



TUESDAY TELEGRAPH

NEWS FROM THE COUNSELING OFFICE

December 9, 2025

Seniors Needing a Mid-Year Transcript

Seniors should come into the Counseling Office **after** the winter break to request their mid-year transcript; these will include fall of senior year grades. The process for requesting mid-year transcripts is the SAME as requesting initial transcripts in Naviance. Students will go into Naviance->Colleges->Colleges I'm applying To and click the boxes next to the colleges they want to request Mid-Year Transcripts for. Then, click the link for Request Transcripts. There will be an option to request Mid-Year transcripts on the next page (we have not yet turned that on if you don't see it now). We will send these around mid-January as there are several administrative processes that need to happen before they are uploaded into Naviance for submission.

If you need reminders of any application procedures, please reference the Senior Lesson on our website www.popeschoolcounseling.com under Academics->12th Grade.

Spring Registration for CVA and GaVS is Open!

Attention all students who are enrolled in a Cobb Virtual Academy (CVA) and/or Georgia Virtual School (GaVS) course for the 2025-2026 school year! **Registration for spring 2026 is now available through CVA and GaVS! Sign up ASAP (before the end of the semester!) to ensure you keep your spot!** Please reach out to anna.leathers@cobbk12.org if you have any questions.

Course Registration Preview Meeting - Wednesday, February 11th 6:30 pm

SAVE THE DATE! Join us on February 11th at 6:30 pm (in the PAC) for our Course Registration Preview Meeting for 9th, 10th, and 11th Grade Families. The purpose of this meeting is to go over:

- Important 2026-2027 course registration information, dates, and deadlines
- Opportunities for academic advisement with Pope staff
- Pope course registration resources on webpage
- Course planning "nuts and bolts"
 - Graduation requirements and promotion rules
 - Individualized Graduation Plan
 - Course selection considerations and opportunities

School Counselors will be available after this meeting to answer any questions you may have.

Updates from Applerouth

As we wrap up the fall semester, we wanted to share a couple of helpful resources from Applerouth.

Upcoming Webinar with Jed Applerouth: With the SAT now fully digital and the ACT introducing a shorter format with more time per question—and a revised Composite score that no longer includes Science—many students are rethinking their testing strategy. Jed Applerouth, Applerouth's founder and a nationally recognized test-prep expert, will walk through these updates and help families navigate today's evolving testing landscape.

Register here: <https://www.applerouth.com/events/webinars> for *Inside the SAT & ACT: A Complete Guide for Students & Parents* on **January 27, 2026 at 8 pm**.

PSAT Scores: Now What?

Below is Applerouth's flyer on PSAT results and how to interpret your scores. Included is a QR code to link you to one of their tutors' presentations on how to read and interpret your PSAT score report.

PSAT results are in!



Here's what those numbers *actually* tell you—and how to use them to plan next steps.

The Basics

SCORE RANGE

320–1520

SECTIONS

Reading & Writing + Math

PURPOSE

Snapshot of student's SAT readiness

What the PSAT Does Tell You

A Starting Point for Test Prep

Reveals strengths and areas to improve—your roadmap for SAT or ACT success.

National Merit Potential

High-scoring juniors may qualify for scholarships and recognition.

College Readiness Benchmarks

Color-coded markers show whether your student is:



These reflect progress—not grades—and help guide next steps in test prep.

What the PSAT Doesn't Tell You

Not Used for College Admission

Colleges don't see PSAT scores—it's a low-pressure way to learn, not to impress.

Not a Perfect SAT Predictor

The PSAT is slightly easier and has a lower max score. Focused SAT or ACT prep is still needed for real score growth.

Not the Whole Story

A score can't measure creativity, curiosity, or persistence. It's only one data point among many.

Want expert help interpreting your student's PSAT results?



WATCH OUR ON-DEMAND WEBINAR

PSAT Scores Are In! Leverage Your Results for SAT/ACT Success

Turn Insight Into Action

- ✓ Review the full report, not just the total score.
- ✓ Decide whether the SAT or ACT is a better fit.
- ✓ Create a focused prep plan targeting areas for improvement.
- ✓ Start prep early so scores can grow by spring, summer, or fall tests.

