



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. 7 ♦ Thursday, September 25, 2008



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

IMPORTANT DATES

September 26

October 13

October 15

October 18

Report Card Distribution

Reflections Entries Due

PSAT and Early Release

Defensive Driving Course

FROM THE ADMINISTRATION...

NEW POPE WEBSITE

We know you have all been eagerly awaiting Pope's new website. We are please to announce that by the end of the day Thursday, September 25th, the new site will be available at www.popehigh.com. Sara Allegood and Ashley Jimerson have worked very hard to provide you with a site you can easily navigate and one that shows off the great things happening at Pope. We are still in the process of refining the site, so please click on the link under survey and email us your commendations or recommendations. We hope you love the new web site as much as we do.

PRISON TO PARADISE

Tired of seeing the word "prison" and Pope in the same sentence? Well, now is your chance to do something about that. Starting September 11th the Student Government Association will collect funds via homerooms every Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday for one month. What is the focus you ask? We are asking every student at Pope to donate just \$10 to the cause. We hope to raise \$18,000 in one month to support the new landscape project by the Foundation. Checks should be made payable to Pope Foundation. Take part in a great cause to help Pope look as good on the outside as it does on the inside! The homerooms with the most donations will receive Chick-fil-A biscuits or smoothies! Donate online at <http://www.popehighschoolfoundation.com/index.php?page=donate>.

2009 NATIONAL MERIT SCHOLARSHIP AND COMMENDED STUDENTS

The following Pope students are *Semifinalists* in the 2009 National Merit Scholarship Program.

Abraham Chang, Maura Friedman, Charles Lu, Connor McCubrey, Aurelia Wang

These Pope students are listed as *Commended Students* in the 2009 National Merit Scholarship Program.

Mason Aramian, Nicole Burdakin, Jacqueline Dershowitz, Katherine Keng, Alex Lake, Mark Lieberbaum, Donald McCallum, Jack Morris, Matthew Passarello, Derek Ponticelli, Ryan Walsh, Ryan Waye, Bradley White, Kyle Wilson, Stephanie Yawn, and Hannah Zondlak

On behalf of the Pope Faculty and PTSA we applaud you for your superior efforts!

TENTH GRADE HEARING AND VISION SCREENING

October 28th and 29th we will be conducting the state mandated hearing and vision screening for all tenth graders. If your student wears corrective lenses please make sure that he/she brings them that day. All retakes are scheduled for November 6th. If you have any questions or concerns, contact: Jean.mason@cobbk12.org

SCHOOL NURSE

Please review Cobb County Health Services section at <http://www.cobbk12.org/schoolhealth/index.html> so that you are aware of medication policies in school setting. Let your child's teachers and the school nurse know if your student has a medical condition in case an emergency arises. The clinic is always in need of the following items: 6 oz cups, band aids, sandwich sized zip lock bags, ginger ale, coke, juice boxes, Lysol wipes, and Kleenex. Also, if anyone has a wheelchair to donate, it will be greatly appreciated.

PTSA NEWS

A NOTE FROM SUPERINTENDENT FRED SANDERSON

I want to extend a heartfelt thanks to all of you and your PTA members. Thanks to your tireless efforts, we were able to overcome a lot of negativity and pass the SPLOST III Referendum with a resounding 60 percent in favor. Parent involvement is what makes our schools great, and we truly could not have accomplished this without your help. The children of Cobb County will benefit as a result. What you do for our schools, day in and day out, too often goes unrecognized, but it is never unappreciated. The continuation of SPLOST is just another example of how you make the difference. Thank you!

DEFENSIVE DRIVING CLASS

Pope's Defensive Driving Class will be **Saturday, October 18, from 9-3:30** in the Media Center. This year's program will be conducted by the Safe America Foundation and will include the use of simulators. **Students must have 40 hours of driving experience** to participate and the cost is \$50, payable to Pope PTSA. Lunch will be served and included in cost. Registration forms will be in the Pope Voice Newsletter or available in the front office beginning September 29. Only 30 students will be allowed to attend, so pick up your registration forms and get them in by October 12 to the PPO. Please refer to your Pope Voice Newsletter for more information, or email Ann White at harecwhite@earthlink.net.

REFLECTIONS

The Theme for this year's National PTA *Reflections* Program is "**Wow...**" *Reflections* is a national arts recognition and achievement program open to students in all grades in the areas of **literature, visual arts, photography, musical composition, dance choreography and film/video production**. Entries will also be accepted in the Georgia Special Artists division, a division for students with special needs. Pope winners will receive a \$25 gift card and advance to the county level. All participants will receive a gift.

