.net ♦ Deadline: Tuesdays 5PM

IMPORTANT DATES

January 19
January 23
February 4
February 18

No School – MLK Jr. Holiday
Basketball Homecoming
Early Release 1:25 Dismissal
Open House & PTSA Meeting

FROM THE ADMINISTRATION...

HONOR ROLL- NEW TRADITION AND CONGRATULATIONS!

Pope High School is starting a brand new tradition!! In the next few weeks take a tour down Main Street to find your name printed on one of the many hanging banners. That's right- if you have a 4.0+ GPA you will see your name listed on the Principal's List banners. If you have a 3.5-3.99 GPA, look for your name on the Honor Roll banners. Another addition which we are very proud to announce is the High 5 Award. Students raising their GPA by .5 from one semester to the next will find their name on the High 5 Award banners. Congratulations to 503 students making the Principal's List and 519 making the Honor Roll. High 5 Awards will be posted soon.

GIMME \$5 FOR EDUCATION

This year our school is participating in the 4th annual Cobb County Public Schools Educational Foundation Campaign "Gimme 5 for Education" campaign to raise funds for the Cobb County Public Schools Educational Foundation! The Cobb County Public Schools Educational Foundation is the only non-profit organization that supports all our schools, staff and students in Cobb County School District. All funds collected will directly benefit our schools through Foundation supported scholarships, grants and programs for our schools, staff and students. Help us reach our goal of 100% participation, please make a \$5 tax-deductible contribution in the envelope that your student brought home and return it to school today! Contributions can be brought to homeroom teachers or to PPO. Please be sure you have your child's name and homeroom teacher on the back of the envelope so we can provide a receipt. Contributions are due back by January 30.

STUDENT VOLUNTEERS

Pope High School students have been awesome volunteers during the Fall 2008 semester. We had 28 seniors volunteering a total of 531 hours; 25 juniors volunteering a total of 411.5 hours; 28 sophomores who volunteered a total of 375.5 hours, and 30 freshman who volunteered a total of 199 hours. Thanks and congratulations to all those students who gave back to the Pope Community! Students, remember to submit your volunteer hours to Mrs. McCrossen. These hours must have been earned through a Pope Club or Organization. Submission forms are available on Mrs. McCrossen's website.

HAVE YOU JOINED THIS EFFORT?

Thank you to the 63 families who have already signed up for the Georgia Natural Gas (GNG) TrueBlue Schools gas service! By signing up with GNG, these families represent just over \$950 that GNG will contribute to Pope High School. That's easy money! Have YOU signed up yet? If you are already a GNG customer, simply go to www.popehigh.com and click on the TrueBlue Schools logo. Then, select "Yes, I am a GNG customer", follow the prompts and select Pope High School. GNG will then donate \$25 to Pope AND give us \$5 per month that you stay with GNG. *That's just for being a customer!* If you are not currently a GNG customer but would like to become one, you can make the switch online! Go to www.popehigh.com, click on the TrueBlue Schools logo and then "No, I am not currently a GNG Customer." You will be prompted through the sign-up process. **Be sure to have a copy of your current gas marketers' bill, and be sure to write down the \$25 Visa gift card promotion number from that first screen!** (That's just a small 'thank you' from GNG for making the switch.) Or, if you prefer, you can call a customer service representative at 1-866-ONLY-GNG, Monday –Friday 7 a.m. – 10 p.m. or Saturday 7 a.m. – 7 p.m. Once you receive a GNG account number, you'll follow the same procedures listed above for current customers and you'll have helped Pope earn cash! Questions about this program? Email info@popehighschoolfoundation.com and someone will respond to you!

BROADCAST JOURNALISM DUAL DEGREE

Pope High School has partnered with Chattahoochee Technical College to offer a dual-enrollment course in Broadcast Journalism. This course is open to juniors and seniors who have dependable transportation. The course will be taught two days at Pope and three days at the Mountain View Campus of Chattahoochee Tech. For more information, please contact Robert Shaw @ robert.shaw@cobbk12.org.

PTSA NEWS

PTSA BOARD UPDATE

January 1, 2009 Becky Melton resigned as Co-President of the Pope PTSA. We want to thank her for volunteering during the fall semester. The PTSA Board of Directors voted for Pam Ziskend to remain as President for the remainder of the school year, in accordance with our by-laws.

PTSA NOMINATING COMMITTEE

The PTSA is looking for four members to form the Nominating Committee responsible for nominating the PTSA Officers for the 2009-2010 school year. The committee will be elected at the February 18 PTSA General Meeting. If you are interested please contact Karen Ponticelli at 770-650-9339 or klpont@aol.com.

POPE SPIRIT WEAR 2009

Come and see our Pope SPIRIT WEAR every Friday at Pope. We have T-shirts, hoodies, sweat pants, pajama pants, and caps in Pope colors. Car magnets and Pope license plates are also available. We are set up in the Main corridor every FRIDAY MORNING between 7:00 AM and 8:30 AM. *Don't miss out on these cool, good quality, reasonably priced items.* You can also reach us anytime at 678-921-2015 or Gaby2457@aol.com.

