



TUESDAY TELEGRAPH

NEWS FROM THE COUNSELING OFFICE

September 16, 2025

Pope Dual Enrollment Information Night – TONIGHT at 7 pm in the PAC

Join us **TONIGHT, Tuesday, September 16th 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 29th 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 16th (see above).

Junior Advisement Has Started! Sign Up Today!

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/. **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>

Jamie Hamrick (R – Z)

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

National Merit Recognitions



The **National Merit Scholarship Program** has recognized the following Pope seniors as **National Merit SEMI-FINALISTS for scoring in the top 1% of students nationwide on their 2024 PSAT**. Only 16,000 students across the country have earned this recognition. These four students will continue on in the scholarship competition for monetary awards and hopefully be named as National Merit Finalists in February.

- Kenneth Kim
- Ishaan Marwaha
- Ekansh Singh
- Nye Yarbrough

In Addition, the National Merit Scholarship program has recognized the following Pope seniors as **COMMENDED Students due to their 2024 PSAT score being in the top 96% of students nationwide**. Only 34,000 students across the country have earned this recognition. These students do not continue on for Finalist recognition but may receive monetary awards later in the year through corporate sponsored scholarships.

- Farida Anany
- Matthew Copeland
- Gretchen Eichelzer
- Gus Fleming
- Celeste Gibson
- Liam Jung
- Diya Krishnan
- Brenda McAllister
- Lucy Nichols
- Malachy O'Connor
- Carter Whitley

Congratulations Greyhounds!

Seniors – What if Your College Essay is All About YOU?

Enjoy this great article by Rick Clark, who is the Executive Director of Strategic Student Access at Georgia Tech: [What if Your College Essay is All About You?](#)

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.

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

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

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>



TOMORROW, Wednesday, September 17th 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.

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 19th – Marietta Campus 9 am – 3 pm [Register here](#)

September 26th – 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 3rd. 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!

Accelerated Career Diploma Program

With growing interest in the **Accelerated Career Diploma Program**, Chattahoochee Technical College will be hosting two in-person information sessions for students and parents:

- **Wednesday, September 24th | 2–4 pm | Marietta Campus**
- **Thursday, September 25th | 2–4 pm | North Metro (Acworth) Campus**

These sessions will include a brief program overview and campus tours of some eligible program labs and classrooms. **REGISTRATION IS REQUIRED.** Students can register by scanning the QR CODE on the flyer below or by visiting this [REGISTRATION LINK](#).

Here is a list of ALL Chatt Tech Programs by campus:

[Programs of Study by Campus \(PDF\)](#)

Additional resources:

- [Accelerated Career Program](#)
- [Dual Enrollment Program](#)
- [DE / ACD Student Outreach Specialists](#)

ACCELERATED CAREER INFORMATION SESSIONS



Chattahoochee
Technical College

Join Chatt Tech's Dual Enrollment Department to learn more about this alternative path to high school graduation! Session will also include a brief tour of some eligible program labs and classrooms.



September 24th, 2025
2-4 pm
[Marietta Campus](#)

September 25th, 2025
2-4 pm
[North Metro Campus](#)

REGISTRATION IS REQUIRED
For more info & to sign up
Scan the QR CODE:



Applerouth's PSAT Pathways – Free PSAT Prep



The graphic features a smiling young woman on the left. The main title is 'PSAT PATHWAYS' in a red box. Below it, the headline reads 'PSAT Prep Resources to Help Students Start Strong'. A sub-headline says 'Free online strategy sessions + full-length practice tests'. A date bar indicates 'Sept 20 | Sept 29 | Oct 8'. The Applerouth logo is in the top right. The text 'PSAT Today. SAT/ACT Success Tomorrow!' is followed by a paragraph explaining the PSAT's importance. Two tables list 'PSAT Pathways Events': 'Online Strategy Sessions' and 'Online Practice Tests'. A 'Why Register?' section lists benefits with checkmarks. A 'Reserve My Spot' button is present. The bottom includes the registration URL and contact information.

PSAT PATHWAYS

PSAT Prep Resources to Help Students Start Strong

Free online strategy sessions + full-length practice tests

Sept 20 | Sept 29 | Oct 8

PSAT Today. SAT/ACT Success Tomorrow!

The PSAT is more than a warm-up—it's a launch point for SAT/ACT success, a key factor in college admissions and merit scholarships.

PSAT Pathways Events

Online Strategy Sessions

| Session | Time |
|-------------|---------|
| SAT, SEP 20 | 10am ET |
| MON, SEP 29 | 6pm ET |
| WED, OCT 8 | 7pm ET |

Online Practice Tests

| Session | Time |
|-------------|---------------------------|
| 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 |

Why Register?

- ✓ Boost confidence
- ✓ Get real test experience
- ✓ Receive clear Insights
- ✓ Build a smart plan

[Reserve My Spot](#)

Register online: [applerouth.com/psat-pathways](https://www.applerouth.com/psat-pathways)

www.applerouth.com | info@applerouth.com | 866-789-7737

Applerouth is kicking off the school year with their PSAT Pathways program - free online prep for the PSAT! Sessions will be offered from **September 20th – October 8th**. 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>.

Financial Aid Night with GSFC – Tuesday, October 14th 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!

The US Senate Youth Program

The 2026 U.S. Senate Youth Program offers a once-in-a-lifetime opportunity to learn directly from our nation's leaders in Washington, D.C. The application window is open **from August 11th to September 30th**. High school juniors or seniors may apply, provided they meet all program qualifications outlined by the U.S. Senate Youth Program. The application, program criteria, and informational brochures are on the Excellence Recognitions USSYP webpage at www.gadoe.org/USSYP. **Applications are due by September 30th at 5:00 pm.**

Application Link: [2026 USSYP Application](#)

Verification Forms: [Click Here](#)

Student Application Guidance: [Click Here](#)

National USSYP Brochure: [Click Here](#)

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

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/>