



TUESDAY TELEGRAPH NEWS FROM THE COUNSELING OFFICE August 25, 2026

Seniors - Class of 2027

Senior Parent Night – Presentation Posted

If you missed last week's Senior Parent Night, the presentation has now been posted on our website at PopeSchoolCounseling ->Academics->12th Grade ->Parent Presentation (click [here](#) to be taken directly to the presentation).

NEW – Wednesday Workshops!

Seniors! Have questions on using SchoolLinks? Need help requesting recommendations or working on your Common App? Need to follow up on a FutureFocus topic? Stop by the Counseling Office to pick up a pass to join the Counselors during your lunch period. **They will be available the next FOUR WEDNESDAYS (8/26, 9/2, 9/9, and 9/16) to answer your questions.** Meet them in the Professional Development room in the Learning Commons during your lunch period to get some help. Don't forget to pick up a pass in the Counseling Office to be able to attend!

FutureFocus Lessons

FutureFocus continues! These sessions, held during AO for six weeks, are designed to help with college applications, career searching, financial aid, and more! See the charts for details. All presentations will be posted in the Counseling Class of 2027 CTLS page as well on the popeschoolcounseling website.

SENIOR FUTUREFOCUS AUGUST 11-SEPT 1				
				
AUGUST 11 & 13	AUGUST 18 & 20	AUGUST 25	AUGUST 27	SEPT 1
Overview of Postsecondary Options & College Application Processes	SchoolLinks Tutorial Setting up College Application Manager (CAM) & Requesting Transcripts	ATL Grad Presentation Ordering Caps, Gowns, and other graduation items	Letters of Recommendation (LOR), Brag Sheets, and Resumes	College Essays



Save the Date! Financial Aid Night with GSFC – September 14th at 7 pm 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 details about the FAFSA, need-based aid, HOPE, Zell, and more!

The College Essay Guy and How to Stand Out on Your College Essays

TONIGHT, August 25th (7-8 pm), join Ethan Sawyer, founder of The College Essay Guy, along with Tom Campbell, Senior College Admissions Counselor & Essay Specialist, for a countdown through the five qualities admissions officers look for, the four questions your personal statement should answer, and everything else you need to know for the 2026 admissions season. Save your free spot today by registering [here](#).

How to Approach the Common App Essay Prompts

Check out this great [article](#) from College Transitions on how to approach this year's Common App essay prompts.

Information for All Grades

Freshman Parent Night – TOMORROW, August 26th at 7 pm in the PAC

Freshman parents/guardians are invited to attend Freshman Parent Night **TOMORROW** where we will review a variety of topics including graduation requirements, GPA calculations, the Counseling office, and more. The presentation will be posted on our website later in the week if you are unable to attend.

PSAT – Final Reminder for Juniors!

Pope will be administering the PSAT the morning of **Thursday, October 15th**.

All 9th and 10th grader's PSAT fees have been covered by Pope and the State of Georgia. **Juniors, however, must pay the \$15 PSAT fee through MyPaymentsPlus to participate.** You can find this under Events and Activities in MyPayments Plus. If someone already paid the fee, you will NOT see the PSAT as a payment option! Additionally, you can look under the My Account tab/My Payment History and click on "Last week" to filter to show payments made the last 6 months. *If you have any questions about the fee or require financial support, please reach out to your student's counselor ASAP.*

The deadline for junior families to pay the fee for the PSAT in MyPaymentsPlus is THIS FRIDAY, August 28th at 4:00 pm. Regretfully, no payments or fee waivers can be accepted after 4:00 this Friday for any reason.

Monday's Bell Schedule

Next Monday, August 31st we will have Advisement after first period. Please make a note of the modified bell schedule.

Monday Advisement Schedule		
Period	Time	Minutes
1st Period	8:20 - 9:10	50
Advisement	9:15 - 10:00	45
2nd Period	10:05 - 10:55	50
3rd Period	11:00 - 11:50	50
4th Period	11:55 - 12:45	50
5th Period	12:50 - 1:40	50
6th Period	1:45 - 2:35	50
7th Period	2:40 - 3:30	50

Save the Date! Junior Parent Night is September 2nd at 7 pm in the PAC

Junior parents/guardians – We hope you will join the Counseling Department **September 2nd at 7 pm** in the Performing Arts Center (PAC) where we will review information to help our 11th graders navigate junior year. Post-secondary planning and the junior timeline will be discussed. If you are unable to attend, the presentation will be posted on our website later that week.

