

AHS NEWSLETTER 1-12-18

Atholton Community,

Our seniors had their first of many meetings this week about graduation. Catalogs for caps, gowns, tassels, and other graduating senior accessories were distributed on January 10 during Raider Time. Orders will be accepted on-site on **Tuesday, January 16 and Wednesday, January 17 during all lunch shifts**, as well as online. Online or mail-in orders received after Wednesday, March 1 will be subject to a late fee and delayed delivery; there is also a processing fee of \$10 for mail-in orders.

Additional, need-to-know senior information that was also shared on January 10 can be found via the [Graduation News](#) link on the [Atholton website](#), including the following:

*To ensure that the senior's name is spelled correctly on the diploma and graduation program, ALL seniors must submit a [Diploma Signature Form](#), signed by a parent/guardian, by **Friday, January 19, 2018**. If your senior has returned the form, thank you! If your family has not submitted the form, please click here OR have your senior pick one up from Mrs. Beneski in the Student Services office.

*Any senior parent who is a full-time, permanent HCPSS employee is offered the opportunity to present their child's diploma; more details and a link to the [request form](#) can be found via Graduation News.

Graduation News will continue to be updated throughout the spring.

Just a reminder, **Midterm Exams** for students are scheduled for Tuesday, January 23-Friday, January 26. Ninth grade students will be experiencing the midterms for the first time and may not know what to expect or how to prepare for them. Our ninth grade teachers will be providing midterm help after school from 2:15-3:00pm in the Media Center on January 16th, 17th, and 18th. Students may come to one session or all three. There will be teachers from each content area at each session. If you have questions, please contact Lisa Daciek at lisa_daciek@hcpss.org.

To view a complete schedule of high school exams, please visit [MidtermExamSchedule](#).

We will commemorate the life of Dr. Martin Luther King, a great civil rights leader, on January 15th and schools will be closed. Let us observe Dr. King's vision for equality and take a moment to reflect on the fact that diversity is the essence of what makes us unique and we are proud of all the background and experience our staff, students and community share with us on a daily basis.

Regards,

JoAnn Hutchens
Principal

ATHOLTON ROBOTICS

Build season has started! The Atholton Robotics team has 6 weeks to build a champion robot! Come support the Robotics team by coming to Panera Bread at the Columbia mall on Monday, January 15 from 6-9pm. A portion of the proceeds will be donated to our team. You can order in or take out. Thanks in advance for your support!

ATHOLTON ATHLETICS-Week in Advance-January 15-20

Please come out and support the Raiders on the courts and mats. Below are next week's games. **All winter athletic events will have a charge of \$3 for students and \$4 for adults.**

Date	Sport	Time	Opponent	Location
Tuesday, Jan 16th	Wrestling	JV: 4pm Var: 5:30pm	Long Reach	Home
	Indoor Track	4pm	HC Championships	PG Complex
Wednesday, Jan 17th	Basketball	JV: 4pm Var :5:30pm	Hammond	Girls: Home Boys: Away
	Allied Bowling	4pm	Super Bowl	Columbia Lanes
Thursday, Jan 18th	Wrestling	JV: 5pm Varsity: 6pm	Tuscarora	Away
Friday, Jan 19th	Basketball	JV: 5:15pm Var: 7pm	River Hill	Girls: Away Boys: Home
Saturday, Jan 20th	Wrestling	10am	Westminster	Away
	Indoor Track	8:15am	Last Track to Philly	Georgetown Prep HS

For a complete look at the fall sports schedule, please visit the Atholton HS County Sports Zone page. Click here to access page [AHS ATHLETICS CSZ](#)

STUDENT MEMBER OF THE HOWARD COUNTY BOARD OF EDUCATION

Howard County Policy 2010 specifies that Howard County students in grades 6-11 shall have the opportunity to elect the ***Student Member of the Howard County Board of Education (SMOB)*** to a one-year term. The responsibilities of this position are extensive. The student member must spend at least two evenings per month in attendance at BOE meetings.

Considerable time prior to each meeting must be devoted to reviewing policies and programs scheduled for action or review by the BOE. In addition to the twice-monthly meetings, the

student member attends public BOE functions and all Howard County Association of Student Council (HCASC) meetings.

It is now time to receive applications for the next Student Member of the Howard County Board of Education. Any current **sophomore** or **junior** in Howard County may apply for this position. To learn more about this student opportunity and for an application go to [SMOB Application](#).

LEADERSHIP U CLASS OF 2018 RECRUITMENT

We are excited to kick off our recruitment for the Leadership U Class of 2018. We are looking for current sophomores who are interested in building their leadership skills and making a difference in their community. Our first information session is Monday, January 29th at the Miller Library. For more information go to <http://www.leadershiphc.org/leadership-u-2/>.

