



TUESDAY TELEGRAPH

NEWS FROM THE COUNSELING OFFICE

January 20, 2026

STAR Students



Pope High School is proud to honor two STAR Students and two STAR Teachers for the Class of 2026. These students tied with the highest SAT score of the senior class! They also are in the top 10% of the Senior Class academically. Additionally, each student selects a STAR Teacher to represent someone who has had a significant impact on them during their time at Pope. Our first STAR Student is Ishaan Marwaha. Ishaan has chosen Ms. Briana Ransom as his STAR Teacher. Our second STAR Student is Lucy Nichols. Lucy has chosen Ms. Angela Chapin as her STAR Teacher. They will all be honored at a banquet in February hosted by the Marietta Kiwanis Club. Congratulations to all!!

Seniors - Request Your Graduation Tickets

As a reminder, Commencement will take place on **Monday, May 18th at 7 pm** at the KSU Convocation Center. The portal to request tickets is now open!

Seniors should log into their student portal at: <https://studentportal.cobbk12.org> using their Cobb County issued email to request tickets. Seniors will request the number of tickets they need for their guests (seniors do NOT need one!). You are not guaranteed the number of tickets requested. Be sure to discuss the number your family needs. If you do not submit a request, you will receive a maximum of 2 tickets.

Each guest ticket for schools with a ceremony at KSU will have a unique barcode and will be valid only for the ceremony, date, and time shown on the ticket. Lost or damaged tickets cannot be replaced. Once a ticket is scanned for entry to the venue, it is no longer valid and cannot be re-used for further entry or re-entry.

Tickets need to be requested by February 25th.

NACAC College Fair

Over 125 colleges/universities will attend this year's NACAC College Fair held in Atlanta at the Georgia International Convention Center on **Sunday, January 25th from 11 am to 2:30 pm.**

Why attend:

- Connect with admissions representatives from a wide variety of colleges and universities.
- Learn about academic programs, campus life, and what college is really like.
- Attend workshops on financial aid & scholarships, HBCUs, the college application process, and more.
- Network with educators, mentors, and community members who are supporting students on their college journeys.

Plan ahead:

- Pre-register [here](#) for quicker entry.
- Check the list of participating colleges and universities [here](#).

For questions, feel free to contact Jillian Bolak, GARN (Greater Atlanta Regional Network) Chair, at jillian.bolak@gcsu.edu



Atlanta Israel Gap Year Fellowship

The [Jewish Federation of Greater Atlanta](#) with generous support from the Zalik Foundation, is offering the [Atlanta Israel Gap Year Fellowship](#), which provides up to **\$10,000** for seniors who choose to participate in a pre-approved list of gap year experiences through [Masa Israel Journey](#). The Atlanta Israel Gap Year Fellowship offers a unique opportunity for Atlanta teens to expand their gap year experience with sessions developed to deepen leadership skills, connect with Israeli experts, and explore ways to apply what they learn after the Fellowship.

2myPlace Sponsors Human Trafficking Presentation - TONIGHT

See the flyer for this informative event being held **TONIGHT, January 20th at 7 pm at Wheeler.**

Human Trafficking: It's NOT in my East Cobb neighborhood...oh, YES, it is!

Tuesday, Jan 20, 2026
Wheeler Performing Arts Center
(375 Holt Rd NE, Marietta 30068)

7pm



Meet Monica
Morton



RSVP NOW!

These experts will SHOCK you with information
about what is happening in East Cobb, how to
recognize it, prevent it and report it!

Detective Clint Monahan

Criminal Investigation Unit with Cobb County PD

Monica Morton, Private Detective and Recovery Agent
K.N.O.W. LLC Consulting Group

Naeshia McDowell, MPH, Director
Children Advocacy Centers of Georgia

Veronica McDaniel
Street Grace



Dual Enrollment – Act Now!

