



Pope High School  
**PTSA**  
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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. 7, No. 25 ♦ Thursday, March 5, 2009



Send submissions to [popehoundhighlights@comcast.net](mailto:popehoundhighlights@comcast.net) ♦ Deadline: Tuesdays 5PM

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## IMPORTANT DATES

March 5	Academic Night
March 7	ECCC PTA Teen Job Fair
March 9	Registration Forms Due to Homerooms

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## FROM THE ADMINISTRATION...

### POPE TEACHER OF THE MONTH

It is that time again! We are looking for Pope's March Teacher of the Month. The winning teacher receives a \$40 gift certificate to Longhorn Steakhouse. Nominate your teacher by downloading the form on the Pope web site or come by room 400, Ms. Jimerson's office, to nominate your favorite teacher.

### FROM THE SCHEDULING OFFICE

Registration information for the 09-10 school year will be distributed to your students in Homeroom on Thursday, March 5. **The completed sheets are due back to your student's homeroom teacher by Monday, March 9.** Students will have the option of changing electives and courses in accordance with directions on the registration form. Please make your course selections carefully. This is the one chance you have to make adjustments to next year's schedule. We will host an **Academic Night on March 5<sup>th</sup> from 7PM – 9PM at Pope.** You will have an opportunity to ask questions about our course offerings, including AP classes and electives. The Course Guide has been posted on the Pope Website. Due to budgetary constraints, we will not be able to print hardcopies this year. The link for the Course Guide is on the front page at [www.popehigh.com](http://www.popehigh.com).

### FROM OUR NEIGHBORS AT DORSET

Many of our students are hanging out at the Dorset pool after school. Due to a rash of vandalism and trespassing, the neighborhood association will take police action if anyone is found on the property without just cause. The association will be appreciative to any assistance anyone can give them.

## PTSA NEWS

### PTSA NEW OFFICERS

If you are interested in becoming even more involved with your child's school consider becoming an officer for the 2009-2010 school year. The nominating committee is looking for parents that want to contribute. Please contact any of the following people and let them know you are interested; Lisa Armitage, Susan Hincks, Trish Holmes or Beth Wortham.

## **NEW CALENDAR FOR 2009-2010**

The Board of Education has requested three new calendar options for the 2009-10 school year. The school board instructed Superintendent Fred Sanderson to prepare the new options for review at the March 11 work session. The board specified that the new options should each include a start date of August 17 or later, and at least one of the options should end first semester after the winter holiday break. Contact our School Board Representative for Post 5 David Banks at [dbanks.boardmember@cobbk12.org](mailto:dbanks.boardmember@cobbk12.org) with your comments.

## **FRONT OFFICE VOLUNTEERS STILL NEEDED**

We are still looking for volunteers to answer the phones and greet people at the Front office. Each shift is only 2 1/2 hours and we currently have 10 open shifts (with 6 openings on Fridays). The work is easy, but very important in the smooth operation of the school. If interested or if you have any questions, please contact Monica Anderson at 770-565-2600.

## **DEFENSIVE DRIVING CLASS**

Safe America Foundation will be conducting Pope's Spring Defensive Driving class on Saturday, April 18, in the Media Center from 9AM - 3:30PM. The cost of the six-hour course is \$50 and open to students with a valid permit or driver's license. They must have also completed a **minimum of 40 HOURS OF DRIVING**. Safe America is offering a special pricing package for any parents that would also like to complete the class along with their student. For an additional \$25 (\$75 total), parents will be certified at the end of the class along with their student. Lunch will be served to all participants. **Please note: This class IS NOT driver's education.** For additional information on this class, refer to the current issue of the Pope Voice newsletter or contact Ann White at [harecwhite@earthlink.net](mailto:harecwhite@earthlink.net). Registration forms will be available in the Front Office, outside of PPO, the Media Center, and on the Pope website: [www.popehigh.com](http://www.popehigh.com). Go to: Organization/PTSA/Forms/Defensive Driving.

## **TEEN JOB FAIR**

ECCC will be hosting their 3<sup>rd</sup> Annual Teen Job Fair on Saturday, March 7, from 11AM-1PM at the Mt. View Community Center. ECCC PTA will have job applications available from local retail stores, grocery chains, major amusement park employers, lifeguarding companies, fast food chains, local small businesses and many more. Students will also receive information on how to create a resume, fill out an online application and tips on first appearances. Look forward to seeing you on March 7. For more information, contact Pat Giuliani at 404-409-9112 or [pat.giuliani@parentcorps.org](mailto:pat.giuliani@parentcorps.org).