Our Class of 2017 had some incredible bright, caring, and hard-working Atholton students: Lilly DeCelles, Christian Maric, Rahel Petros, Victorea Sangvic, Campbell Snoddy, and Jessie Zinderman. We sure hope we get another great group of Atholton students for 2018!!!

COLUMBIA ASSOCIATION SISTER CITIES 2018 INFO

International High School Exchange Opportunity Summer 2018

Interested in traveling to Cergy-Pontoise, France or Tres Cantos, Spain this summer? Students studying French or Spanish, level III or above, have the opportunity through Columbia Association's (CA) Sister Cities program to spend two weeks in July with a French or Spanish host family, then host a French or Spanish teen for two weeks upon returning home from Europe. Information sessions will be held on Thursday, Jan 11; Wednesday, Jan. 17; from 7-8pm at CA headquarters, located at 6310 Hillside Court, Columbia 21042. For more information, contact Laura Smit [\(410\)715-3162](tel:4107153162) or International@ColumbiaAssociation.org.

Information Session for Summer 2018 Leadership Program in Haiti

Make a difference and experience Haitian culture as a member of the Haiti Global Leadership Program in the village of Camp Coq, near Columbia's sister city of Cap-Haitien from July 7-16, 2018. Participate in community leadership activities with Haitian students, work directly with Haitian youth on strategies for addressing alternative energy, waste management, preventive medicine, vocational training and business initiatives. The next information session for the Global Leadership Program in Haiti will be Tuesday, January 16, from 7-8pm at CA Headquarters, 6310 Hillside Court, Columbia. For more information, contact Bob Anantua [\(443\) 285-3956](tel:4432853956) or BAnantua@

FROM THE PTSA

REGISTER NOW FOR COMPREHENSIVE & CONVENIENT SAT and/or ACT PREP at ATHOLTON

The Answer Classes help students to gain confidence in their test-taking abilities and teach tips and strategies on timing, guessing, and scoring. Students get the prep that they need without wasting time or money – and the school benefits, too: 20% of all tuition collected is donated to AHS PTSA.

DON'T MISS OUT! To date, more than 5,300 students have taken The Answer Classes and \$110,000 has been donated to our partner schools in the state. As well, over 97% of students who have taken The Answer Classes say that they would recommend them to a friend.

2018 SAT PREP AT AHS

Sat., Feb. 24 from 9 am – 1 pm & Mon., Feb. 26 from 5:30 pm – 9:30 pm OR

M/W Apr. 16 & 18 from 5:30 pm – 9:30 pm OR

M/W May 14 & 16 from 5:30 pm – 9:30 pm

2018 ACT PREP AT AHS

T/Th Mar. 20 & 22 from 5:30 pm – 9:30 pm OR

M/W May 21 & 23 from 5:30 pm – 9:30 pm

REGULAR TUITION: ONLY \$159/class* OR \$249 for SAT/ACT Class Package

*Register at least one week ahead of your course and save \$10! REGISTER TODAY:

WWW.THEANSWERCLASS.COM

NEW PTSA BOARD MEMBERS FOR THE 2018-2019 SCHOOL YEAR

The Atholton High School PTSA is in search of Executive Board Members for the 2018-2019 school year. Most of the board members including the President and Treasurer will be transitioning. It is very important that we identify interested individuals ASAP. These are critical positions necessary to run the PTSA. We want to continue to offer/sponsor the many worthwhile programs at Atholton HS and achieve the objectives of the PTSA. Our parent support is what keeps our community strong. If interested, feel free to stop by a future PTSA meeting. They are held on the 3rd Tuesday of the month and the next one is on 1/16. You can also contact Nikki Lee (ndlee247@gmail.com). The Elections will not be held until the Spring but we wanted to get the word out ASAP. Thank you.

THANK YOU TO THE FOLLOWING PTSA MEMBERS FOR JOINING THE AHS PTSA:

