



## TUESDAY TELEGRAPH NEWS FROM THE COUNSELING OFFICE September 9, 2025

### Junior Advisement Has Started!

During Junior year, families and students are invited to meet with their counselor for an individual 30-minute advisement session regarding remaining graduation requirements and post-secondary plans. You are now able to sign up for a **Junior Advisement Appointment** with your student's counselor. **The bulk of the appointment slots run from Friday, October 24 through mid-December. However, there are also some available appointment slots/days in September and early October.** Please click on the link next to your assigned alpha counselor to take you directly to a Bookings page and follow the instructions. **We encourage you to book a time that coincides with your student's lunch or maybe an elective period if possible.** Students will be responsible for making up any work that is missed. We look forward to meeting with you. If you missed the Junior Parent Meeting last week, you can find the presentation at [www.popeschoolcounseling.com/11th-grade/](http://www.popeschoolcounseling.com/11th-grade/). **As a reminder, please bring a copy of your student's Social Security card to this meeting. This will be helpful in allowing you and your student to gain access to their personal HOPE Scholarship information. Additionally, please be sure to park in a VISITOR parking spot or there is a risk that you will get a ticket if you park in a student/teacher parking spot.**

**Anna Leathers (A – D)**

<https://outlook.office.com/book/Classof2026JuniorAdvisementAnnaLeathersAD@cobbk12org.onmicrosoft.com/>

**Leslie Shearstone (E – K)**

<https://outlook.office.com/book/JuniorAdvisementClassof2027LeslieShearstoneEK@cobbk12org.onmicrosoft.com/>

**Cheryl Gully (L–Q)**

[https://outlook.office.com/book/JuniorAdvisementClassof2027MsGullyLQ1@cobbk12org.onmicrosoft.com/?ismsaljsa\\_uthenabled](https://outlook.office.com/book/JuniorAdvisementClassof2027MsGullyLQ1@cobbk12org.onmicrosoft.com/?ismsaljsa_uthenabled)

**Jamie Hamrick (R – Z)**

<https://outlook.office.com/book/Classof2027JuniorAdvisementMrsHamrickRZ@cobbk12org.onmicrosoft.com/>

### Seniors – Important Reminders

A few important reminders for our seniors! As you are adding colleges that you are applying to in Naviance, don't forget to complete your FERPA waiver in BOTH Naviance (found under About Me→Surveys from your school→25/26 FERPA/Transcript/Recommendation Authorization) AND Common App, if applicable. After adding the Colleges you are applying to, you may request your initial transcript be sent as well.

If you need to request a Counselor Letter of Recommendation, you must first complete your Student Brag Sheet and Resume, and your Parent should complete their Parent Brag Sheet as well. After those items are done, please come into the Counseling Office to request your Counselor Recommendation.



We have 1 ½ weeks of FutureFocus left with LOTS more great information to share! And don't forget to **order your Cap & Gown**. See the flyer below for details.



# POPE SENIORS GRADTIME

## CLASS OF 2026

SAVE THE DATE!

**ATLGRAD.COM**

will be live for ordering  
on September 1st!

**INITIAL DEADLINE TO ORDER CAP & GOWN AND  
REQUIRED ITEMS TO WALK:**

**DECEMBER 1<sup>st</sup>, 2025**



\* more a la carte options and packages  
will be available online!

**Questions?**

office@atlgrad.com

404-615-7702



### **The Common Black College Application (CBCA)**

The Common Black College Application allows students to apply to over 50 Historically Black Colleges and Universities (HBCUs) by completing just ONE application for \$20, thus reducing the financial burden of multiple application fees. Hundreds of thousands of students worldwide have used CBCA to save time, reduce costs, and increase their chances of admission. See the flyer below for further details.



20th YEAR ANNIVERSARY

GET EDUCated!

Common Black College Application

EDU, Inc.

COMMON BLACK COLLEGE APPLICATION

@commonblkcollap

Common Black College Application

Founder - Robert Mason  
"You are who you think you are..."

