December 17, 2019

Greetings Raiders,

I am sending some final reminders for these last four days of the semester and helping students plan for next semester. This communication includes information on the following topics:

❖ Celebrations!
❖ PSAT Meeting is Tonight at 7:00pm in the AHS Media Center
❖ Final Exam Schedule for Wednesday, Thursday & Friday
❖ Final Exam Make Up Policy & Procedure
❖ Final Grades for Semester 1 Available in January
❖ Honor Code Policy Reminder
❖ Anchor Time Spring Enrichment Opportunities Registration is Open Now
❖ Save the Date: Saturday, January 4th - Distribution of Spring Off Campus Stickers
❖ Important Information from FCS regarding Social Media Warnings
❖ Text4Help

Celebrations:

As we come to the end of the semester, we know many of you desire to show gratitude to our amazing faculty! This year we have asked our teachers and staff to fill out some of their "Favorite Things" for our website to make it easier to know their likes and dislikes. With the holidays right around the corner, we thought we would share the information with you in case you need it.

*Please keep Fulton County Policy in mind when planning teacher's gifts. Fulton County guidelines state: an individual gift to a teacher may not exceed value of $25; a group gift may not exceed $500, with each contributor’s value not to exceed $10.

Please find the list of Alpharetta High School teacher and staff members favorite things here: http://school.fultonschools.org/hs/alpharetta/Pages/AHS-Staff-FAVORITES.aspx.
PSAT Night is Tonight, Tuesday, December 17:

Please join us tonight for our annual presentation designed to help students and parents understand their PSAT results. The meeting will be held at 7:00pm in the AHS Media Center with Jed Applerouth from Applerouth Tutoring Services. Students must be able to access their electronic results this evening. We will not have hard copies of the score reports to provide to students until January.

To access the online score report, students should access this link: https://collegereadiness.collegeboard.org/psat-nmsqt-psat-10/scores/getting-scores

Students must have a College Board account to access their PSAT scores. The link below will guide students in creating a College Board account or accessing their account already created. https://www.youtube.com/watch?time_continue=3&v=1I6f51n3-dc

Fall Final Exam Schedule:

I want to ensure that all students and parents know how our final exam schedule works at AHS. Please see the attachment for a summarized version of our exam schedule as well as make-up exam information. Final Exams will take place:

- Wednesday, December 18th for 1st and 2nd period classes
- Thursday, December 19th for 3rd and 4th period classes
- Friday, December 20th for 5th and 6th period classes

*There are no student check outs during final exams on Dec. 18, 19 and 20.

Please note that our school hours are adjusted on exam days. The school day will begin as usual at 8:20 a.m. but will end at 12:30 p.m. for an early dismissal. Buses will begin leaving our campus at 12:40 p.m. Students will be able to purchase a sack lunch each day during exams if they choose to come to the cafeteria before leaving campus. We look forward to our students being able to share all that they have learned this semester through their performance on their final exams. Please remember to thank your child’s teachers, coaches, sponsors, counselors and administrators for all their hard work this semester.

Final Exam Make Up Policy & Procedure:

- Students who will be absent during a final exam must obtain a BLUE Pre-Approved Absence Form from the Attendance Office, attach a written request signed by the
student’s parent/legal guardian, get it signed by their administrator first and then teacher(s).

- If a student is absent for a final exam due to an illness, a doctor’s note must be provided upon his or her return in order to obtain permission to make up exams. If a student is absent for a final exam due to another extenuating circumstance, appropriate documentation must be provided upon his or her return and the student’s administrator must approve.

- If a student is absent from a final exam, the teacher will calculate the final grade counting the exam as a zero. Upon make-up of the exam, the teacher will re-calculate the grade and submit a revised grade. Incompletes will not be given.

- Teachers will not be administering any make-up exams and no final exams may be taken early. No students can exempt finals fall semester.

The Final Exam make-up day is January 3, 2020 in Room 1122 from 9:00 AM – 3:30 PM. Any student who is unable to make-up exams on those days will need to contact decaminada@fultonschools.org, ASAP.

**Final Grades for Semester 1 Available in January:**

Parents, please note that final semester 1 grades are not due from teachers until January 3rd after the holidays. While some teachers may be able to grade final exams and enter grades this week before we leave for the holiday break, this is not the expectation and not possible for all teachers. Please understand that final grades will not be due from our teachers until the end of the day on our teacher workday, January 3rd. Please be patient and expect final semester 1 grades in January. Thank you!

**Honor Code Policy Reminder:**

Parents, these final weeks of the semester can be especially stressful for students as they prepare to take their final exams. Please remember to talk with your children about how to manage their time and how to manage the stress that such commitment to academic excellence brings. Unfortunately, experience shows us that honor code violations tend to increase during this time of year. With your assistance, we can help our students remain committed to academic integrity. Please use this link below to access our AHS Handbook and review the AHS Honor Code Policy on pages 58 – 62 with your child.

Anchor Time Spring Enrichment Opportunities Registration is Open:

Registration for Spring Enrichments is now open! