








## TUESDAY TELEGRAPH NEWS FROM THE COUNSELING OFFICE August 19, 2025

### Senior Parent Night is TONIGHT! August 19<sup>th</sup> at 7 pm in the PAC

Senior parents/guardians are invited to attend tonight's Senior Parent Night where we will review steps that we've shared with students on post-secondary options, the college application process, as well as additional information to help you and your senior along this school year. The presentation will be posted on our webpage later this month. ***Students unable to attend the AO sessions are encouraged to join us for tonight's meeting to get the most important pieces of information, such as using Naviance, how to request transcripts/letters of recommendation, etc.***

### Seniors – Class of 2026











Today continued our 12-part series called FutureFocus, which takes place during AO's on Tuesdays and Thursdays until fall break. Below you will find the topics for the first several sessions:

				
AUGUST 12 & 14	AUGUST 19 & 21	AUGUST 26	AUGUST 28	FUTURE WEEKS
Overview of Postsecondary Options & College Application Processes in Naviance ("How to")	College Essays, Resumes, & Letters of Recommendation (LOR)	"Peach State Tour" A live virtual presentation from Georgia State, Augusta, UGA, and GT (1 hour!)	Herff Jones presentation  Ordering caps and gowns and other grad items	Military 2year/Technical Trades Transferring Applying to GA Colleges Scholarships & <u>FinAid</u> FAQs and more!

Those who are off campus (CVA, GAVS, DE, AM Min Day) during AO are strongly encouraged to attend FutureFocus, if you are able to do so. We will post the presentations in the Senior Counseling CTLS as well as on [www.popeschoolcounseling.com](http://www.popeschoolcounseling.com) for students who are absent and parents who wish to view the information.

## Ten Colleges Visit Atlanta

The “East Meets West” public information session will be in the area on **August 25<sup>th</sup>** and take place at **Charles R. Drew Charter School (300 Eva Davis Way SE, Atlanta)** from **6:30 to 8:00 pm**. In this session for students, families and counselors, you’ll hear about amazing opportunities and resources as well as learn about the admissions processes and financial programs from the following ten highly selective colleges: Amherst, Bowdoin, Caltech, Claremont McKenna, Harvey Mudd, North Carolina A&T, Pomona, Tufts, University of Southern California, and Williams. See the flyer below for further details. If you’d like to register for this event, please click [here](#).




*Group Public Information Session:*  
**10 Colleges Atlanta**

**Monday, August 25, 2025**  
Charles R. Drew Charter School  
300 Eva Davis Way SE  
Atlanta, Georgia 30309

5:45 pm Check-in & light refreshments  
6:30pm Presentation Starts

*Register Now*



Scan the QR code or  
visit [tinyurl.com/10collatlanta](https://tinyurl.com/10collatlanta)

## Pope College Fair – August 27 During X-block

We have scheduled three college mini-fairs this fall! The first one is **Wednesday, August 27<sup>th</sup> at 2:10 pm** when X-block begins. Students, join us in the Old Gym as we welcome the following schools and armed services to our campus. The college fair is open to all of our students – you do not need to be a senior to attend. When the fair concludes, you will need to leave campus or head to the Greyhound Theater for the remainder of X-block.



# COLLEGE FAIR

**WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 27, 2025  
DURING X-BLOCK 2:15-2:50 PM  
IN THE OLD GYM**

Appalachian State	Kennesaw State
Eckerd College	Paul Mitchell the School Esani
Emory	St. John's College
Furman	St. John's University - NY
Georgia Air National Guard	University of Oklahoma
Georgia Army National Guard	U.S. Army
Georgia Tech	U.S. Marines
Johnson & Wales	U.S. Navy
	Wofford

## ScholarTrek Hosts Two College and Career Fairs Near You



**ScholarTrek**

**COBB COUNTY SCHOOL DISTRICT**

# SAVE THE DATES!

## COLLEGE & CAREER FAIRS

<b>Monday, September 8th</b> Walton High School	<b>Saturday, September 13th</b> Kennesaw Mountain High School
--	--

Open to all Cobb Students & Families!