## **CYBERBULLING**

Dodgen MS is hosting a Parent Seminar on Cyberbullying March 12 at 9:30 AM in the Dodgen MS Theater. The seminar will be led by Dr. Patti Agatston, Counselor/Consultant, and Cobb County Schools Prevention Intervention Center and will cover cyberbullying and cybersafety. A question and answer session will follow.

## **WARM WEATHER IS JUST AROUND THE CORNER**

The ads are full of sales on sports gear, specials on gym memberships and suggestions for how to get ready for that perfect "beach body". The media is more than ready to tell us what we ought to look like - everything from what we should wear to what shape our bodies ought to take. This is as true for our kids as it is for adults. On Tuesday March 10, the Simpson PTSA in conjunction with the Simpson School Counseling Office invites you to a program where we will consider together what challenges our children face. This is especially critical during these formative years. Alison Cross, (LPC and Co-Founder of Project Authentic Beauty) with extensive experience in both residential and personal counseling, will present our program with an opportunity for discussion following. This program will begin at 7PM and is for adults only. We encourage all parents/guardians to attend.

# POPE FOUNDATION

## GREYHOUND GALA

The First Annual Greyhound Gala is behind us now, but it was truly an evening to remember! Kudos to all the volunteers who helped make it such an overwhelming success, but especially to the Gala Committee co-chairs Julie Pederson, Dania Tarquinio, and Jeff Robertson. The silent and live auctions were both resounding successes, thanks to the incredible support of our parents, teachers and administration. We will supply final dollar amounts for the booster clubs and organizations as soon as they are available. Thank you to everyone who supported the Greyhound Gala this past Saturday evening through attendance, volunteering, or donations! If you missed the Gala, make a point to come out next year.....you won't regret it!

## LANDSCAPE UPDATE

We have lights! If you drive by Pope at night, you'll notice that the two monuments are now both lighted at dusk! We hope you are happy with the look. The LED sign should be in within a few weeks, and we are moving forward with our sponsorship signage for the nine sponsorship slots on the main monument. Please let us know at [info@popehighschoolfoundation.com](mailto:info@popehighschoolfoundation.com) if you know a business who might be interested in being on the sign.

# COUNSELORS' NEWS

## PRELIMINARY HOPE SCHOLARSHIP STATUS

Seniors received a Pope HS Senior newsletter in homeroom on Tuesday which included information about how to check their preliminary HOPE Scholarship status. Students must create an account at [www.GACollege411.org](http://www.GACollege411.org) in order to access this information. Additionally, directions for applying for the HOPE scholarship are included in the newsletter. Please review this information with your student.

# SENIORS NOTE THIS...

## POPE HIGH SCHOOL BACCALAUREATE INFORMATION

Pope High School Baccalaureate is scheduled for Tuesday, May 19, at 7:00 PM. It will be at Johnson Ferry Baptist Church, 955 Johnson Ferry Road, Marietta, GA 30068. Directions for those planning on attending the ceremony, seniors should arrive at 6:30 PM, at the small chapel to the left of the church entrance. Please wear graduation gown & honor cords. The graduation cap is reserved for graduation night. Please wear appropriate shoes, no flip-flops. Reception will follow. Family and friends are invited. More information will follow as the event gets closer.

## ATTENTION SENIORS

Cobb Virtual Academy will offer the following courses for the Mini-Session: Economics, Government, Contemporary Literature (A, B, Y). Walk-in registration ONLY is on Thursday, March 26, from 4PM-5PM at the Wheeler High School Magnet Building. Students **MUST ATTEND** the Registration and complete the Orientation. Tuition payment is due at time of Registration. Mini-Session Final Exams and EOCTs will be held on May 12<sup>th</sup>.

## PROM FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS:

The prom will arrive in May and it is always an exciting event. Following are some frequently asked questions and tips in hopes that it will make your plans run smoother. The date is Saturday, May 9, in the Egyptian Ballroom at the Fox Theatre from 7:30PM – 11:30PM. This year's theme is Bright Lights, Big City. The Senior Walk and King/Queen Announcement will line up at 10:30PM. For more Prom details please go to [www.popehigh.com](http://www.popehigh.com) and click on the Prom FAQs.