Alabama – College of Engineering Open House



The University of Alabama College of Engineering is hosting E-Day on **Friday, March 6th, from 8 am to 1 pm**. This open house event provides middle and high school students the chance to learn more about majors and career opportunities available in engineering and computer science. Students will also receive information about admissions, housing, financial aid and other college readiness topics. **The priority registration deadline is December 15th**. Students can register here: eng.ua.edu/e-day. For questions or more information, please contact the Engineering Welcome Center at welcome@eng.ua.edu or 205-348-1596.

GSFC Financial Aid Presentation Available

We had a great turnout for our Financial Aid presentation in October. Anna O'Brien was our speaker from the Georgia Student Finance Commission (the administrators of the HOPE programs as well as www.gafutures.org) and was gracious to share her [presentation](#) with us. Anna is available for free, 30-minute consultations about your own financial aid and FAFSA questions. If you would like to speak with Anna, you can find her contact information and Bookings link for appointments [here](#). This is a great opportunity from a trusted and reputable organization – please keep this information handy and take advantage of this invaluable resource.

University of North Georgia – Army ROTC Scholarship

The [Army ROTC Scholarship](#) application is open! Seniors are encouraged to start the process immediately so that there is maximum time to help make their applications as competitive as possible. There will be two more national boards – January 26 and March 26 – for students to start college in the Fall of 2026.

At the University of North Georgia, one of only six Senior Military Colleges in the nation, the Army is looking for high school seniors who want to serve our nation as second lieutenants in the U.S. Army. The [Army ROTC Scholarship](#) pays for room and board (up to \$12,000 per year) or 100% of tuition and fees + \$420/month stipend + \$1,200/yr book allowance. Click [here](#) for eligibility criteria, benefits, and how to apply.

Last year, more than 60 high school seniors were awarded three and four-year Army ROTC scholarships to enroll in the [Corps of Cadets](#) at UNG.

If you have scholarship questions, please contact Greg Killeen at greg.killeen@ung.edu or 706-864-1884. For all other questions, please contact Cadet Recruiting at cadetre recruiting@ung.edu or 706-867-2918.

University of North Georgia – Summer Language Institute



The University of North Georgia's Summer Language Institute (SLI) offers an intensive, beginner-friendly introduction to Arabic, Chinese, Japanese, Korean, and Russian. This academically rigorous and meaningful summer program is designed specifically for motivated high school students who are ready for a challenge! Students attending the SLI will find:

- Small class sizes and strong support from dedicated instructors and trained tutors which will help them build confidence quickly
- Daily immersion and interactive learning through structured conversation practice, cultural activities, and hands-on learning
- 8 College Credits in 7 weeks! All credits are awarded by UNG and are transferable
- Meaningful cultural experiences, from cuisine to music to traditions

- Strong addition to college and career pathways. SLI strengthens college applications and equips students with skills valued in international affairs, business, security studies, global health, and more

No prior language experience is required! SLI is designed for true beginners and takes them from zero knowledge to real proficiency in a short time! **SLI will run from June 6th to July 24th. The early [application](#) deadline is March 13th.** If you have questions, please email: sli@ung.edu

Medical College of Georgia – Igniting the Dream of Medicine Conference



**AUGUSTA UNIVERSITY
MEDICAL COLLEGE
OF GEORGIA**
Office of Student, Alumni,
and Community Engagement

MCG Igniting the Dream of Medicine Conference

An annual in person conference to inspire our next generation of healthcare leaders and give those with potential a pathway to their future.

Saturday, February 21, 2026
7:00 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.
J. Harold Harrison, M.D. Education Commons
Medical College of Georgia
at Augusta University

EVENT HIGHLIGHTS

- Conference speakers
- Exhibits
- Interactive clinical workshops
- Health professions career fair
- Panel discussions
- Medical student roundtable dialogues

<https://www.augusta.edu/mcg/academic-affairs/student-alumni-community-engagement/igniting-the-dream.php>

CONTACT US
mcg_ignitingthedream@augusta.edu Scan the code for registration



This annual, in person conference hopes to inspire our next generation of healthcare leaders and give those with interest, a pathway to their future. High school students will get first-hand information from health care providers in allied health, dentistry, medicine, pharmacy, public health, and research, and hear directly from MCG's admissions. They will be able to attend hands on workshops and meet students, faculty and exhibitors with resources and information. This is an invaluable event that is sure to give high school students a unique networking opportunity! Chaperones will be provided on-site, and parents and high school counselors are welcome. All will need to be registered for the event, which is taking place **Saturday, February 21, 2026, from 7:00 am-4:30 pm (in person)**. Registration must be completed prior to the event as no on-site registration will be available.