Find out more at:  
[www.scholartrek.com/cobb](http://www.scholartrek.com/cobb)



## Cobb Dual Enrollment Summit

CCSD is hosting its annual Dual Enrollment Summit on **August 28<sup>th</sup> from 6-8 pm at the Cobb Civic Center**. This is a great opportunity to connect with representatives from various colleges who offer DE programs as well as hear presentations about the program in general. High School reps will be available to discuss their programs. ***Please note – Pope hosts its own DE Information Night that is required for all potential DE students and their families. See below for details. The CCSD DE Summit is a supplemental program to the required Pope meeting.***

**100% PAID COLLEGE TUITION, MANDATORY FEES, & BOOKS!**  
**LEARN MORE AT THE**  
**DUAL ENROLLMENT SUMMIT**  
**SAVE THE DATE**



**WHEN**  
**AUGUST 28<sup>TH</sup>**  
**6:00 - 8:00 PM**



### WHAT

#### HIGH SCHOOL STUDENT OPPORTUNITIES

- To earn college credit
- Receive free tuition and books
- Traditional and CTAE Courses

#### INFORMATIVE GENERAL SESSIONS

- General presentation
- With a high school counselor
- With a choice of college representatives

#### COBB COUNTY CIVIC CENTER

548 SOUTH MARIETTA PKWY SE, MARIETTA, GA

6:00 PM- 6:30 PM  
CHATTAHOOCHEE  
TECHNICAL COLLEGE

6:35 PM- 6:55 PM  
GENERAL SESSION

7:00 PM- 7:30 PM  
KENNESAW STATE  
UNIVERSITY

#### COLLEGE REPRESENTATIVES ON SITE



### CONTACTS

**ANDREW KUTSCHER**  
ADVANCED LEARNING SUPERVISOR  
ANDREW.KUTSCHER@COBBK12.ORG

**BRANDY BRADY**  
SCHOOL COUNSELING CONSULTANT  
BRANDY.BRADY@COBBK12.ORG

**PATTY DASILVA**  
SCHOOL COUNSELING SUPERVISOR  
PATTY.DASILVA@COBBK12.ORG

**VIJAY KOILPILLAI**  
TALENT DEVELOPMENT CONSULTANT  
VIJAY.KOILPILLAI@COBBK12.ORG

**SEE YOU THERE**

## Pope Dual Enrollment Information Night – September 16<sup>th</sup> at 7 pm in the PAC

Join us on **Tuesday, September 16<sup>th</sup> at 7pm in the PAC** for an informational meeting about Georgia's Dual Enrollment program and how we implement the program at Pope. We will cover information about eligibility, various options within the program, benefits, logistical considerations, processes, and much more. Many of our students participate to take core classes, but increasingly, students are seeking career and trade-oriented classes that can lead to official certifications, technical diplomas, and more through the Accelerated Career Diploma (ACD) program. **This meeting is required for any student who wishes to participate in DE for the 2025-26 school year.** Those unable to attend will be able to find a recorded version of the presentation on our website after the meeting. ***All families who attend should be sure to complete the attendance log at the conclusion of the meeting.*** If you have any questions, please reach out to your counselor!

## Financial Aid Night with GSFC – Tuesday, October 14<sup>th</sup> at 7pm in the PAC

Join Anna Roberts O'Brien, our regional GSFC representative, for our annual Financial Aid Night. She will cover great information about the financial aid process, including the FAFSA, need-based aid, HOPE, Zell, and more!

## PSAT/NMSQT Testing Information

Pope High School will be administering the PSAT/NMSQT (National Merit Scholarship Qualifying Test) the morning of **Thursday, October 16<sup>th</sup>**.



- **9<sup>th</sup> and 10<sup>th</sup> graders:** Pope pays the fee for **ALL** 9<sup>th</sup> graders and the State of Georgia pays for **ALL** 10<sup>th</sup> graders to test. *Please note: Freshmen and Sophomores **DO NOT** register or submit payment to participate in the October 16<sup>th</sup> PSAT administration.* As currently enrolled students, this is automatically completed for them.
- **11<sup>th</sup> graders:** Juniors will have to pay the \$12 fee to participate in the official PSAT/NMSQT administration and receive a score report from College Board. Families of Juniors can pay the PSAT fee in MyPaymentsPlus. **The Deadline for Juniors to pay the fee for the PSAT/NMSQT is 4:00 pm Thursday, August 28<sup>th</sup>.**

Not only does taking the PSAT/NMSQT provide excellent feedback to students about their college readiness, it is also good practice for the actual SAT. The **junior year** PSAT/NMSQT result is the test used to enter the [National Merit Scholarship](#) and the [National Achievement Scholarship](#) Programs.

