



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

IMPORTANT DATES

November 24-28	Thanksgiving Holidays – No School
December 2	Ignorance Is No Defense Presentation
December 8	Project 2400 Parents Meeting
December 12	A Fine Arts Showcase – Rialto Center
December 18-19	Final Exams
December 22-January 5	Winter Holidays – No School

FROM THE ADMINISTRATION...

SHOP WITH A GREYHOUND

As of this week, we have raised about \$5,000!!! Thank you for your support. We are getting several E-mails thanking Pope for making this day possible for the children and it just makes us that much more excited to provide a special holiday treat for all students involved.

We still need to raise \$5,000. Please support a good cause...

- Donate (send tax deductible checks to Pope High School Attn: Ashley Jimerson for Shop With a Greyhound)
- Have your company make a tax deductible donation
- Sign up to be a helper (We still need 150 Pope Helpers for December 6) Deadline to apply is November 21
- Purchase a SWAG long sleeve t-shirt

By Friday November 21 the home room with the most purchased t-shirts will receive a Chick-fil-A biscuit breakfast and the home room teacher will receive a \$40 gift card to Longhorn!!

JOIN US TONIGHT AT BOSTON MARKET

Join us Thursday, November 20 for a special event benefiting Shop With a Greyhound. 15% of all proceeds between 4 PM until closing at Boston Market on Shallowford Road and Sandy Plains Road will be given back to Pope for Shop With a Greyhound. Be sure to mention that you are from Pope when ordering. Thank you to Boston Market and please come have dinner out to benefit SWAG!!!

SCHEDULE CHANGE

As Pope continues investigating schedule alternatives for next year, all Pope Stakeholders can access the latest information by clicking on the Schedule Change Blog at <http://popehs.typepad.com/schedule/>.

SPRING SEMESTER PARKING

Spring semester parking forms will be available starting Monday, November 17 in Mrs. Hill's office, as well as in the front office with Mrs. Vorobel. Applications for senior parking will be turned in during all lunches during December 2-4. To obtain a new parking pass you must submit:

- 1) A completed white Cobb County Board of Education Parking Permit. This requires the signature of a parent or guardian, as well as the vehicle ID number and tag number.
- 2) A completed Pope High School parking rules and regulations form. This requires the signature of a parent or guardian as well.
- 3) A copy of the student's current license.
- 4) A copy of the current insurance card for the car you will be parking.
- 5) \$50 in the form of a check made payable to Pope High School or cash.
- 6) You must be eligible based on rules listed on form #2 above.

As was done this semester, parking will go to eligible seniors first, who have turned in all required items by 4:30 PM December 4. All students enrolled in Rise, and mentorship for the spring semester will be given top priority, regardless of grade. The top 10 juniors, based on GPA after fall semester will be eligible, as well as one student receiving the coveted "Coaches Choice" award for winter and spring sports in season.

Spring decals are a different color, so you must purchase a new decal in order to park spring semester. We will not know if there will be parking available for other juniors until December 5.

GEORGIA NATURAL GAS (GNG)

Whether you are a current Georgia Natural Gas customer or not, YOU can help raise easy money for Pope!

If you are currently a Georgia Natural Gas customer you can sign up under GNG's TrueBlue Schools program and GNG will donate money to Pope! By simply selecting Pope High School as your school, GNG will make an initial donation of \$25 to Pope AND \$5 each month that you stay with GNG. *That's easy cash for our school!* To sign up, grab a copy of your GNG invoice (so you have your GNG account number) and go to www.popehigh.com. Click on the TrueBlue Schools logo and then "Yes, I am a GNG customer." Follow the prompts and you'll select Pope High School. It's as easy as that!

If you are not currently a GNG customer but would like to switch gas marketers, you can make the switch online by going to www.popehigh.com, clicking on the TrueBlue Schools logo and then "No, I am not currently a GNG Customer." 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 AM – 10 PM or Saturday 7 AM – 7 PM.

Note: GNG's TrueBlue Program is fairly new, and as such, the website for the sign-up process can be somewhat challenging. GNG is presently working to address these challenges, so if you get frustrated, please try again at a later date. It will be worth the wait for Pope! If you have questions about switching over, you are welcome to send an email to info@popehighschoolfoundation.com and someone will respond to you.

