



TUESDAY TELEGRAPH NEWS FROM THE COUNSELING OFFICE August 4, 2026

Welcome back, Greyhounds! Following is this year's first edition of the Tuesday Telegraph from the Counseling Office. The weekly newsletter provides lots of important information for families regarding college applications and mini-fairs, SAT/ACT strategies and bootcamps, scholarship opportunities, counselor class lessons, as well as grade level specific information that you'll want to know! Here we go! Have a great year, greyhounds!

Seniors – Class of 2027!

Welcome back, Class of 2027, to your SENIOR YEAR! We Counselors have some specific information and events planned for you, starting August 11th, to help you with college applications, career searching, financial aid, and more! Things to know:

1. You will be receiving a copy of a **Senior Status Report** along with a new transcript in the next few days that shows you your credit counts and remaining graduation requirements. If you are missing a class that you are not enrolled in, you need to see your counselor ASAP! It is very important that you share this with your parents.
2. **SchooLinks is our new college and career platform, replacing Naviance.** We will give you specific instructions during FutureFocus on how to navigate everything including requesting transcripts and letters of recommendation. In the meantime, you can be working on (and even submitting) applications!
3. Starting August 11th during AOs, counselors will be presenting **FutureFocus**, a series of 12 lessons designed to help answer your questions about post-secondary options, including the college application process, building a list, seeking financial aid, choosing a great career that fits your abilities and preferences, and more! See the chart below for details.
 - a. We will post the presentations in the Senior Counseling CTLS as well as on www.popeschoolcounseling.com for students who are absent and parents who wish to view the information.
 - b. Students unable to attend the first four AO sessions (such as off campus DE or online students) are encouraged to attend Senior Parent Night (see below) to get the most important pieces of information, such as using SchooLinks, how to request transcripts/letters of recommendation, etc.

AUGUST 11 & 13	AUGUST 18 & 20	AUGUST 25	AUGUST 27	FUTURE WEEKS
Overview of Postsecondary Options & College Application Processes	SchooLinks Tutorials	ATL Grad Presentation Ordering Caps, Gowns, and other graduation items	College Essays, Resumes, & Letters of Recommendation (LOR)	Military 2year/Technical Trades Transferring Applying to GA Colleges Scholarships & FinAid FAQs and more!

Senior Parent Night – Tuesday, August 18th at 7 pm in the PAC

Senior parents/guardians are invited to attend Senior Parent Night where we will review steps that we've shared with students on post-secondary options, the college application process, as well as additional information to help you and your senior along this school year. The presentation will be posted on our webpage if you are unable to attend.

Save the Date! Financial Aid Night with GSFC – September 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 information about the FAFSA, need-based aid, HOPE, Zell, and more!

Pope College Fairs Coming Soon!

We have scheduled three college mini-fairs this fall! **Students (ALL grades)**, please save the dates and plan to join us in the Aux/ Old Gym during X-block starting at 2:10 pm to visit with numerous colleges, universities, and armed forces. More information will be available as we get closer to the dates.

- August 26
- October 7
- November 11

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 were 16 by August 3, 2026, must submit an updated Certificate of Immunization, on GA Form 3231, to the Pope Counseling Office as soon as possible. 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.

Applerouth – SmartStart

Applerouth is hosting **free 90-minute SAT and ACT Strategy Bootcamps** throughout August.

Students will learn:

- High-impact SAT/ACT strategies

- Time management and pacing techniques
- Common mistakes to avoid
- Study habits that maximize results

Live on Zoom at 7:00 pm

SAT Bootcamps: August 4, 13, & 18

ACT Bootcamps: August 6, 11, & 20

Register here: www.applerouth.com/smart-start

Students can also take **free SAT or ACT practice tests** online or at Atlanta-area testing locations during August.

Each practice test includes a **personalized score report with clear next steps** to help students focus their preparation.

START SMART. SCORE HIGHER.

Free SAT & ACT Strategy Bootcamps

Practice Tests Are Everywhere.
Expert Guidance Isn't.





Choose Your Free 90-Minute SAT or ACT Strategy Bootcamp

Start with a strategy — not guesswork.



SAT: Aug 4, 13, & 18



ACT: Aug 6, 11, & 20

 **7:00 PM ET • Live on Zoom**



TAKE A FREE SAT OR ACT
PRACTICE TEST

Get a personalized score report
with clear next steps.



SAT & ACT
Aug 8-9
Aug 15-16
Aug 22-23

Available **online** and **in-person**
at Atlanta-area locations.

Students will learn:

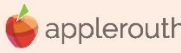
- High-impact SAT/ACT strategies
- Time management & pacing
- Common mistakes to avoid
- Study habits that save time

REGISTER NOW

[www.applerouth.com/
smart-start](http://www.applerouth.com/smart-start)




www.applerouth.com | 866-789-PREP (7737)



Save the Dates!

Mark your calendars for the following upcoming events, sponsored by the Counseling team. More information will be forthcoming as we get closer to the dates:

September 2nd at 7 pm – Junior Family Information Night

September 8th at 7 pm (PAC) – Dual Enrollment Information Night

Get to Know Your Counseling Office

The Counseling Office is located in room 102. We are open from 7:45 am to 3:45 pm. Students are welcome to stop in before or after school but should have a pass from their teacher to come in during the day. We are happy to make appointments for our students with their Counselor and will try to schedule those during a student's lunch period. Parents interested in scheduling an appointment should e-mail their Counselor directly. We look forward to working with you this year!

CONTACT US

Anna Leathers, A-D
anna.leathers@cobbk12.org

Andi Hodgin, 504 Coordinator
andrea.hodgin@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/>