CCSD Dual Enrollment Summit TONIGHT

100% PAID COLLEGE TUITION, MANDATORY FEES, & BOOKS!
LEARN MORE AT THE
DUAL ENROLLMENT SUMMIT
SAVE THE DATE



WHAT

HIGH SCHOOL STUDENT OPPORTUNITIES

- To earn college credit
- Receive free tuition and books
- Traditional and CTAE Courses

INFORMATIVE GENERAL SESSIONS

- General presentation
- With a high school counselor
- With a choice of college representatives

Hay servicios de traducción al español disponibles en el evento.
(Spanish translation services are available at the event.)

COLLEGE REPRESENTATIVES ON SITE


Chattahoochee Technical College


KENNESAW STATE UNIVERSITY


GHC
Georgia Highlands College


Georgia Tech


COBB COUNTY SCHOOL DISTRICT

WHEN

AUGUST 25TH
6:00 - 8:00 PM



COBB COUNTY CIVIC CENTER
548 SOUTH MARETTA PKWY SE, MARETTA, GA

6:00 PM-6:30 PM
 KENNESAW STATE UNIVERSITY

6:35 PM-6:55 PM
 GENERAL SESSION BY CCSD COUNSELORS

7:00 PM-7:30 PM
 CHATTAHOOCHEE TECHNICAL COLLEGE

CONTACTS

ANDREW KUTSCHER
ADVANCED LEARNING SUPERVISOR
ANDREW.KUTSCHER@COBBK12.ORG

BRANDY BRADY
SCHOOL COUNSELING CONSULTANT
BRANDY.BRADY@COBBK12.ORG

PATTY DASILVA
SCHOOL COUNSELING SUPERVISOR
PATTY.DASILVA@COBBK12.ORG

VIJAY KOILPILLAI
Talent Development Consultant
VIJAY.KOILPILLAI@COBBK12.ORG

The Dual Enrollment (DE) Summit is **TONIGHT, August 25th 6-8 pm at the Cobb County Civic Center**, and is a great opportunity to speak directly to representatives from KSU, Chatt Tech, Georgia Highlands, and Georgia Tech about their DE programs. There will also be general information sessions by KSU, Chatt Tech, and a high school counselor. **This program is a supplement to the Pope Dual Enrollment Night which will be held September 8th at 7 pm in the PAC that is required for those interested in doing DE for the 2027-2028 school year. See below for more details on Pope's DE meeting on 9/8.**

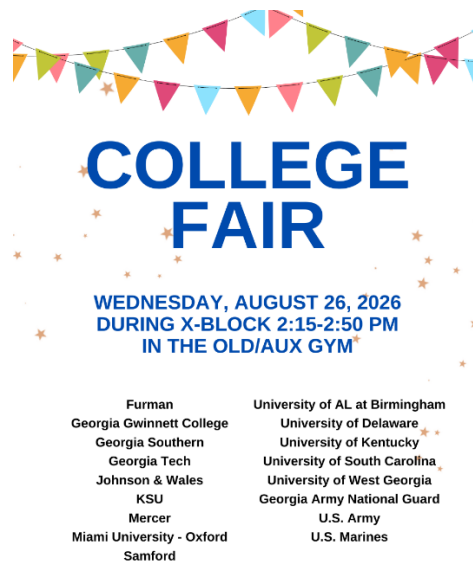
SEE YOU THERE

Pope's Dual Enrollment Information Night – September 8th at 7 pm in the PAC

Join us on **Tuesday, September 8th 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 by taking 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 2027-28 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's First College Fair is TOMORROW, August 26th

We have scheduled two college mini-fairs this fall! **Students (ALL grades)**, please save the dates (August 26 and October 7) 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. Check out the flyer to see who will be joining us this Wednesday!



The Peach State Tour is Back



Join Augusta University, Georgia State University, Georgia Tech, and the University of Georgia this fall (August 25-September 24) for the 24th annual Peach State Tour!

The Peach State Tour will be offered in a hybrid format: students will have the opportunity to attend information sessions both in-person and virtually. This is your chance to learn more about the admission and financial aid processes and university offerings based on which session you attend. Find out more information about locations, dates, and registration [here](#).

LAUNCH Events in August and September

Cornell, Emory, Pomona, Rice, and Washington University in St. Louis are proud to present LAUNCH (Linking Access, Unity, Networking, Collaboration and Higher Education). Both [virtual](#) (September 16 at 8 pm) and [in person](#) (August 27 at 6:30 pm) events are available.

Cobb County School District College Fair

Scholar Trek is hosting a comprehensive college fair at Walton High School on **September 14th**. Over 90 colleges will be in attendance! All grade levels are invited and strongly encouraged to attend. The schedule will be as follows:

College Fair: 6:00-7:30 pm

Optional Workshops:

5:00-6:00 pm – Understanding the U.S. College Application Process

6:45-7:15 pm – Financial Aid Overview

7:30-8:00 pm – Crafting Strong College Essays

Students register [here](#). Parents/Families register [here](#).

