



TUESDAY TELEGRAPH NEWS FROM THE COUNSELING OFFICE May 19, 2026 – Last one of the school year!

Seniors - Class of 2026

CONGRATULATIONS to our graduated seniors! Last night's commencement at KSU was a wonderful celebration recognizing all that this class has accomplished! Well done!

Diplomas and final transcripts can still be picked up TOMORROW, Wednesday May 20th 1-3 pm on Main Street. Please note that you are not able to pick up diplomas for friends or relatives. The Counseling Office will be open limited hours over the summer. You can pick up these items then if necessary. Please see the flyer at the end of this newsletter with details of our summer schedule. **Caps and Gowns can be donated** when you come to pick up your diploma if you no longer wish to keep them.

Final transcripts will be sent per your request by the end of the week. HOPE calculations will be sent to colleges no later than June 30th.

National Merit Scholarship Winner

The National Merit Scholarship Program and Pope have already recognized the following Pope seniors as National Merit Finalists. Only 15,000 students across the country have earned this recognition. These four seniors are:

Kenneth Kim, Ishaan Marwaha, Ekansh Singh, and Nye Yarbrough



In addition, it is our extreme pleasure to announce that **Ishaan Marwaha** has been selected as a winner of the National Merit \$2,500 Scholarship. Only 2,500 of the 15,000 National Merit Finalists are selected for this scholarship. Winners for the National Merit Scholarship are selected by a committee of college admission officers and high school counselors. Congratulations, Ishaan! Well done!

Information for Juniors

Top 10 Things for Rising Seniors To Do This Summer

1. Create a resume – use a Word template or Naviance. A resume is important for college applications, teachers and/or counselor recommendations, applying for jobs (obviously), and more. If you create a resume in Naviance, be sure to SAVE the Word version to your computer each time you update it as a back-up!
2. Complete your Student and Parent Brag Sheets in Naviance (About Me → Surveys from your School).
 - a. Note these are ONLY required if you need a COUNSELOR recommendation letter.

- b. If parents need their log-in, have them email your counselor (during the school year) or at popcounseling@cobbk12.org during the summer months only.
 - c. We highly recommend that you type your answers in Word and copy/paste the answers back into Naviance. Also, click SAVE often so your work isn't lost! Naviance doesn't autosave 😊.
3. Touch base with teachers if you'd like them to write a recommendation letter – they may have their own “brag sheet” for you to fill out, maybe require a resume, and some have limits on how many letters they will write!
4. Create a Common App account and start working on the general “Common App” – but don't start on college specific supplements yet – Common App officially activates 2026-2027 applications on August 1 (so work you do in specific college sections prior to that may get wiped in the rollover!).
5. Begin working on essays – Common App essay and also any college-specific essays. Be sure to look on the college website for essay prompts specifically for the 2026-27 school year since these sometimes change from year to year. WRITE EVERYTHING IN WORD and SAVE, SAVE, SAVE!!
6. Organize all your colleges in Naviance in “Colleges I'm Thinking About” – we will give instructions for next steps in the fall.
7. Please be patient! Application processes that involve the Counseling Office, like requesting Official Transcripts and submitting Teacher Recommendation requests will be explained during Counselor Lessons the first few weeks of school. Those processes will be activated for the Class of 2027 after those lessons are complete!
 - a. We will not be able to send official transcripts right away when you come back to school. Please be patient and watch for instructions for us when we are ready to take those requests. We will make sure you know the correct steps to follow.
 - b. Along those lines, if you are applying to a college that encourages early applications for housing priority (for example), this typically refers only to you submitting the application, and not the supplemental documents that would come from the school. Keep in mind that we start school MUCH EARLIER than the vast majority of high schools nationwide. Most are not even open until later in August or September, so colleges usually aren't expecting transcripts and letters to be in by those earliest dates.
 - c. If you encounter a school that requires all materials (your application and supplementary materials) as early as possible, forward documentation of that specific information to your counselor so we can discuss a solution. Military Academies and QuestBridge applications are good examples that will need earlier attention.
8. Take the YouScience career assessment – it is longish, but WORTH IT, especially if you are still trying to figure out a career pathway. It also gives you great vocabulary and adjectives to describe yourself on applications, resumes, and essays. Access the assessment through Clever. See below for more details.
9. Visit colleges, both those you are interested in attending and those you may pass by as you travel. This helps give you a sense of what you like, don't like, etc. in a campus environment.
10. Take a deep breath and don't forget to enjoy your summer and rest up! Senior year will be here before you know it!