Abrahms, Adkins, Agatone, Ahmuty, Albert, Allen, Ananth, Andoh, Annett, Aquino, Armstead, Arnold, Axler, Barker, Bathras, Bell, Bendel, Beneski, Bentz, Bickel, Biost, Bitar, Black, Black-Howell, Blade, Blair, Blaz, Bonomo, Bott, Boule, Bradshaw, Brenfleck, Brock, Brzezinski, Burns, Burton, Burton, Bustos-Galeano, Cade, Camassar, Cantor, Carr-Spence, Cassard, Chang, Chaudhry, Cheatham, Cheung, Cho (S), Chory, Chowdhury, Ciccone, Clark, Clark, Classon, Clearfield, Clearfield, Clemens, Coates, Cochran, Cornell, Cosgrove, Cramer, Crone, Cummins, Cunningham, D'Amico, D'Antonio, D'Costa, Dabney, Daciek, Dalton, Daniel, Dannick-Friedman, Davidson, Degrazia (S), Derick, Desmaris, Devroye, Dickover, Diehl, Doan, Dooley, Dorsey, Douglas, Drucker, Dubac, Dula, Dulany, Duncan, Duncan, Dupski, Duvall, Echols, Edwards, Eggerl, Eichert, Elshafei, Elshafei, Engle, Faber, Fales, Farnan, Fishkind, Flynn, Forgnoni, Francesconi, Francis, Frazier, Fregeau, Frimpong, Gelak, Gelb, Gilbert, Glaros, Goldstein, Goodmark, Gordiano, Gorski-Cullen, Grady, Grant, Greenwood, Haffey, Hamet, Hamilton-Stokes, Hammill, Hargrett, Harshaw, Harvey, Hernandez, Hess, Hoch, Howard, Hughes, Hurley, Hutchens, Huxtable, James, Jaquis, Jayne, Johnson, Johnson, Johnson, Johnson, Johnson, Johnson, Josh, Jumper, Jung, Kadingo, Kann, Karras, Kassman, Kathleen, Kavka, Kelley, Kelly, Kern, Khan, Kim, King, Klotz, Krasilovsky, Kriner, Kuonen-Galvez, Kwon, Lagomarsino, Lalehchini, Lang, Lathroum, Lawrence, Lawrence, Lazas, Lea, Lee, Leforge, Lehner, Lennon, Leung, Lidard, Lin, Lindberg, Lokitis, Looney, Loving, Lowe, Lu, Lukowski, Mackechnie, Maddox, Marshall, Maslan, Masood, Matrangola, Mcalduff, McCabe, Mccarty, McIntyre,

McMahon, McNab, McNamara, Meissner, Meloro, Meng, Merson, Merwitz, Meyerpeter, Midkiff, Miller, Miller, Mitchell, Mola, Monthie, Moore, Morfoot, Morris, Morton, Munro, Na, Nasir, Neal, Nebesh, Newman, Newman, Nguyen, Nguyen, O'Brien, O'Hara, Oates, Okolita, Olaniran, Oliver, Oliver, Onyshkevych, Osborn, Osterman, Pansere, Pappadia, Payne, Payne, Perret, Petty, Pilcher, Pilevsky, Pillai, Pisanic, Poole-Vaughn, Posner, Powell, Proctor, Pruett, Puciloski, Puzulski, Qualls, Quigg, Ramachandran, Razik, Reese, Reinhart, Reynold, Rhee, Rice, Richardson, Richardson, Richmond, Riordan, Roberts, Robinson, Rogers, Rogofsky, Rolle, Rosen, Ruley, Ryee, Sangvic, Sarney, Sauers, Schlichting, Schmitz, Schwab, Scollar, Seibel, Sen, Shapiro, Shapiro, Shea, Shelley, Shields, Shroff, Siil, Silbert, Simmerly, Singh, Singh, Singh, Sioma, Siripuram, Skladny, Smith, Smoot, Snoddy, Snow, Snyder, Solomon, Spain, Spiegel, Stackhouse, Stewart, Street, Struble, Sumter-Sana, Sutton, Tache, Taherpoor, Tarantino, Tarver, Tatum, Taylor, Teshome, Thalheimer, Thibeault, Timmel, Toohey, Townsend, Trout, Tu, Ulman, Uttamsingh, Van Der Meid, Velencia, Wargo, Washington, Washington, Weber, Weber, Weinberg, Welch, Wenstrom, White, Wonodi, Wood, Woodson, Woomert, Wovas, Wynne, Xuan, Yamamoto, Yasuda, Ye, Yerger, Yingling, Young, Zeng, Zhao, Zinderman, Zook, and Zorij.

The After Prom Party keeps our children safe and entertained on a night that can be dangerous to them. **Staff Appreciation** shows our teachers that we value them and the job that they do. **SAT/ACT Test Prep and Driver's Education** are educational areas that are outside the main curriculum, but are invaluable to our children. The **Snack Shop, Scholarships** and **Club/Activity funding** are integral to the richness of the AHS community.

Do you agree? Then please JOIN THE PTSA! Our numbers are down this year, and Membership dues and donations are our primary sources of funds. The first adult household member is \$20 and each additional household member is \$10. Students join for \$5! To join online go to the PTSA Website: Use PayPal or credit card at www.atholtonptsa.org/join. Questions? Email membership@atholtonptsa.org. Thank you in advance for your membership!