If you are interested in Dual Enrollment for the 2026-2027 School Year, please start the process NOW if you have not already done so. Visit our DE website – <http://bit.ly/DEPopePage> to download our checklist and access important information. Students and a family member must view the mandatory DE video presentation (or have attended the live fall meeting) as the first step and then follow the remaining steps on the checklist, which include applying to the desired college and meeting with your counselor to complete paperwork. (Georgia Tech applicants MUST also follow these steps and meet our deadlines, however, they will complete the GT application later when it opens in mid-May). The deadline for students wanting to take summer DE classes is **February 1st** and the deadline for those who wish to take DE classes starting in the Fall is **March 6th**. County and college deadlines may differ from these dates, but Pope sets earlier deadlines for scheduling purposes, in addition to helping ensure students are able to register for their college classes at the earliest possible enrollment opportunity. If you have any questions, reach out to your counselor.

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.

Cobb Online Learning Academy Information Sessions

See the flyer to sign up for an Information Session to learn more about COLA (Cobb Online Learning Academy).

COBB ONLINE LEARNING ACADEMY PROSPECTIVE PARENT INFORMATION SESSIONS

**WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 28TH
AT NOON**

[CLICK HERE FOR VIRTUAL MEETING LINK](#)

&

**THURSDAY, JANUARY 29TH
AT 6PM**

[CLICK HERE FOR VIRTUAL MEETING LINK](#)

**Could online learning be the
right fit for your family?**

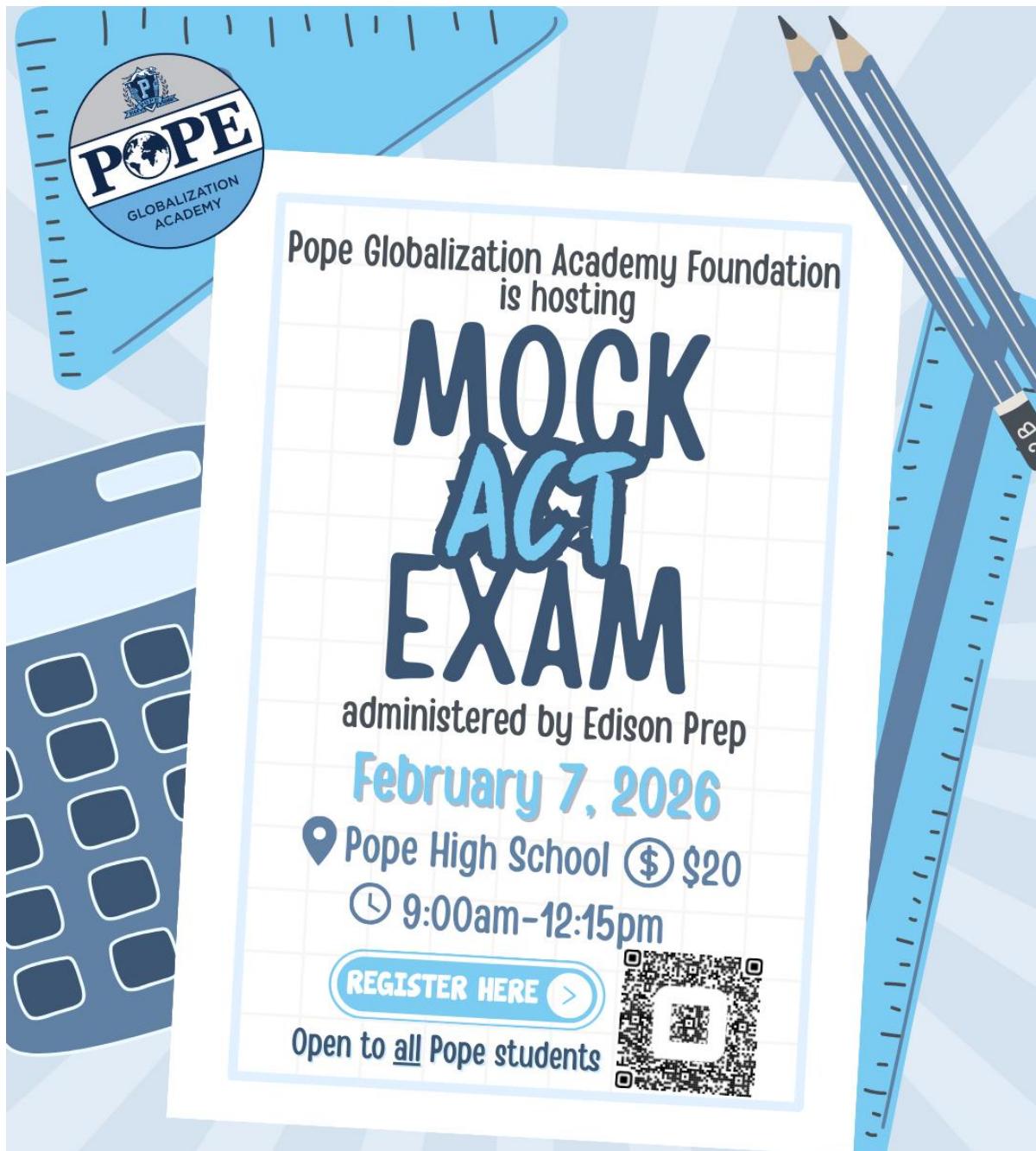
Discover COLA's exceptional virtual program! Hear from COLA's school counselors as they share what a typical online school day looks like—featuring strong student supports, meaningful interaction with teachers and peers, and more.