**The PSAT and SAT tests are administered digitally;** this means students will need to bring their fully charged laptop and charging cord on test day. For more information about this and why taking the PSAT is important, click [HERE](#).

In support of our School Strategic Plan, Pope will provide PSAT prep to all 10<sup>th</sup> and 11<sup>th</sup> graders during AO starting August 12<sup>th</sup> and ending September 18<sup>th</sup>. Additional study and test taking tips can be found [HERE](#).

To accommodate the large number of testing participants, a revised bell schedule will be implemented. Specific testing information will be sent through CTLS Parent and posted to the school's website closer to October 16<sup>th</sup>. For further questions about the PSAT, contact your child's school counselor.

## Applerouth – SmartStart

Applerouth will be hosting **free practice SAT and ACT exams** on **August 23–24**. In person and online options are available. Students who register will receive:

- Access to an online study session to learn key test-taking strategies



- A detailed score report to help guide their study plan

Register here: [www.applerouth.com/smart-start](http://www.applerouth.com/smart-start)



**SMART START**

**Your Path to Higher SAT/ACT Scores – No Cost, No Stress**

Free Practice Tests + Strategy Sessions



**SMART START**

**Test Smarter. Score Higher.**

Take a full-length SAT or ACT practice test, completely free.

**AUGUST 2-3**

**AUGUST 16-17**

**AUGUST 23-24**

Available online and in-person at Atlanta-area locations.

**Why Register?**

- Real Test Experience**  
Simulate test-day conditions and see how you'd score.
- Know Where You Stand**  
Review a detailed score report to pinpoint growth areas.
- Plan With Purpose**  
Use results to build a focused plan for real score gains.

**BONUS**

Register for a practice test and get a **FREE** online strategy session to help you prep with confidence for test day!

**SAT**  
Tue, Jul 29 | Thu, Aug 13 | Tue, Aug 19  
at 8pm ET, 7pm CT, 5pm PT

**ACT**  
Wed, Jul 30 | Wed, Aug 12 | Thu, Aug 21  
at 8pm ET, 7pm CT, 5pm PT

**SIGN UP NOW**

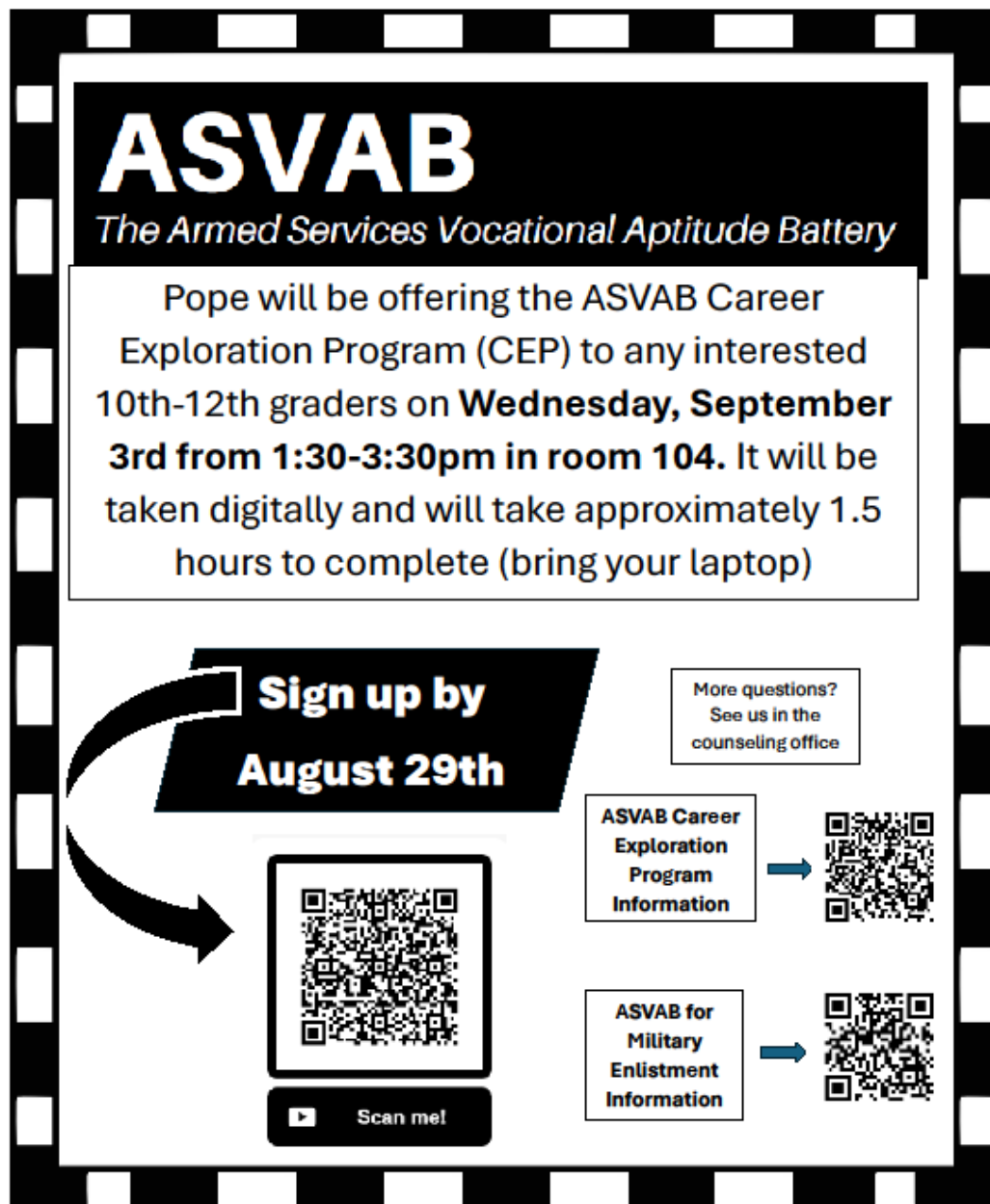
[applerouth.com/smart-start](http://applerouth.com/smart-start)