OFFICIAL CBCA  
GET EDUCated!  
EDU, Inc.  
COMMON BLACK COLLEGE APPLICATION  
APPAREL™

**Apply to over 50 HBCUs for only \$20.**

### **ABOUT US**

*The Common Black College Application (CBCA) is an international platform created to streamline the admissions process for students applying to Historically Black Colleges and Universities (HBCUs). To date, more than half a million students have completed the CBCA, gaining access to valuable opportunities in higher education.*

*By centralizing the process, the CBCA empowers students to maximize their chances of receiving multiple college acceptances, scholarship awards, and financial aid **packages** from a wide range of HBCUs—opening doors to greater access, affordability, and success.*

### **LETS GET STARTED**

- 1. Scan the QR Code above to or go to <https://commonblackcollegeapp.com> to be taken the CBCA website. (The current list of CBCA Member Institutions are on the site.)*
- 2. Click on "Start Application" to begin your Common Black College Application.*
- 3. Once you complete the CBCA, your application will be made available to all Member Institutions. (Although you are asked to select your top four choices when completing the application, you can always return to your Student Dashboard to add more Institutions of interest.)*
- 4. Your School Counselor will receive an email prompting them to create an account and upload your transcript.*
- 5. Review the instructions and videos available on our website. They will guide you through each step of the application process.*
- 6. Please follow us on Instagram or TikTok to get the most recent CBCA updates.*

***[www.commonblackcollegeapp.com](https://www.commonblackcollegeapp.com)***

Common Black College Application | 2625 Piedmont Rd | Suite 56315 | Atlanta, GA 30324 | Office 404-747-9315 | <https://commonblackcollegeapp.com>



## Sophomore Classroom Counseling Lessons and Family Events



Counselors went into 10<sup>th</sup> grade English classes last Friday and yesterday (September 5<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup>) to have sophomores complete their two state required tasks and discuss the following topics:

- Complete Strengths Explorer Career Assessment in Naviance (state required task)
- Learn about Dual Enrollment and complete the Dual Enrollment Survey in Naviance (state required task)
- What are my options after high school?
- HOPE Scholarship and HOPE Grant
- GAFutures.org career and college planning website

In February, we will return to sophomore classes to discuss:

- Graduation Requirements and promotion rules
- Updating their Individualized Graduation Plan (IGP)
- Course registration information for the 2026-27 school year

### SAVE THE DATES – 10<sup>th</sup> Grade Family Events:

All sophomores will be participating in the **PSAT/NMSQT the morning of Thursday, October 16<sup>th</sup>**. The fee for this test is paid for all 10<sup>th</sup> graders by the State of Georgia. We will have a **PSAT Results and College Testing Information meeting, followed by a Sophomore Family Meeting Monday, November 10<sup>th</sup> starting at 6:30 pm in the PAC.**

Leading into course registration for next year, we will host a **Family Course Registration Information Night on Wednesday February 11<sup>th</sup> at 6:30pm in the PAC.** This meeting is for 9<sup>th</sup>, 10<sup>th</sup> and 11<sup>th</sup> grade families looking for additional guidance and insight into the course registration and planning process. We will share information that will help you and your child plan a challenging but balanced approach to course selections. School Counselors will be available in the PAC lobby after the presentation to answer additional questions you/your child may have about their course selection.

Most family's questions are answered by attending the meetings above, but should you/your child have additional questions about course selection/planning for the upcoming year and beyond, you can sign up to attend one of our **9<sup>th</sup> and 10<sup>th</sup> Grade Advisement Evenings on February 23<sup>rd</sup> or 25<sup>th</sup>**. This event takes place in the Learning Commons and is **by appointment only. Sign up information will be sent out closer to the event.** This event is structured as a "round-robin" format where approximately 15 families during a 30-minute time slot will have an opportunity to speak with teacher representatives from core and elective departments. You speak with whomever you wish depending on what your questions may be (i.e. differences between on-level, honors, AP, elective course choices, how to help your student have balance, etc.). Several counselors will also be in attendance to answer your "big picture" questions based on your student's college/career goals. **These conversations will need to be limited so that everyone attending each time slot has a chance to get their questions answered.**

## ScholarTrek Hosts College and Career Fair Near You

ScholarTrek is offering a district-wide college and career fair **THIS SATURDAY**. This event is a fantastic opportunity for students and families to explore college and career options, connect with representatives, and plan for their futures!

### Saturday, September 13<sup>th</sup> College & Career Fair Schedule at Kennesaw Mountain High School

12:30 - 1:00 pm Event Check-In Begins

1:00 - 2:00 pm - College Case Study Workshop: Understanding Selective College Admissions\*\*

2:00 - 3:30 pm - College & Career Fair



2:30 - 4:00 pm - Additional College and Career Workshops

**\*\*Students and family members who wish to partake in the College Case Study Workshop need to arrive by 1 pm\*\***

Families can register ahead of time using the QR code on the flyer or by visiting <https://www.scholartrek.com/cobb> (it makes arrival smooth and quick!).