YOUTH SERVICES

Are you concerned about the many issues that face our children today? Does teen drinking, using the cell phone while driving, texting while driving, eating disorders and internet safety have you wishing you could be with your child all the time? Then we have a great volunteer opportunity available for you! PTSA is looking for a chairperson for the Youth Services Committee. The purpose of this committee is to identify the greatest potential threats to children and youth and avert or lessen these dangers through education and programming. For more information call Pam Ziskend at 770-645-7763.

STUDENT DIRECTORY ADDITIONS

An addendum to the Student Directory will be published next week. If you would like to be added to the current directory, or if any of your information needs to be changed, contact Sirpa Hortsman at pikisworld@gmail.com no later than January 18.

FRONT OFFICE VOLUNTEERS

Thank you for volunteering to help at Pope High School. A meeting/training will take place on January 20 from 9:30 AM-10:30 AM for all new and current front office volunteers. We currently have openings for new volunteers. Please consider volunteering to help make Pope a better place for your student to learn. We need you! If you have any questions, please contact Monica Anderson at 770-565-2600.

HEROES ARE EVERYWHERE!

The PTSA is conducting an "Honoring Our Heroes" essay contest. Entry forms and instructions are available in the Media Center. Parents and teachers, encourage your students to think about their "real life" heroes. Challenge them to think of someone who has made a difference in their life by exhibiting qualities such as compassion, courage, dedication, generosity, perseverance, commitment, integrity, etc? Perhaps they are their parents, grandparents, siblings, or friends. Did a policeman, fireman, teacher, counselor, social worker, nurse, or doctor impact their life directly or indirectly? Encourage them to let their hero know what he or she means to them by entering the "Honoring Our Heroes" essay contest! Completed entries can be returned to the Heroes Box in the Media Center by February 20th. Questions? Contact Susan Tupper 770-578-6358 or njtupper@comcast.net.

ATTENTION ALL SENIORS...

The Margie Hatfield Scholarship was established by the Eastern Cobb County Council (ECCC) PTA in 1990 to honor Ms. Hatfield who served as ECCC PTA President from 1977-1980. Ms. Hatfield also served on the State and National PTA Boards and she continues to work tirelessly for the welfare and education of young people. These \$1,000 scholarships are granted to one senior from each ECCC high school and are awarded based on academic success, leadership, involvement, and community service. They are funded by private donations and by local units within the ECCC PTA network. Applications are available in your counselors' office or can be accessed at <http://www.ecccpta.org/ECCCMHScholarship.htm>. Applications are due January 30, 2009.

POPE FOUNDATION

NEW LANDSCAPE!

The directional signs are in place! Our facelift is just about finished. We have ordered a new LED sign for the sign on Hembree Road and we expect that to be installed in approximately five weeks. Also, we are working to add signs to the front monument identifying our current sponsors and figuring out the details for lighting these monuments. If you haven't seen the new look, be sure to take a drive by! We are still taking donations to support this effort. Mail checks, payable to the Pope Foundation, to the school address – 3001 Hembree Road, Marietta, GA 30062 OR pay securely online using PayPal at www.popehighschoolfoundation.com.

ATTENTION KROGER SHOPPERS - Action Required to Reactivate!!!

The next time you pull out your Kroger Plus card to use, please be sure to ask the cashier to 'link' your card to Pope High School! Kroger pays a percentage back to schools who have signed up for their Earning Plus Learning program. The cashiers have a barcode available that they will scan after they scan your card...it's as simple as that! Even if you've done that in the past, please remember that Kroger requires each registered card to RESCAN at the beginning of each new school year to maintain these donations. Thank you for your support!

FIRST ANNUAL GREYHOUND GALA

The first annual Greyhound Gala is February 28, 2009 – is that date on YOUR calendar? This premier fundraising event, presented by the Pope Foundation, will feature food, fun, dancing *both* a silent and live auction. We'd love for you to join us! All proceeds from this event will benefit your selected Pope Athletic Club, Organization or the Pope Foundation. Please see your booster club coach or president for more information. Invitations will be mailed in a few weeks. Questions? Email info@popehighschoolfoundation.com. Make plans now to attend this exciting evening!

CLUBS & ORGANIZATIONS

POPE RANKS HIGH IN GEORGIA ALL-STATE BAND COMPETITION

We are proud to announce that Pope High School had one of the highest representations in this year's Georgia All-State Band. Pope will be represented this year by 14 students, half of which earned first chair status. The 14 students in this year's all-state band are: (Instrument, Name, Chair) Clarinet, Annamarie Frost, 1; Clarinet, Mark Lieberbaum, 1; Clarinet, Kevin Ma, 2; Clarinet, Andrew Payson, 3; Clarinet, Courtney Sutter, 11; Euphonium, Ellen Kuykendall, 4; Flute, Elise Naber, 3; Oboe, Joan Oh, 2; Percussion, Lara Hueter, 1; Percussion, Michael Jarrett, 1; Percussion, Sean O'Donnell, 1; Percussion, Matt Young, 5; Trumpet, Chris Naber, 1; Tuba, Stephen Bocarro, 1. Students had to first compete at the district level (there are 13 districts in Georgia). Students who passed their district audition in December moved on to the state level audition on Saturday, January 10, 2009 at Houston County High School. 31 Pope students scored high enough on their initial audition to take the final audition. The All-State clinic will take place on March 5 – 7, 2009 in Savannah. Clinicians will include Composer/Conductor Sam Hazo, Composer/Conductor Mark Camphouse, and Composer/Conductor Richard Saucedo.