Note: The ACT practice test will follow the new Enhanced ACT format.

## ASVAB

Pope will be offering the ASVAB Career Exploration Program (CEP) to any interested 10<sup>th</sup>-12<sup>th</sup> graders on **Wednesday, September 3<sup>rd</sup> from 1:30-3:30pm in room 104** (students will miss 7<sup>th</sup> period). It will be taken digitally and will take approximately 1.5 hours to complete. Students need to sign up using the QR Code on the flyer by August 29<sup>th</sup>. More information about the ASVAB for general career exploration and military enlistment is available via the additional QR Codes. Contact your child's school counselor if you have questions.



**ASVAB**  
*The Armed Services Vocational Aptitude Battery*

Pope will be offering the ASVAB Career Exploration Program (CEP) to any interested 10th-12th graders on **Wednesday, September 3rd from 1:30-3:30pm in room 104**. It will be taken digitally and will take approximately 1.5 hours to complete (bring your laptop)

**Sign up by August 29th**

More questions?  
See us in the counseling office

ASVAB Career Exploration Program Information

ASVAB for Military Enlistment Information

Scan me!

The poster features a black and white filmstrip border. At the top, the word 'ASVAB' is in large, bold, white letters on a black background, with the subtitle 'The Armed Services Vocational Aptitude Battery' in a smaller, italicized font. Below this, a white box contains text about the ASVAB Career Exploration Program (CEP) being offered to 10th-12th graders on Wednesday, September 3rd, from 1:30-3:30pm in room 104. It notes the test is digital and takes about 1.5 hours. A large black arrow points from the text 'Sign up by August 29th' to a QR code. To the right of the QR code is a box labeled 'ASVAB Career Exploration Program Information'. Further right is another QR code. Below the first QR code is a box labeled 'ASVAB for Military Enlistment Information', followed by a third QR code. A small box at the top right says 'More questions? See us in the counseling office'. At the bottom left of the QR code is a button that says 'Scan me!' with a play icon.