## **SENIOR PARENTS - FAFSA FORM AND FINANCIAL AID HELP**

Georgia Student Finance Commission's mission statement is to promote and increase access to education beyond high school for Georgians. February is Financial Aid Awareness Month in Georgia. We know that in today's economy, families are extremely concerned about how to finance a college education. During the month of February, Monday through Friday, Client Services staff will be available to help families complete the Free Federal Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) at their facility in Tucker, Georgia. They will have staff available from 12PM until 2PM each day. They will also accommodate evening appointments as requested. If you would like to make an appointment for FAFSA assistance, please contact Wanda Simmons at 1-800-505-4732, ext. 9017, or [wandas@gsfc.org](mailto:wandas@gsfc.org). It will be extremely important that you bring your 2008 Federal Income Tax information with you to this meeting.

## **CLUBS & ORGANIZATIONS**

### **DRAMA PRODUCTION**

The Crucible, Arthur Miller's timeless tale of truth on trial, will be performed by the Drama Play Production with opening night Wednesday, March 18 and running thru Saturday, March 21 at 7 pm each night. Cost is \$5.00.

### **POPE WINTERGUARD TAKES 1st PLACE AGAIN!**

Saturday evening at Kell High School, the Winterguard participated in another SAPA regional competition, again claiming first place. They beat out teams from local schools Kennesaw Mountain, Kell and Lassiter. Way to go girls! This weekend they will compete in a two day WGI Power Regional at Whitewater High School, where they will face schools from outside the state for a second time. This will be the last WGI regional before the finals in Dayton, OH from April 2-4. Keep up the good work and good luck this weekend!

## **HOUNDS HELPING OTHERS / COMMUNITY NEWS**

### **RALLY FOUNDATION FUNDRAISER**

A fundraiser in honor of Hailey Trainer, a student at Timber Ridge Elementary fighting AT/RT, a highly aggressive form of cancer. Join us on Saturday, March 21, from 8AM – 2PM at East Cobb Church of Christ, in the front yard, 5240 Roswell Rd. Marietta, GA 30062. **Yard Sale - Silent Auction-Bake Sale - Play Activities!**

The whole community is welcome to get involved! We need sellers for the yard sale (donations also accepted), quality items/services donated for auction, baked goods for the bake sale, and plenty of volunteers to help make it happen! Please contact Erin Bankston at [erinbankston@yahoo.com](mailto:erinbankston@yahoo.com) for more information.

### **TRITT MUSICAL**

Tritt ES students will present "High School Musical, One Act Edition" in the Pope HS Theater in March. Tickets are available for the performances on Monday, March 9, at 6:00 PM and Saturday, March 14, at 3:30 PM by contacting [hsmtritt@bellsouth.net](mailto:hsmtritt@bellsouth.net). Tickets are \$6 and will not be sold at the door, so reserve your tickets now!

## **FROM THE ATHLETIC DIRECTOR**

### **FOOTBALL REGISTRATION**

Saturday, March 28, 9AM in the cafeteria. COME BE A PART OF NEW TRADITIONS. For more information go to [www.popefootball.com](http://www.popefootball.com).

## AJO4LAX FEST

The **Andrew Oswald Memorial Fund, LTD** will hold its third annual AJO4LAX Fest on Saturday, March 28, 2009 at Pope High School. The day-long event, hosting four GHSA sanctioned lacrosse games, is attracting six of Georgia's top ten ranked varsity teams:

10 am - Lassiter vs. Pace Academy

12:30 pm - Walton vs. St. Pius

3:00 pm - Harrison vs. Roswell

5:30 pm - Pope vs. Westminster

AJO4LAX Fest honors the memory of Andrew Oswald, a standout Pope Varsity lacrosse player (and former Hightower student) who died from injuries received in an automobile accident in 2005. This year's event will build on the success of the previous two years in which over \$30,000 was raised for college scholarships, as well as supporting teen safe driving initiatives and community lacrosse programs. In particular, this year the Andrew Oswald Memorial Fund will sponsor up to 240 participants in the **Safe Teen Georgia Driving Program** at Atlanta Speedway on March 9th in support of one of the Foundation's objectives - to promote safe teen driving and help to minimize the risk of teens being involved in fatal accidents. In addition to the lacrosse matches, there will be fun things for the kids to do, as well as many fabulous raffle items, **including a framed original movie poster from the hit movie and book series "Twilight" signed by all major cast members!** All raffle proceeds and donations will benefit The Andrew Oswald Memorial Fund, LTD, a Georgia 501(c)(3) non-profit corporation.

# GO HOUNDS!

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Please make [pts@popehs.ptsamail.com](mailto:pts@popehs.ptsamail.com) "an acceptable email address." It is used to distribute Hound Highlights. We will still communicate and subscribe through [popehoundhighlights@comcast.net](mailto:popehoundhighlights@comcast.net). Hound Highlights will also be posted on the [www.popehigh.com](http://www.popehigh.com) website each Friday.