TeenLife Summer Opportunities



Are you starting to look for summer plans? TeenLife has got something for you! **[The TeenLife LIVE Summer Opportunities Virtual Fair](#)** is happening **this Thursday, December 11th at 6 pm**, and it's the chance to meet an incredible lineup of summer programs all in one place; this is a perfect place to start! [Register 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)!

NEW THIS WEEK: Pochino Italy Scholarship for Seniors Pursuing Culinary Arts

Check out this scholarship offered by a local restaurant! Seniors who are interested in pursuing the **Culinary Arts** should apply for this **\$1,000 scholarship** offered by Pochino Italy, a family-owned restaurant in Kennesaw. The scholarship reflects Pochino's belief in family, community, and creating opportunity through education – sharing “a little bit of Italy in every bite” and a little bit of opportunity in every dream. [Applications](#) are due **February 28th** and winners will be announced in April.

NEW THIS WEEK: Men's College Scholarship

The scholarship is designed to identify and reward outstanding high school seniors who have demonstrated an ability to excel in the fields of academics, extra-curricular school activities and community involvement. It is available to any graduating senior MALE who is enrolling in a four-year undergraduate college program that commences in the fall of 2026. **Multiple \$500-\$1,000 scholarships**, totaling as much as \$50,000 will be awarded in 2026. The [application](#) is due **April 1st**.

The Marietta-Roswell Alumnae Chapter of Delta Sigma Theta Sorority is now accepting applications for their annual Scholarship Program, supporting African-American female high school seniors who excel in academics, leadership, and service. The application deadline is **Friday, December 12th**. Apply at: www.dstmrac.com/scholarship

Eligible students are encouraged to apply early and begin requesting transcripts and recommendations now to avoid last-minute delays.

The poster is for the 2025/2026 Scholarship Program of the Marietta-Roswell Alumnae Chapter of Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Inc. It features a central image of a Black woman in a graduation cap and gown, looking over her shoulder. The text is arranged around and over this image. At the top left is the Delta Sigma Theta logo. The top right text identifies the chapter. The center text reads '2025/2026 Scholarship Program'. Below this, a section titled 'Invest in Your Future With Our Program' describes the program's purpose. A call to action 'Apply by December 12th!' is followed by a QR code. To the right of the QR code, eligibility criteria are listed. At the bottom, the website 'DSTMRA.COM/SCHOLARSHIP' is provided.

Marietta-Roswell Alumnae Chapter
Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Inc.

2025/2026 Scholarship Program

Invest in Your Future With Our Program

We're excited to launch our Scholarship Program, created to uplift and support ambitious African-American female high school seniors who embody academic excellence, leadership, and a deep commitment to serving their communities.

Apply by December 12th!

Applicants must attend a school or live in Cobb, Cherokee or North Fulton counties and have a minimum 3.0 GPA.
(excluding Alpharetta, Johns Creek and Milton)

DSTMRA.COM/SCHOLARSHIP

The Coolidge Scholarship is a FULL-RIDE, merit scholarship that covers a student's tuition, room, board, and expenses for four years of undergraduate study. This one-of-a-kind scholarship may be used at *any* accredited college or university in the U.S. and is open for JUNIORS to apply! Academic excellence is the primary criterion, along with an interest in public policy and an appreciation of the values President Coolidge championed. Candidates should also have a record of genuine service to their community. Applications must be submitted by **December 16th** and can be found at [Coolidge Scholars](#).



The Cobb Schools Foundation Scholarship will be accepting [applications](#) until **January 31, 2026**. Two graduating seniors from each of the 17 Cobb County high schools will be awarded a **\$2,000 scholarship** to support their higher education. The scholarships recognize academic excellence, leadership, and community involvement.

PEARL Foundation Skills Development Scholarship and Workshop

The PEARL (People Educating and Reshaping Lives) Foundation is a 501(c)(3) organization whose mission is to improve Georgians' quality of life by providing education initiatives that promote self-reliance, self-empowerment, and self-determination. Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority, founded in 1908 as the first African American Greek-letter sorority, promotes high scholastic and ethical standards focusing on academic excellence and community service. The PEARL Foundation will offer several academic scholarships to advance the education of African American females who are graduating seniors. Applicants must have demonstrated leadership in the school and community. [Applications](#) are due **February 11th**.