Information and entry forms are located in the Main Hall near the PPO office. The **due date for entries is October 13th**. If you have any questions, please contact Sharon Dershowitz at shadersh@aol.com or Melissa Goodman at missyggga@aol.com.

GUIDANCE NEWS

FRESHMAN PARENT NIGHT

If you were unable to attend Freshman Parent night check the link below to get the information from the meeting. <http://popehs.typepad.com/guidancedepartment/>

**SAFE AND DRUG-FREE SCHOOLS and COMMUNITIES SURVEY
PASSIVE PARENTAL PERMISSION FORM**

In order to provide the most effective drug and violence prevention resources and/or activities for your child, the Title IV Safe and Drug-Free Schools and Communities Program collects survey information from students at various grade levels during the school year. Pope High School will offer this survey to our 10th and 12th grade students on Oct. 15th. This day is an Early Release day, and due to PSAT testing for 10th and 11th graders, ADAP course for 9th, and senior meeting in the morning, we will be offering the survey during the day in between activities to 10th and 12th graders who are willing to participate. The survey is on line and will take approximately 20 minutes to complete, is totally anonymous and voluntary, students have the right to "opt out", and asks for responses that pertain to student involvement in substance abuse, violent situations, school climate and nutrition.

The data collected will be used to identify critical areas of need for our Safe and Drug-Free Schools efforts. Survey analysis of these data provides information/data that:

- Meets the No Child Left Behind Title IV mandated data collection requirements;
- Assists in the maintenance of a school environment that is free of drugs and violence;
- Promotes a classroom atmosphere that allows teachers to teach and students to learn; and
- Develops and offers experiences that involve students in applying the concepts of making healthy decisions, accepting responsibility for behaviors, and understanding consequences.

Our desire is to involve parents in the education of their children. If you **do not** wish for your child to participate in this important activity, please sign and return this form to school. Lack of participation does not impact a student's grade or placement. If you would like to examine the survey, please go to the web site, <http://www.cobbk12.org/~preventionintervention> and the Middle School and High School versions are available for download. If you do not have internet access, please call the Prevention Intervention Center at 770-429-5846 and they will send you a copy.

Thank you for your consideration.

DO NOT return this form if your child can participate in this survey.

Please sign this form, and return it to the School Counseling Office in room 102
only if you do not wish your child to participate.

I would prefer that my child NOT participate in the *Safe and Drug-Free Schools Survey*.

SCHOOL _____

STUDENT _____

GRADE _____

Parent Signature

Date

TESTING

GHS GT Assessment Testing - As mandated by CCSD, all juniors throughout the district will be given an assessment in both English and mathematics. This will be done on September 29th during 1st and 2nd period, with makeups on September 30th.

All sophomores and juniors will be given the PSAT on October 15th. If you would like to have your test scored, please see Mrs. Callahan in the Guidance Office by October 6th. The required fee for scoring is \$13.

CLUBS & ORGANIZATIONS

OCTAGON CLUB NEWS

Pope's newest service organization, Octagon Club, meets every second and fourth Tuesday afternoon in Room 101 to make a difference in our school and community. Our newly elected slate of officers is excited about the upcoming year. We plan to volunteer once again for Mostly Mutts and to work with Adopt-a-Mile of Cobb County as we keep Hembree Road trash-free, leading up to the portals of Pope's new "Paradise." As always, we welcome members who are ready, willing, and able to help others.

POPE ORCHESTRA

On November 15, 2008 the Pope Orchestra Booster Club will host its first, annual Golf Tournament at Bradshaw Farm Golf Course. All proceeds will benefit the Pope Orchestra and its programs. Everyone's support is needed to ensure the success of this event.

You can help by:

- Working on the planning committee
- Playing in the tournament (or recruiting others to play)
- Sponsoring the tournament in some way (or identifying others willing to sponsor)
- Volunteering to help on the day of the tournament

Please support this worthwhile effort. Fundraising is important so that Pope's orchestras can continue to offer students opportunities to learn and perform. Let's work together to keep the music playing! For more information or to indicate your willingness to help, contact: Lisa McCormick at 404-643-5016.

HOMECOMING PLANT SALE

Pope Horticulture will have thousands of blooming pansies, snapdragons, dianthus and more on sale during Homecoming Week (October 20-24). The Greyhound Greenhouse will be open each school day until 4:30pm, and also on Saturday, October 25, from 9am-1pm. Just in time for fall planting!