A list of participating schools will be available on September 1st.

Turner Chapel College Fair - November 7th

Mark your calendar for the annual Turner Chapel AME College Fair. This is an excellent opportunity for students and families to learn what it takes to get into college. Over 50 colleges, universities, and resource organizations will be onsite. It's FREE but [registration](#) is required. Meet experts, discover opportunities, and build your tomorrow. See the flyer for further information.

Student Journalism Workshop at CNN

The Asian American Journalists Association Atlanta Chapter invites students to a FREE 2026 Student Journalism Workshop at CNN, where they can learn from working journalists and explore media careers.

Date: Saturday, September 12, 2026

Time: 9:00 am to 4:00 pm — check-in begins at 8:15 am

Location: CNN, 1050 Techwood Drive NW, Atlanta, GA 30318 — next to Georgia Tech

Cost: Free — lunch will be provided

Schedule and sign-up link: <https://linktr.ee/AAJAATL>

Find out what students are saying about the event [here](#).

The workshop is open to all 8th grade, high school, and college students. Students do not need to be journalism or AAPI students to attend. Students will learn from professional journalists, find out about media careers, tour CNN studios and control rooms — including CNN10 — and receive a certificate of participation.

Students must sign up using the link above. Spots are limited, so sign up soon!

Questions? Email AAJAATLChapter@gmail.com.

ASVAB Opportunity for 11th and 12th Graders



Pope will be offering the ASVAB Career Exploration Program (CEP) the morning of **Thursday, October 15th** to any interested juniors *not participating in the PSAT*, and any interested seniors. The ASVAB is the assessment needed for [military enlistment](#), but this program also provides students with a highly researched and reliable career assessment that helps them plan their futures. It includes an aptitude test, tools, and resources to help students learn about themselves and find careers that align with their interests and skills. For an overview of the ASVAB CEP please click [HERE](#).

Participation in the ASVAB CEP does not obligate a student to talk with military recruiters or consider a military career, and scores are not shared with recruiters. Interested 11th and 12th graders must **sign up before October 9th** to participate. Scan the QR code to register, or click on this link: <https://tinyurl.com/PopeASVAB-signup>



West Point Admissions Event

Students are cordially invited to an admissions event for the United States Military Academy on **September 2nd at 6 pm** (Christ the King Lutheran Church, 5040 Riverfield Dr, Peachtree Corners, GA). This is a unique opportunity to learn more about West Point, life as a Cadet, and the application process. [Register](#) to reserve your place for this great experience to see if it is the right fit for you, and to understand how you can apply.

Virtual Pilot Seminar

California Aeronautical University will be hosting a virtual pilot seminar for students interested in aviation or becoming a pilot. The event will take place on **Thursday, September 3rd at 5:30 pm**. Register [here](#) and see the flyer for more details.

They will provide information on:

- How flight training works
- Pathways & degrees offered
- California Aeronautical University
- Financial aid and more



CAU
CALIFORNIA AERONAUTICAL UNIVERSITY

Prepare for Takeoff
ASPIRING PILOT SEMINAR

RSVP TO ATTEND
calaero.edu/pilot-seminar

VIRTUAL EVENT
Thursday, September 3
2:30PM PST / 5:30PM EST
Meeting Link Provided Upon Registration

SEMINAR SCHEDULE

- **What is the best flight plan?**
Explore the right questions to ask when researching and comparing aviation universities.
- **Preparing your journey**
Flight training stages and the role of an aviation university in your journey.
- **Prepare for takeoff**
Cover important topics like admissions requirements, FAA medical certificate, restricted ATP benefits, and navigating the pilot application process.
- **Wrap-up**
Closing remarks, Q&A discussion, and the opportunity to win giveaways.

calaero.edu | (661) 615-5915 | admissions@calaero.edu

UNG Next Fest

This fall, the Office of Community Engagement at University of North Georgia will be hosting a series of inaugural academic festivals across their Power of Five campuses. These events are FREE and open to the public, where guests of all ages can enjoy a family-friendly, hands-on learning experience, live entertainment, food and fun. It's a chance to experience the university, engage with current Nighthawks, faculty, staff and alumni and enjoy a day filled with discovery and celebration. See the flyer with the event dates. For more information, contact Amanda Smith at amanda.smith@ung.edu.