PTSA NEWS

IGNORANCE IS NO DEFENSE – A TEENAGERS'S GUIDE TO GEORGIA LAW

Tuesday, December 2, J. Tom Morgan will explain Georgia laws through real life examples, in easy to understand language. Mr. Morgan is a nationally recognized expert on the prosecution of crimes against children. He served as the District Attorney of DeKalb County for twelve years and was the first prosecutor in Georgia to specialize in the prosecutions of crimes against children. During third block the students will meet with Mr. Morgan, and he will speak with parents at 7 PM in the theater. Copies of Mr. Morgan's book will be available at the discount price of \$5 each. Visit J. Tom Morgan's website at www.ignoranceisnodefense.com.

POPE FOUNDATION

GREYHOUND GALA – NEW DATE!

1st Annual Greyhound Gala and Silent Auction will be held on **February 28, 2009** at the Cobb Galleria Centre. This date is different than the date printed in the recent Pope Voice. All proceeds will benefit **your selected** Pope Athletic Program, Club, or the Foundation. Look for more information in upcoming *Hound Highlights*.

HELP BUILD POPE PRIDE!

Be proud of our school – inside and out! Implementing the new landscape project will heighten our Pope Pride...and you can be a part of the experience! Support the Pope Foundation's landscape transformation project by making a donation now! Mail checks, payable to the Pope Foundation, to the school address, OR pay securely online using PayPal at www.popehighschoolfoundation.com.

GUIDANCE NOTES...

COBB'S eHIGH SCHOOL IS NOW COBB VIRTUAL ACADEMY

There are many benefits to taking an online course while in high school. Most post-secondary experiences will require an online learning component; CVA will give students exposure to environment and assist students in developing time management skills. It will also build skills students need to compete in a 21st century work environment as well as allow students to repeat failed courses or resolve scheduling conflicts. Tuition for .5 unit courses is \$275 and \$550 for a 1.0 unit course. A student taking a .5 unit course should be able to devote 5-10 hours per week to completing coursework. A student taking a 1 unit course should be able to devote 10-15 hours per week to completing coursework.

Senior only registration for Spring session is December 22 – 23, 2008. Online registration for all students begins on Tuesday, January 6, 2009 and ends Thursday, January 22, 2009. Students can view course offerings and register by going to www.cobbvirtualacademy.org. Spring session classes start Monday, January 26, 2009 and end Friday, May 1, 2009. Students taking courses through eHigh School may access their courses anywhere internet service is available. For more information and FAQ's, please visit the eHigh School website.

STUDENT ATHLETES AND PARENTS

The NCAA Clearinghouse will host a meeting Monday, January 12, 2009, at 7 PM in the Pope High School Theater. A representative from The National Collegiate Scouting Association will speak to our community. This agency provides a program called "College Recruiting 101" for student-athletes with a serious desire to participate in collegiate athletics while pursuing a college degree. NCSA Educational Speaker will guide parents and student-athletes through the importance of establishing athletic and academic goals, setting realistic expectations and seeking opportunities at all college levels. Attendees will learn valuable tips on finding the best college based on their student-athletes' academic and athletic abilities. Most importantly, "College Recruiting 101" will reiterate that the most valuable goal anyone should strive for isn't scoring in the game, but scoring a college education.

PROJECT 2400 2008-09

Does your child need help raising their SAT Scores? Pope High School is participating in *Project 2400* which provides free SAT Preparation by The Princeton Review to Pope High School **Juniors**. We will be able to offer this class to 48 students. The SAT Course consists of 24 hours of instruction and 3 full-length diagnostic tests. **Parents of interested students must attend an information meeting on December 8, 2008 at 7 PM in the Pope Theater. Be sure to sign in at the meeting, we must be able to document your attendance in order for your child to be eligible to participate.** The application packet may be picked up in the counseling office or downloaded from the Pope website (click on staff, school counseling, the information link and Project 2400 2008-09). Application packets will also be available at the December 8 meeting. The dates and times of classes are included in the packet. If you have questions after reviewing the application packet, please email Mrs. Ledbetter Janie.ledbetter@cobbk12.org

2008 Project 2400 Cobb County Results:

- 510 students took the Princeton Review's diagnostic test and the SAT.
- 90% of the students scored higher on their SAT than their diagnostic test.
- Students scored up to 610 points higher than on their first diagnostic test.
- The average score increase from the first diagnostic test to the actual SAT was 157 points.

CLUBS & ORGANIZATIONS

GARDENS OF THE WORLD

This Friday Pope Horticulture will host an Open House during the 2nd half of all periods for any classes who may want to visit our Gardens of the World exhibit. **Gardens of the World** will showcase 42 miniature living gardens that represent different garden types from around the world. Many thanks to the Pope PTSA who helped fund materials for this project through their mini-grants program! Feel free to drop by for a short tour of this project inside the greenhouse. Ice cream cones and hot tea will be on sale for \$1!