### **The College Essay Guy and Navigating the Common Application**

The Common Application is a free online platform used by over 1,000 colleges and universities that helps students apply to college by submitting a SINGLE application to MULTIPLE schools. In the College Guy's latest [YouTube video](#), Tom Campbell gives a step-by-step walkthrough of the Common App, including:

- An intro to the NEW 2025-2026 Common App
- Adding colleges to your "My Colleges" tab
- Finding out each college's supplemental essays

- Key tips on the Profile, Family, Education and Testing sections
- A deep-dive on the Activities section
- Guidance on the Writing section (Personal Essay, Additional Information, and Challenges & Circumstances sections)
- What do to when you're ready to submit

### Save the Date!

Mark your calendars for the following upcoming event, sponsored by the Counseling team. More information will be forthcoming as we get closer:

**September 4<sup>th</sup> at 7 pm (PAC) – Junior Family Information Night**

### Student Advisory Council

State School Superintendent Richard Woods seeks students in **grades 10-12** to serve on his **2025-2026 Student Advisory Council**. These students will meet with Superintendent Woods to discuss the impact of state policies in the classroom and other education-related issues. They will serve as the Superintendent's ambassadors to their respective schools. The Student Advisory Council will meet four times in person during the school year; meeting dates are listed in the application.

"The Student Advisory Council gives students a real seat at the table," **Superintendent Woods said**. "Each year, I look forward to hearing directly from Georgia students about their experiences in the classroom. Their voices help shape the decisions we make at the state level, and their insights have a lasting impact. I encourage any student who wants to make a difference to apply."

Interested students must complete and submit the [application](#) by **September 5<sup>th</sup> at 5 pm**. Selected students will be contacted via email.

### Rising Juniors – Important Immunization Information

Per the Georgia Department of Public Health, effective July 1, 2021, children 16 years of age and older, who are entering the 11th grade (including new entrants), must have received one booster dose of the meningococcal conjugate vaccine (MCV4), unless their initial dose was administered on or after their 16th birthday. Please visit [this link](#) for a summary of requirements for vaccinations by age.

In accordance with this requirement, **all Pope students entering the 11th grade, who were 16 by August 4<sup>th</sup>, must submit an updated Certificate of Immunization, on GA Form 3231, to the Pope Counseling Office as soon as possible.** Students, who are not yet 16 will have 30 calendar days from the student's 16th birthday to provide the updated Certificate of Immunization. Students must meet this requirement, or provide acceptable exemption documentation, for them to be/remain enrolled in school. Students requesting to be exempt from Immunization must present a signed, notarized Affidavit of Religious Objection to Immunization, DPH Form 2208.

We prefer that you upload your updated Certificate of Immunization/Affidavit of Religious Objection to Immunization to ParentVUE. Once logged in, you will click on Change My Information → Student Information → Enrollment Documents where you will be able to upload the document. Paper and emailed copies will be accepted as well.

For additional information on immunization schedules, exemptions, and laws governing these requirements, please visit <https://dph.georgia.gov/schoolvaccines>.



Should you have any questions, please contact Lisa Squier in the Counseling Office at 770-578-7903 or [lisa.squier@cobbk12.org](mailto:lisa.squier@cobbk12.org). All paper and emailed documents should also be directed to Mrs. Squier.

### Get to Know Your Counseling Office

The Counseling Office is located in room 102. We are open from 7:45 am to 3:45 pm. Students are welcome to stop in before or after school but should have a pass from their teacher to come in during the day. We are happy to make appointments for our students with their Counselor and will try to schedule those during a student's lunch period. Parents interested in scheduling an appointment should e-mail their Counselor directly. **Please note we have a new alpha breakdown.** We look forward to working with you this year!



Back Row: Jamie Hamrick (R-Z), Leslie Shearstone (E-K), Lisa Squier (Records), Pam Kretzmer (Social Worker)  
Front Row: Bradleigh Perkinson (504's), Anna Leathers (A-D), Cheryl Gully (L-Q), Karen Anderson (Clerk)

## CONTACT US

Anna Leathers, A-D  
anna.leathers@cobbk12.org

Bradleigh Perkinson, 504 Coordinator  
bradleigh.perkinson@cobbk12.org

Leslie Shearstone, E-K  
leslie.shearstone@cobbk12.org

Karen Anderson, Clerk  
karen.anderson@cobbk12.org

Cheryl Gully, L-Q  
cheryl.gully@cobbk12.org

Lisa Squier, Records/ParentVUE  
lisa.squier@cobbk12.org

Jamie Hamrick, R-Z  
jamie.hamrick@cobbk12.org

Pope Counseling Website:

<https://www.popeschoolcounseling.com/>