COMPUTER & ELECTRONICS RECYCLING DAY

On **Saturday, January 24**, from 9AM – 4PM, Pope Band will host its annual electronics recycling event in the Pope High School parking lot. This is the perfect time to safely dispose of obsolete or unusable computers, monitors, network equipment, peripherals, cables, televisions, cell phones, telephone equipment, stereos, game systems, tape players, etc. Items NOT accepted at this event are electronics in wood cabinets, kitchen/bathroom electronics and appliances. This is a fundraiser for the band; with a suggested donation of \$10 (generous contributions will be gratefully accepted!). Pick-up appointments are available – please email PopeBandRecycles@popeband.org. Rain date will be Saturday, January 31. For more information, contact Philomena at 770/843-9210 or visit the band website at popeband.org.

COUNSELORS' NEWS

COLLEGE BOUND STUDENTS

The National Association for College Admission Counseling (NACAC), is hosting a free webinar on January 15, at 7:00 PM to learn more about attending the upcoming NACAC college fair on February 8. The fair is one of the largest in the greater Atlanta area with great seminars and college reps. The webinar is called: "Making the Most Out of Attending a National College Fair". Each year thousands of high school students begin preparing for their journey into the world of postsecondary education. The journey is often a lengthy process, filled with many uncertainties. Students often ask questions like, how do I know what school is the right school? What majors are available? Should I attend a two or four-year institution? Are there any resources available on a local basis to make the process easier? Hear college admission and counseling experts share tips on how to narrow down your college search by preparing for and getting the most out of attending your local NACAC National College Fair. You'll also learn about the importance and benefits of lead retrieval technology when registering for college fairs. To register go to <http://www.nacacnet.org/EventsTraining/CollegeFairs/ncf/Pages/default.aspx>. The 2009 NACAC Fair is scheduled for Sunday, February 8, 2009 from 12:00-4:00 PM at the Georgia International Convention Center near the airport. See www.nacacnet.org for details.

FINANCIAL AID NIGHT

A representative from the Georgia Student Finance Commission will be speaking at the Financial Aid Night at Pope on Tuesday, January 27, 2009. Bring all your questions concerning financial aid that night or just come to gather information. Parents and students are encouraged to attend. The meeting will be held in the theater.

STUDENT/PARENT PSAT NIGHT, TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 17, 7:00 PM IN THE THEATER

Attention Sophomores and Juniors who paid to take the PSAT. PSAT scores are here, and were distributed on 12/16 in homeroom, but what do they mean? **We have scheduled a special event for students and parents where we will go over the score report in detail!** RSVP online at www.princetonreview.com/events (Look under SAT, enter zip code and click on event for 2/17/09). Come hear the Princeton Review in conjunction with the Pope School Counseling Department speak about:

- * A detailed analysis of your PSAT Score Report and results
- * A walk-through of the college admissions timeline
- * An introduction to the SAT, ACT, and SAT Subject Tests
- * A plan for a stress-free college admissions process
- * Preview gacollege411.org web site - a comprehensive website for planning, applying and paying for college

****BE SURE TO BRING YOUR PSAT SCORE REPORT WITH YOU TO THIS MEETING!**

REMINDER TO SENIORS

Seniors whose college application requires a mid-year report, please bring in the forms and request the mid-year transcript be released to those colleges. We will process them when the mid-year transcript is available. All seniors should visit the Pope High School website <http://popehs.typepad.com/guidancedepartment/> and scroll down to scholarships to view all the possibilities available.

HOUNDS HELPING OTHERS

MEMORIAL BLOOD DRIVE

February 6 ~ Annual Memorial Blood Drive. **Please help us keep the memory of Shelby Matheson, Tyson McRee, Richard Bailey and Kimberly Andrews** alive by your donation of blood. Time: 8:00 AM - 1:00 PM and 2:30 PM - 7:00 PM in the Parish Hall of The Episcopal Church of St. Peter and St. Paul. You may donate blood if you are 17 years old and weigh at least 110 pounds. You may donate every 56 days.

FROM THE ATHLETIC DIRECTOR...

POPE WRESTLING

Congratulations to the Wrestling Team. On Saturday they won their second straight Region Duel Championship. The wrestling team defeated Centennial in the finals. They will be competing in the state duels this Friday and Saturday in Macon. Good Luck.

POPE BASKETBALL

All of the basketball teams will be in action this Friday. The JV and freshman will host Kell High School. The JV girls, Varsity Girls, and the Varsity boys play at Kell High School. Please come and support the basketball teams.

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 popehoundhighlights@comcast.net. Hound Highlights will also be posted on the www.popehigh.com website each Friday.