FINE ARTS SHOWCASE – TICKETS ON SALE NOW!

The Fine Arts Department presents A Fine Arts Showcase at the Rialto Center for the Performing Arts, Georgia State University, Friday December 12, 2008 at 8 PM. Ticket prices: Adults \$15 & Students \$10. Contact Nancy Wohlfrom at Wohlfrom@bellsouth.net for more information.

FROM THE CLINIC...

MONONUCLEOSIS

Several cases of Mononucleosis (commonly referred to as "mono") have been reported this year. Mono is caused by the Epstein-Barr virus and is more common in the fall and winter months. It is usually diagnosed in adolescents and young adults, with peak incidence in ages 15-17 years. It is *extremely contagious* and is usually spread by person-person contact by saliva. It can be transmitted by sharing food, beverages, or eating utensils and by kissing. The symptoms usually begin to appear 4-7 weeks after the initial exposure to the virus. Symptoms may include, constant extreme fatigue, sore throat, loss of appetite, swollen lymph nodes, headaches, sore muscles, enlarged liver or spleen, skin rash and abdominal pain.

However, some people may experience symptoms so mild that the disease goes undiagnosed. If you or your student develops these symptoms, you may want to consult your physician. The symptoms associated with mono usually last 3-4 weeks. Students may need to cut back on hours at school. Generally, students may return to school once temperature is normal, but a physician should be consulted for approval. If you have questions contact Jackie Christie, RN at extension 273, or for more information visit <http://kidshealth.org/teen/infections/common/mononucleosis.html>.

COLD AND FLU SEASON IS HERE

Cold and flu season is here and the school clinic is busier than ever! The budget is tight and we are in great need of many supplies. You can help our school nurse take care of our students when they come in to the clinic by contributing to our supply inventory. These items are always needed and in great demand. Please consider donating any amount of any of the following items: band aids, soft drinks, juice boxes, crackers, bathroom-size Dixie cups and Kleenex. Anything you can donate will be greatly appreciated! Just drop off your donations in the box located outside of the clinic. Thank you!

HOUNDS HELPING OTHERS

CANNED FOOD DRIVE

SGA will be sponsoring a canned food drive December 1 through December 12. Students can bring in nonperishable food items to homeroom any day during that time. The top three homerooms will receive Smoothies, Chick-fil-A biscuits or Wednesday morning Waffles as rewards. Last year we collected over 10,000 cans and would like to be able to top that this year. The needs of the community are much greater this year with the economy, so please spread the word and have your students bring in an item or two.

PTSA COMMUNITY OUTREACH-GIVING WARMTH TO OTHERS

It's cold out and the PTSA Community Outreach Committee would like to provide much needed items for the guests who come to the MUST Ministries Marietta shelter for their Thanksgiving meal. Here are the cold weather survival items they could use: hats, gloves, scarves, socks, coats, and blankets. These items can be new OR in very good condition. We are also collecting gift cards to Walmart, Target, Kroger, and Publix for Pope families who are having trouble making ends meet due to job loss, etc. The gift cards can be turned in to PPO staff. The winter clothing items can be dropped off in our new white PTSA Community Outreach bin located across from PPO until Friday, November 21. *THANKS FOR GIVING!* Questions? Contact: Debra Leon, DebraTornes@aol.com or Carol Zepf, Carolsjm@aol.com.

COMMUNITY NEWS...

DRIVERS EDUCATION

The Safe America Foundation recently conducted our very successful Defensive Driving Class at Pope. During the Thanksgiving break and the Winter break, Safe America is offering their Driver's Education class at a rate of \$339, which is a \$100 off the regular price. If you are interested or would like more information, please contact Mary Lou Pagano at the Safe America Foundation. She can give you specific dates and times for the classes. Her email address is marylou.pagano@safeamerica.org. Her phone number is 770-973-7233.

SPORTS TALK

FROM THE ATHLETIC DIRECTOR

SWIM & DIVE

The Pope Swim & Dive team will kick off its dual meet season Friday evening, November 21 at Mountain View Aquatic Center versus Lassiter. The Greyhounds will hit the water at 7 PM. Come cheer on your Hounds as they look to dethrone the defending state champs! The Greyhounds will be led by Senior Kelsey Gaid who recently committed to swim at the University of Georgia! Congrats Kelsey and Go Hounds!

WRESTLING

The wrestling team has their first match of the season at Collins Hill on Saturday, November 22. Collins Hill is ranked #1 in the state, and Pope is ranked #2. The match starts at 5:30 PM. Please come and support the Greyhounds.

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.