For questions, please reach out to
Gregory Moncrief
(Gregory.Moncrief@cobbk12.org)
or
Rebecca Moore
(Rebecca.Moore@cobbk12.org)



Sign-Up for a Mock ACT Exam

[Register here](#) to sign up for a Mock ACT Exam on **Saturday, February 7th** at Pope. See the flyer for more information.



Detailed score report will be emailed approx 3 days after the mock test.
Student and parent contact information will NOT be used for sales purposes.
All proceeds from this event will go into the PGAF discretionary fund.
Only need to bring #2 pencils and calculator

Free SAT & ACT Workshops with Applerouth

One of Applerouth's top tutors is hosting **free** SAT and ACT workshops in February. He'll be reviewing sample test questions and teaching a few key strategies, making this a great opportunity for students to get some extra prep at no cost. See the flyer for more information, including how to register.



applerouth

SAT and ACT 101: Everything You Need to Know

Register Online: applerouth.com/events/webinars

Join Tal Kitron, one of Applerouth's all-time most-requested tutors, for SAT or ACT 101 or both!

-  Key test-taking tips and strategies
-  Timing and structure of the tests
-  Content tested on the SAT or ACT
-  Differences between the tests

SAT 101: February 10th 8PM (EST)

ACT 101: February 12th 8PM (EST)

If you cannot make it, register anyway and we'll send a link to the recording.

Campus Prep Offers Live SAT & ACT Test Prep

Sophomores and Juniors are invited to enroll in the **live online SAT and ACT prep courses** available this winter through Campus Prep. Families may choose between the SAT or ACT course directly on the Campus Prep website. Students who complete the SAT course often see **score increases of 200+ points**, while ACT students often improve by **4+ points**.

Course Overview

- 27-hour comprehensive live online prep course
- Includes 3 proctored practice exams
- Begins in February and runs for 7 weeks
- Taught live by a 99th percentile instructor with real-time student interaction
- Cost: \$195