The flyer features a blue and white color scheme. At the top left, a banner reads "University of North Georgia™ NEXT FEST". To the right, the text "ACADEMIC FESTIVAL & COMMUNITY OPEN HOUSE" is displayed in a bold, blue, blocky font. Below this, a section titled "NEXT FEST DATES" lists five locations and their corresponding dates and times. To the right of the dates is a map of Georgia with five locations marked: Gainesville, Blue Ridge, Dahlonega, Cumming, and Oconee. At the bottom left, there is a QR code and contact information for Amanda Smith. In the center bottom, the UNG Nighthawk mascot is shown. At the bottom right, the UNG logo and the tagline "The Military College of Georgia" are present.

Location	Date & Time
Gainesville	Saturday, August 29, 2026 9 AM - 2 PM
Blue Ridge	Tuesday, September 22, 2026 11 AM - 4 PM
Dahlonega	Saturday, November 7, 2026 11 AM - 4 PM
Cumming	Thursday, March 4, 2027 11 AM - 4 PM
Oconee	Thursday, March 18, 2027 11 AM - 4 PM

Enjoy Free, Family-Friendly Hands-On Learning Opportunities, Food & Fun!

QUESTIONS?
amanda.smith@ung.edu
678-696-2988

UNG
UNIVERSITY of
NORTH GEORGIA
The Military College of Georgia

Student Advisory Council

State School Superintendent Richard Woods seeks students in **grades 10-12** to serve on his **2026-2027 Student Advisory Council**. These students will meet with Superintendent Woods to discuss the impact of state policies in the classroom and other education-related issues. They will serve as the Superintendent's ambassadors to their respective schools. The Student Advisory Council will meet four times in person during the school year; meeting dates are listed in the application.

A message from Superintendent Woods: "One of the most important parts of my job is listening to students. The Student Advisory Council allows me to hear directly from young people about their experiences, challenges, and ideas for the future of education in Georgia. These students serve as ambassadors for their schools and communities, and their perspectives help ensure student voices remain at the center of our work. I encourage eligible students from across Georgia to apply and share their unique viewpoints."

Interested students must complete and submit the [application](#) by **September 4th at 5 pm**. Selected students will be contacted via email.

Revolution Prep – PSAT Prep

Follow along with Revolution Prep's PSAT 1, 2, 3 – Learn It, Take It, Interpret It. [Sign up](#) for this FREE resource!



REVOLUTION PREP

FREE FOR STUDENTS AND FAMILIES

PSAT 1, 2, 3



Where the PSAT fits Three official tests, years apart. Each one does something different.

9TH AND 10TH GRADE

Official PSAT

Lowstakes. Minimal preparation required, and colleges never see the score.

11TH GRADE

Official PSAT/NMSQT

The National Merit Qualifying Test, may be worth preparing for.

11TH AND 12TH GRADE

Official SAT or ACT

The only scores colleges see, and only the ones you choose to send.

PRACTICE WITH REVOLUTION PREP Free, full-length unofficial practice exams before any of these. Scores never go to colleges.

1 LEARN IT

A free one-hour PSAT 101 session, online. The digital adaptive format, how scoring works, timing, and what test day actually feels like.

SESSIONS

Sun, Sep 13
Sun, Sep 27
4:00 PM PT / 7:00 PM ET

2 TAKE IT

A free full-length practice exam, live proctored online, in the same digital adaptive format College Board uses. Extended time supported. Self-proctored any time. Scan below for additional dates.

EXAM DATES

Sat, Aug 29
Sat, Sep 12
Sat, Sep 19
9:00 AM PT / 12:00 PM ET

3 INTERPRET IT

Score Report+ lands as soon as you finish, plus a free review with a Revolution Prep advisor to turn it into a testing timeline. Then join our webinar to plan your path forward.

PSAT/NMSQT: NOW WHAT?

Thu, Nov 5
Tue, Nov 17
Times vary | Recording provided

Score Report+ Section-by-section detail, pacing insights, official-style percentiles, and the three highest-impact areas to work on next.



ONE LINK. ALL THREE STEPS.

revolutionprep.com/hs/psat/123

Scan or visit to see every date, register, and find what fits your schedule.
Questions? Contact us: answers@revolutionprep.com | (877) 738-7737

Shared with our school community as a free resource.

Program provided at no cost by Revolution Prep.

PSAT/NMSQT is a registered trademark of the College Board, which was not involved in the production of and does not endorse this program.

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!



Back Row: Karen Anderson (Clerk), Leslie Shearstone (E-K), Lisa Squier (Records), Pam Kretzmer (Social Worker)

Front Row: Jamie Hamrick (R-Z), Cheryl Gully (L-Q), Anna Leathers (A-D), Andi Hodgin (504s)

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/>

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