**A few highlights of Saturday's fair:**

- 🚚 The **Be Pro Be Proud truck** will be onsite for hands-on career exploration
- 🌐 **Spanish translation services** available for families
- 💡 **Special Education Department** will have a table to answer questions and provide resources
- 🎓 **College Case Study: Understanding Selective College Admissions** – a competitive admissions case study for families to learn more about the process
- 💰 **Financial Aid Presentation** – practical guidance for students and families on paying for college

**ScholarTrek**

**POPE HIGH SCHOOL**

**COLLEGE AND CAREER FAIR**

Over **100** Colleges and Companies

Monday, September 8th  
6:00-7:30 PM  
Walton High School

Saturday, September 13th  
2:00-3:30 PM  
Kennesaw Mountain High School

*Open to all high school students and family members.*

Optional breakout session:  
"College Case Study: Inside Selective University Admissions"  
will be offered at 5 p.m on 9/8 and 1 p.m. on 9/13

Register at [scholartrek.com/cobb](https://www.scholartrek.com/cobb)



## 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 2026-27 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!

## Pope Dual Enrollment Webinar with Kennesaw State and Chattahoochee Tech

Join Pope on **Monday, September 29<sup>th</sup> at 6:30 pm** for a joint Dual Enrollment WEBINAR with representatives from Kennesaw State University and Chattahoochee Technical College, our two most popular dual enrollment options. Each college will discuss the benefits of DE, types of classes students can take, admission processes, and timelines. If you or your student is considering dual enrollment for an upcoming school year, this is an excellent opportunity to learn more about each of these colleges and their options. Register here - <https://events.teams.microsoft.com/event/07147c8f-c92c-48a8-b82b-673e130c7b62@2fce1dfb-919f-4938-aab8-c47f0fc9182d>

*Please note that this webinar is supplemental to the Pope Dual Enrollment Information Meeting that is required for all interested students/families which will take place on September 16<sup>th</sup> (see above).*

## Understanding Self-Injury: What Every Parent & Educator Needs to Know

**Free Seminars on Teen Self Harm - Non-Suicidal Self-Injury (NSSI)**  
Presented by Morgan E. Dunn, LCSW  
Licensed Therapist at Kellen Mental Health (Alpharetta) & Fresh Air Counseling (Marietta)

**UNDERSTANDING SELF-INJURY:  
WHAT EVERY PARENT &  
EDUCATOR NEEDS TO KNOW**

*"I didn't know how to respond to my kid's behavior.  
I thought it was all just attention-seeking."*

**WHY THESE SEMINARS MATTER**  
Non-Suicidal Self-Injury (NSSI) is a growing concern among adolescents. These trauma-informed, developmentally appropriate seminars are designed to foster awareness, reduce stigma, and equip caregivers, school counselors, and students with tools for emotional resilience.

**NEXT ONLINE  
PARENT/EDUCATOR  
SEMINAR  
SEPTEMBER 17,  
2025!**  
Follow the QR Code or  
Link to Sign Up

**Parent/School  
Counselor Seminars**  
*Demystifying NSSI and Building Support at Home*

- What NSSI is—and what it isn't
- Recognizing early signs and protective factors
- Communication tools for safe, open dialogue
- Coping strategies from DBT

**Student Seminars**  
*Creating safe spaces for honest conversations*

- Addressing emotional distress and debunking myths
- "When a friend self-injures": peer support strategies
- Interactive components to foster engagement
- DBT skills for regulation and resilience
- Encouraging healthy help-seeking

**About the Therapist**  
Morgan Dunn is a licensed therapist with over a decade of experience working with adolescents and families. He specializes in Non-Suicidal Self-Injury and performs individual, group, and family therapy for young people managing this important challenge.

**Ready to break the cycle? Use the QR Code to learn more and sign up!**  
Morgan E. Dunn, LCSW  
770-703-9031 or 678-618-4498  
Morgan@facounseling.com or MorganDunnLCSW@gmail.com  
<https://forms.gle/zy3ngo8xYDFKeNc6>

Next **Wednesday, September 17<sup>th</sup> at 8 pm**, Morgan Dunn is hosting a free online seminar on how to support students who self-harm. The session is designed for school counselors, parents, and educators who want to better understand why teens self-harm, and how to respond with empathy, clarity, and hope. This seminar offers practical tools and compassionate language that can be used right away. See the flyer for more details and to register.



## 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!

## KSU – Owl for a Day!



Kennesaw State University invites high school seniors to sign up for **Owl for a Day this fall!** This event gives seniors a true “day in the life” experience at KSU. Students will attend mock classes, tour the campus, eat in the dining hall, and connect with faculty and current Owls.