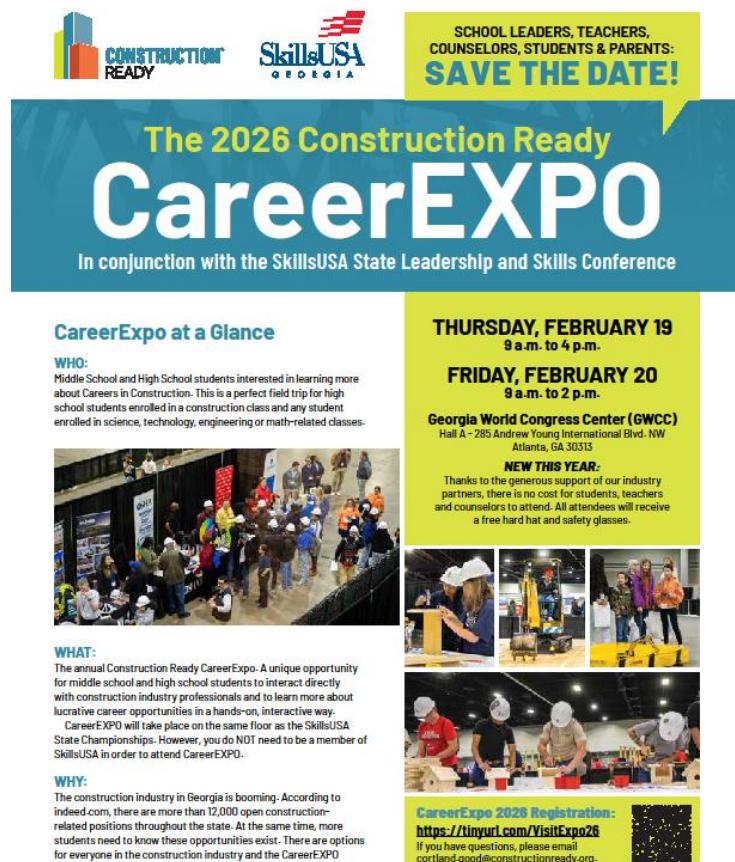
Courses tend to fill quickly. Families can view schedules and apply here:

👉 <https://www.campusprep.org> (applications take about 60 seconds)

If you have questions, please email admin@campusprep.org or call **(877) 805-2521**.

Construction Ready CareerEXPO – Save the Dates

High School students interested in learning more about Careers in Construction should plan to attend the CareerEXPO on **February 19th and/or 20th** at the Georgia World Congress Center. There is no cost to attend! See the flyer for further details.



The flyer for The 2026 Construction Ready CareerEXPO features the following details:

- Logos:** Construction Ready, SkillsUSA Georgia, and a call to action for "SCHOOL LEADERS, TEACHERS, COUNSELORS, STUDENTS & PARENTS: SAVE THE DATE!"
- Title:** The 2026 Construction Ready CareerEXPO
- Subtext:** In conjunction with the SkillsUSA State Leadership and Skills Conference
- CareerExpo at a Glance:**
 - WHO:** Middle School and High School students interested in learning more about Careers in Construction.
 - WHAT:** An annual opportunity for middle school and high school students to interact directly with construction industry professionals and learn more about lucrative career opportunities in a hands-on, interactive way.
 - WHY:** The construction industry in Georgia is booming. According to indeed.com, there are more than 17,000 open construction-related positions throughout the state. At the same time, more students need to know these opportunities exist. There are options for everyone in the construction industry and the CareerEXPO showcases these in a unique, interactive and hands-on way.
- Thursdays:** Thursday, February 19, 9 a.m. to 4 p.m.
- Fridays:** Friday, February 20, 9 a.m. to 2 p.m.
- Location:** Georgia World Congress Center (GWCC) Hall A - 285 Andrew Young International Blvd. NW Atlanta, GA 30313
- New This Year:** Thanks to the generous support of our industry partners, there is no cost for students, teachers and counselors to attend. All attendees will receive a free hard hat and safety glasses.
- Images:** Several small images showing students interacting with industry professionals and participating in hands-on activities.
- Registration:** <https://tinyurl.com/VisitExpo26>
- Contact:** If you have questions, please email carlton-good@constructionready.org.

College Transitions Guide to Summer Programs



College Transitions

Thousands of providers—including both universities and private companies—offer academically-themed summer programs for teens. These programs vary from free-to-extremely expensive, and highly-selective-to-open enrollment. With such a bevy of options, College Transitions has compiled a guide of the [Best Summer Programs](#). The list is sortable by discipline and location and contains relevant data and information about each recommended program.