Rising Seniors – It's Time to Get Your Senior Portraits Taken!

The summer is a great time to get your senior portraits done! Click [here](#) to schedule your session with Cady Studios.

Students - Need help figuring out a future career path?



Summer is a great time to take advantage of completing the **FREE** YouScience® career assessment.

The **YouScience** Profile is the only online platform that measures aptitudes and interests and then matches them to majors and careers that fit students best.

Here is a short 2-minute video about the assessment: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=n9mWOTOMfoA>.

YouScience® takes about 90 minutes to complete. Once your child has finished the assessment, both of you can watch a video which will take you through how to understand and utilize the results:
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=G5zash2PL6A>

CCSD students access their free YouScience assessment by logging into their CCSD Office 365 account, accessing Clever, then clicking on the YouScience® tile. If you need help, email your Pope Counselor.

Information for All Grades

Summer School Options – Registration Closes Soon

Pope's [website](#) has information about summer school opportunities (**CVA** – registration closes June 1st at noon; **Credit Recovery** – registration closes TOMORROW, May 20th at midnight). The **Cobb Course Refresher** provides students with an opportunity to gain a greater understanding of course content by reviewing digital lessons. Students who register for the Cobb Course Refresher may REVIEW content for courses taken during the 2025-2026 school year or PREVIEW courses they will take during the 2026-2027 school year. Registration closes May 29th; there is a mandatory (online) orientation on June 1st. For a list of available courses and for more information, click [here](#). To register, click [here](#). This is a FREE opportunity!

Make a Wish Youth Leadership Council

Make-a-Wish Georgia's mission is to grant life-changing wishes for children in Georgia who are diagnosed with a critical illness. The Youth Leadership Council is designed for 10th-12th graders who have a heart for philanthropy and are interested in getting involved with their mission and community. Youth Leadership Council members will have the opportunity to learn more about the non-profit industry through monthly meetings and guest speakers, while also growing their skills. See the flyer for more information and scan the QR code to complete the application for the 2026-2027 school year. Applications are open and will close **August 1st**.



Youth Leadership Council

The Youth Leadership Council of Make-A-Wish Georgia is designed for 10th-12th graders who have a heart for philanthropy and are interested in giving back to their community as Student Wishmakers!



Youth Leadership Council members will have the opportunity to learn more about the non-profit industry through monthly meetings and guest speakers, while also growing their skills in:

- ★ Volunteerism
- ★ Leadership
- ★ Money management
- ★ Teamwork
- ★ Fundraising
- ★ Public Speaking

*Applications open
May 1st - August 1st*

Members will work together to fundraise and grant wishes throughout the year! Take a look at some of the wishes that the YLC have granted over the years!

Questions?
Contact Sophia Janney
Sjanney@georgia.wish.org



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: <https://dph.georgia.gov/media/89331/download> for a summary of vaccination requirements by age.



In accordance with this requirement, all Pope students entering the 11th grade, who will be 16 by August 3, 2026, must submit an updated Certificate of Immunization, on GA Form 3231, to the Pope Counseling Office prior to the start of the 2026-2027 school year. Students, who are not yet 16 by August 3rd 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. All paper and emailed documents should also be directed to Mrs. Squier.

Pope Counseling Office – Summer Hours



Pope Counseling Office **Summer Hours**

May 26 – July 22*

Tuesdays & Wednesdays

9:00 AM – 1:00 PM

**The Pope Counseling Office will be closed June 23-24 and June 30-July 1.*

Walk-ins are welcome for the following:

- Graduate final transcript requests (first is free; extras are \$2 cash)
- Underclassman unofficial transcript requests (\$2 each, cash only)
- Diploma pick-up (please bring your ID)
- Withdrawal paperwork
- Remediation consultations
- Final exam make-ups/placement tests (by appointment preferred – popescounseling@cobbk12.org)

New Student Enrollments by Appointment Only

(Can be in-person or virtual)

www.popeschoolcounseling.com → Enrollment Procedures
Contact Lisa Squier (lisa.squier@cobbk12.org) for appointments

If you have additional questions, please come in or call 770-578-7903 during office hours or email our summer email account popescounseling@cobbk12.org.

Emails and voicemails to the above contacts will be returned during summer office hours. (Individual counselor emails/voicemails are not regularly checked over the summer.)

There may be delays in responses during the summer months due to limited hours and staffing.

Thank you for reading to the end! We wish our Pope family a wonderful summer break. Best of luck to the Class of 2026 and we'll look forward to seeing everyone else in July for Greyhound Madness!



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/>

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