The PEARL Foundation is also offering a **Skills Development Workshop on Saturday, January 24th** (11 am – 2:30 pm) for African American females who are graduating in 2026. Scholarship applicants are strongly encouraged to attend. See the flyer below or their [website](#) for more information.

THE PEARL FOUNDATION, INC.
IN COLLABORATION WITH
ALPHA KAPPA ALPHA SORORITY, INCORPORATED*
RHO ZETA OMEGA CHAPTER
PRESENTS

2026 Skills Development Workshop

REQUIREMENTS:

- African American Female High School Senior in Cobb County/Marietta
- Business Attire

DATE:
SATURDAY, JANUARY 24, 2026

RSVP by 1/21/2026:
pzoscholarship@gmail.com

Location will be provided when you RSVP

The Horatio Alger Scholarship – for JUNIORS and SENIORS

The Horatio Alger Association is one of the nation's largest need-based scholarship programs for high school students who have overcome significant adversity and are committed to earning a bachelor's degree. High school students with financial need who display integrity, perseverance, and a clear determination to turn challenges into opportunities to pursue their American Dream, should consider applying for the scholarship. More than 600 scholarships are awarded every year, with amounts ranging from \$10,000 to \$50,000. **For Juniors, applications must be submitted by March 1st. For Seniors, the application is open until February 15th.** Learn more at www.horatioalger.org/scholarships.

SCHOLARSHIPS

FOR HIGH SCHOOL JUNIORS





Transform adversity into opportunity and pursue the American Dream through higher education!

600+ SCHOLARSHIPS UP TO \$25,000 EACH
+ personalized financial aid counseling, college selection advising, and other support services

APPLY NOW: horatioalger.org/scholarships
DEADLINE: March 1, 2026



Requirements Include:

- U.S. citizenship
- Household income under \$100,000

SCHOLARSHIPS

FOR HIGH SCHOOL SENIORS





Transform adversity into opportunity and pursue the American Dream through higher education!

For high school seniors pursuing an undergraduate degree at one of the following:

Arizona State University Augustana University Baylor University Black Hills State University Boise State University Colgate University Columbia University Dakota State University High Point University	Long Island University Montana State University (must be MT resident) Nova Southeastern University Santa Clara University South Dakota School of Mines South Dakota State University Stanford University Trinity University	Tulane University University of California at San Diego University of Minnesota Twin Cities University of Montana (must be MT resident) University of Sioux Falls University of South Dakota University of Texas
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APPLY NOW: horatioalger.org/scholarships
DEADLINE: February 15, 2026



Requirements Include:

- U.S. citizenship
- Household income under \$100,000

Parents Requesting Teacher Forms

If you are needing any teacher to complete certain forms for an outside therapist, psychologist, etc, you must contact our registrar, Lisa Squier at Lisa.Squier@cobbk12.org or 770-578-7903 x069. Ms. Squier will send you the appropriate JR-3 form for you to sign AND have notarized; this is county policy in order for the school and its employees to release information about your student. Once the JR-3 form is returned to Ms. Squier, she will notify all teachers that may be receiving a form/questionnaire to complete.

Final Exam Schedule

- Monday, December 15 - No finals, regular bell schedule
- Tuesday, December 16 - 7th Period Final Exam
 - Abbreviated classes for 1st-6th Periods (No A/O)
 - **7th Period Final: 1:55 - 3:30**
- Wednesday, December 17
 - **5th Period Final: 8:20 - 9:50**
 - **6th Period Final: 9:55 - 11:30**
 - X Block Dismissal @ 11:30
 - Buses run at normal time of 3:30
- Thursday, December 18
 - **3rd Period Final: 8:20 - 9:50**
 - **4th Period Final: 9:55 - 11:30**
 - Early Release at 11:30 (Buses run at 11:30)
- Friday, December 19
 - **1st Period Final: 8:20 - 9:50**
 - **2nd Period Final: 9:55 - 11:30**
 - Early Release at 11:30 (Buses run at 11:30)

To protect the testing environment and be respectful to all students, there should be NO CHECK OUTS during final exams. Final Exams cannot be taken early.

Pope's Counseling Office



**Follow us on Instagram @popecounseling and
Facebook at Pope High School Counseling Department**