### Fall 2025 Owl for a Day events:

**September 19<sup>th</sup>** – Marietta Campus 9 am – 3 pm [Register here](#)

**September 26<sup>th</sup>** – Kennesaw Campus 9 am – 3 pm [Register here](#)

There is a \$45 registration fee, which includes lunch and materials for the student PLUS up to two guests. Students should sign up for the event on the campus that hosts their [major of interest](#). Spots are limited, and academic tracks fill on a first-come, first-served basis.

**Admissions note:** *Students who have not applied yet should know the fall 2026 priority deadline is November 3<sup>rd</sup>. Early applicants get priority access for orientation, housing, and more! Attendees will have access to submit their applications for FREE on the day of the event!*

## Applerouth's PSAT Pathways – Free PSAT Prep

A promotional graphic for Applerouth's PSAT Pathways program. It features a young woman with long brown hair, wearing a pink hoodie, smiling. The background is light blue. The Applerouth logo is in the top right corner. The text 'PSAT PATHWAYS' is in a small orange box. Below it, the main heading 'PSAT Prep Resources to Help Students Start Strong' is in bold. Underneath, it says 'Free online strategy sessions + full-length practice tests' and 'Sept 20 | Sept 29 | Oct 8'. A section titled 'PSAT Today. SAT/ACT Success Tomorrow!' explains that the PSAT is a launch point for SAT/ACT success. A table lists 'PSAT Pathways Events' with dates and times for online strategy sessions and practice tests. A 'Why Register?' section lists benefits like boosting confidence and getting real test experience. A 'Reserve My Spot' button is present. At the bottom, it says 'Register online: applerouth.com/psat-pathways' and provides contact information: www.applerouth.com | info@applerouth.com | 866-789-7737.

PSAT Pathways Events	
<b>Online Strategy Sessions</b>	
90-Minutes	Math, Reading, & Writing
SAT, SEP 20	10am ET
MON, SEP 29	6pm ET
WED, OCT 8	7pm ET
<b>Online Practice Tests</b>	
Full-length	Math, Reading, & Writing
SAT, SEP 27	9am ET   12pm ET   3pm ET
SAT, OCT 4	9am ET   12pm ET   3pm ET
SUN, OCT 12	9am ET   12pm ET   3pm ET

Applerouth is kicking off the school year with their PSAT Pathways program - free online prep for the PSAT! Sessions will be offered from **September 20<sup>th</sup> – October 8<sup>th</sup>**. Applerouth's free [PSAT Pathways program](#) offers:

- **A 90-Minute Workshop:** Expert guidance on Math, Reading, and Writing with test-taking strategies
- **A Pressure-Free Practice Test:** Practice exam to familiarize students with the test format
- **A Detailed Score Report:** Personalized roadmap, boosting students' confidence as they prepare for the PSAT and beyond

Secure your spot at <https://www.applerouth.com/psat-pathways>.



## Scholarship Opportunities

Watch this space each week for important scholarship information! Various opportunities will be highlighted in the Tuesday Telegraph but additional scholarships are also posted in Naviance and can be found on the [Pope School Counseling](#) website. In Naviance go to Colleges → Scholarships & Money. There you can search for national scholarships, college-specific scholarships, as well as numerous other scholarships that are available to our seniors (and sometimes even juniors)!

## Mountain View Elementary School ASP is Hiring

Mountain View Elementary is actively looking for Student Apprentices to join their team. Students who have minimum day and might be looking for a job are encouraged to apply. The hours are 2:00 pm to 6:00 pm. If interested, the link to apply is listed here:

[https://ats2.atenterprise.powerschool.com/ats/job\\_board\\_form?op=view&JOB\\_ID=2400131677&COMPANY\\_ID=JA001603&redirect\\_qs=&redirect\\_qs=JOB\\_TITLE\\_ID%3DWA00000226%26COMPANY\\_ID%3DJA001603](https://ats2.atenterprise.powerschool.com/ats/job_board_form?op=view&JOB_ID=2400131677&COMPANY_ID=JA001603&redirect_qs=&redirect_qs=JOB_TITLE_ID%3DWA00000226%26COMPANY_ID%3DJA001603)

## Tutoring Information

Tutoring opportunities can be found on the [Pope School Counseling](#) website. Pope offers peer tutoring as well as various teacher-led tutoring before and after school. Additionally, we have links by subject for outside tutors that may be helpful. Please note that the information on these lists is provided only as a service to our community. Pope does not endorse any particular tutor.

## Pope's Counseling Office



**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/>