CHARACTER EDUCATION INFORMATIONAL MEETING

We are looking for students and parents interested in serving on our character education program selection committee for the 2008-2009 school year. Please bring ideas and suggestions for speakers/programs to this meeting. Our first meeting is September 30, 2008 @ 7:45AM in room 118. If you cannot attend the meeting send suggestions or comments to Loretta.clune@cobbk12.org, pam.kretzmer@cobbk12.org or David.Thomas@cobbk12.org.

WEIGHT WATCHERS

Weight Watcher's is back at Hightower Trail Middle School. Join us for fun and informative sessions every Monday afternoon at 4:30. See exciting new recipes and wonderful tools to manage your weight for the healthier new you. For details contact Cindy Dockery at Hightower Trail Middle School.

NOTE THIS...

LUNCH TRAY RECYLING

At present we are collecting our trays on which we serve lunch and participating in a reduction in volume project. By the next school year we plan to be fully operational in a program to recycle our trays. We are asking that our students dump the trash from their trays into the trash barrels and then stack their trays in recycling bins all around the Cafeteria. Every day it seems our participation in this program increases. Thanks to those who are participating and a big GET ON BOARD to those who are not. TALK IT UP, we all live on this big blue planet. Small things can make it better for all of us.

HOUNDS HELPING OTHERS

TUTORS NEEDED

Are You Smarter Than a 5th (or 4th, or 3rd.....) Grader? If so, our Sister School, Powers Ferry Elementary, could really use your help. There are a large number of students who are struggling in math, and would really benefit from some one-on-one time with an adult who could help them practice their skills. If you could help your own kids with their math homework in elementary school, you can do this volunteer job. (Plus, the teacher will be right there, so if you have questions, you can ask!) For more information, please contact Julie Hellman, 770-643-9709, juliehellman@bellsouth.net .

POPE VOLLEYBALL TO WORK WITH CYSTIC FIBROSIS!

The Pope Varsity Booster Club and volleyball team are raising money for the Cystic Fibrosis Foundation in honor of Coach Bryan Jones son, Bryce. We will be selling raffle tickets at our home games, and will be awarding items at each match, with the final two items, **an iPod Touch** and a **weekend getaway to Tybee Island** being awarded at our last home match on October 6th! This Thursday is our home match against Milton at 5:00 PM and Kennesaw Mountain at 7:00 PM. Please plan to come and cheer our girls to victory and help with this important campaign!

SPORTS TALK

FROM THE ATHLETIC DIRECTOR

The **Lady Greyhound Volleyball** team swept Wheeler and Campbell on Tuesday. They will begin the Cobb County Tournament on Thursday at Pope. They are currently ranked #2 in the state.

The **Lady Greyhound Softball** team beat Campbell 10-0 in five innings on Tuesday. They will begin the region tournament next week. They are playing in the Lassiter tournament starting this Thursday.

Congratulations to the **Pope Football** team for beating Centennial 28-7 last Friday. The Greyhounds will try to make it two in a row as they play Kell High School on Friday at home. The game will also honor the junior programs, and the game will also honor Matt Hobby and raise money for the Rally Foundation in his honor (Cancer Research). Please come and support the Greyhounds and this great cause. The game should be a sell out, so additional parking will be provided at Hightower Middle School. People will be bused to the stadium. Go Hounds!

FENCING

Pope Fencing Club finished strong against Roswell and Centennial in the season premier tournament held at Dodgen Middle School last weekend. Barrett Roth took the Men's Gold in epee. Tyler Stollman finished eighth for Pope, and Matt Stephens took ninth. Pope's Girls placed three in the top eight: Mary Grimshaw, fifth;

Samantha McKay, seventh and Kaitlin Moore, eighth. Team points were also earned by David White, Rachel Hinck, Chloe Bowman and Stephanie Yawn.

JV VOLLEYBALL

The JV Greyhounds are on a roll! This past weekend, they took the Warrior Classic by storm by winning all four matches in two games. On Monday, they logged two more two-game wins over both Walton and Wheeler. With a 16-1 record, they will host Whitefield Academy and South Cobb on Wednesday, their final match of the season prior to the Area Tournament on October 3-4.

LADIES LACROSSE

If you are interested in trying out this coming spring for the ladies lacrosse team, we invite you to join us on Tuesdays for conditioning and stick work. Practice will begin right after school and will last approximately an hour and a half. Wear running shoes and bring your stick. You can visit www.popeladieslax.com for more news and information.

TENNIS

Prospective players and parents, join us for an informational meeting Thursday, September 25, at 6:30pm in the cafeteria. We'll talk about tennis activities, the tryout process, our season and organization, as well as meet the coaches and booster club board.

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.