ACT PRACTICE TEST JANUARY 20, 2018

The AHS PTSA is sponsoring an ACT Practice Test on Saturday, January 20, 2018 from 9:00 am – 1:00 pm in the AHS Cafeteria. It will be proctored like an actual test but your scores don't go on record!

Parents & Students are invited to return on Wednesday, January 31st at 7 pm for an ACT Information Session hosted by The Answer Class. At this session, parents & students will learn about the ACT, how scoring works, and what students can do to improve their score. Graded ACT tests will also be returned that evening. The cost is \$20 which is donated in full to the PTSA. To register click [here](#).

GREG'S DRIVING SCHOOL

New classes are forming. The following classes have been scheduled for this year:

- January 8 – 23, 2018 (M - F) 2:45 – 6pm. No classes on January 11 or January 15
- February 1 – 14, 2018 (M - F) 2:45 – 6pm
- March 12 – 23 (M - F) 2:45 – 6pm

The cost is \$375 and a portion is donated back to the PTSA. You have 30 hours of classroom time and then 6 hours of driving with an instructor. For more information or to register, please contact Greg's Driving School: <http://www.GregsDrivingSchool.net> or 301-882-8000 click [here](#).

SNACK SHOP

The PTSA sponsored SNACK SHOP needs volunteers for the 2017-18 school year. We are open every day from 2:10-3:10. Just one hour of your time! You can choose how often you'd like to volunteer. Working in the Snack Shop is a really fun volunteer opportunity & you get to make the students smile. If you are a new volunteer, we will pair you up with one of our experienced volunteers. Please sign up here: <http://www.signupgenius.com/go/10c0d4fa8ae2daafe3-ahssnack> or email me directly at SnackShop@atholtonptsa.org. Invite your friends to join you or come in & meet some new friends. I'm looking forward to a great school year at the Snack Shop. Let me know if you have any questions for me.

HC DRUGFREE UPDATES

Substance Use and Its Impact on Academic Achievement and Mental Health will be held at 7:00 pm on January 30 at Howard High School and all parents and high school and middle school students looking for a competitive edge are encouraged to attend. This research-based program will be presented by Dr. Amelia Arria, the Director of the Center on Young Adult Health and Development at the University of Maryland, School of Public Health. Her most recent work has clarified the impact of substance use, particularly excessive drinking and marijuana use, on academic achievement. This program is in partnership with HC DrugFree, Howard High School PTSA, and Bonnie Branch Middle School PTA. If schools close on January 30, the program will be held on February 27.

HC DrugFree's Next Teen Advisory Council (TAC) Meetings

TAC will meet on Monday, January 22 and Monday, February 26 from 5:30 p.m. to 7:00 p.m. at The Barn (Teen Center) in the Oakland Mills Village Center. TAC is open to all Howard County high school students and community service hours are available. Free pizza. Teens and parents must complete the registration form found on the Teen Advisory Council page at www.hcdrugfree.org and teens must RSVP to Admin@hcdrugfree.org before each meeting.

Enter the HC DrugFree Category in the Ho Co Student FilmFest

While teens are entering the HoCo Student Film Festival, please have them consider entering the HC DrugFree Category too. Winning film(s) will be shared as a Public Service Announcement (PSA). PSA topic: How alcohol/drug use and abuse effect family and friends. Entries due by Friday, February 23. Click here for details and be sure to visit both <https://hocofilmfest.com/> and <http://www.hcdrugfree.org/hoco-filmfest/> for updates.

FOR BOOSTERS' ORGANIZATIONS NEWS:

Athletic Boosters- <http://atholtonboosters.org/athletics/>

Drama Boosters - <https://www.atholtondrama.org/>

JROTC Boosters - <https://sites.google.com/site/ahsajrotcboosters/>

Music Boosters - www.atholtonmusic.org/

Technology Boosters - <https://team2537.com/>

PLEASE VISIT THE COMMUNITY NEWS AND PROGRAMS PAGE

(<http://www.hcpss.org/community-news-and-programs/>) on the HCPSS website for announcements of upcoming events and programs sponsored by non-profit organizations.

IMPORTANT DATES TO REMEMBER

January 15-Martin Luther King Jr. Day-Schools and office closed

January 24-High schools (only) close 3 hours early

January 25-High schools (only) close 3 hours early

January 26-All schools close 3 hours early

February 16-Countywide Professional Learning Day-Schools closed for students

February 19-Presidents' Day-Schools and offices closed

May 12-Prom

GO RAIDERS!