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)!

Guaranteed to have a Pope Winner:



The [Timber Ridge](#) PTA Widener-Bega Scholarship is live! Seniors who went to Timber Ridge and will graduate from Pope in May are eligible to apply for a **\$1,000** scholarship. There will be at least one Pope winner! The application can be found [here](#). The deadline to apply is **March 31st**. For questions, please email timberridgescholarship@gmail.com.

Cobb EMC Scholarships:



Cobb EMC is awarding 14 scholarships (**\$5,000** each) to eligible students with a primary residence served by Cobb EMC. There will be one more virtual information session available for students to learn more about this scholarship on **Thursday, February 5th at 5:30 pm**. This session is NOT mandatory, strictly informational.

[Applications](#) are due by **February 20th**. Winners will be notified by the end of May. For questions and/or to register for an info session, please email cobbemcfoundationscholarship@cobbemc.com

The Walter Harrison Scholarship is a second scholarship opportunity sponsored by Cobb EMC. The **\$1,000 scholarship** honors the late Walter Harrison who was a rural electrification pioneer and electric cooperative leader. Students who excel in academic standing (GPA) and honors, SAT/ACT scores, and who demonstrate a financial need should consider [applying](#) by **February 6th**. A non-mandatory information session is scheduled for **Tuesday, January 20th at 5:30 pm**. To register for the info session email WalterHarrisonScholarship@cobbemc.com.

Become a Georgia Scholar!



Through the Georgia Scholar Program, the Georgia Department of Education identifies and honors high school seniors who have achieved excellence in school and community life. Georgia high school seniors who meet the eight criterion categories may complete the application, provided they are scheduled to graduate in spring 2026, and obtain signatures from their principal, school counselor, and parent/guardian. **The 2026 Georgia Scholar Program application opened January 1st and closes March 1st**. The criterion and application form are available [here](#). **Applicants should be aware that Georgia Scholar is a recognition-only program.** No scholarship funds are associated with this program. Graduating seniors who apply and meet the criterion will receive a seal for their diploma and an honor cord.

Carson M. Brewer attended Shallowford Falls and passed away unexpectedly at the age of 11. The mission of the **Carson M. Brewer Scholarship Foundation** is to form a strong organization that will provide educational and/or athletic scholarships to deserving recipients to further education. Carson loved learning and was dedicated to his education and competitive swimming. This year is extra special for the Brewer family as Carson would have been a member of this year's senior class. The **\$1,500 scholarship** is available to seniors who are intending to continue their education at a college or university. Applications can be found [here](#) and are due by **March 15th**.



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.



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.

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

HORATIO ALGER ASSOCIATION of Distinguished Americans, Inc.

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

HORATIO ALGER ASSOCIATION of Distinguished Americans, Inc.

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	Long Island University	Tulane University
Augustana University	Montana State University (must be MT resident)	University of California at San Diego
Baylor University	Nova Southeastern University	University of Minnesota Twin Cities
Black Hills State University	Santa Clara University	University of Montana
Boise State University	South Dakota School of Mines	(must be MT resident)
Colgate University	South Dakota State University	University of Sioux Falls
Columbia University	Stanford University	University of South Dakota
Dakota State University	Trinity University	University of Texas
High Point University		

APPLY NOW: horatioalger.org/scholarships
DEADLINE: February 15, 2026

Requirements Include:
• U.S. citizenship
• Household income under \$100,000



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.**

Pope Counseling Office

Have you visited the [Pope School Counseling website](#)? You can find lots of useful information including [grade specific presentations](#), [tutoring help](#), [personal support](#), [summer programs](#), [ACT & SAT testing information](#), [scholarship and financial aid resources](#), and all of the weekly [Tuesday Telegraphs](#) from this school year.

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Pope Counseling Website:

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

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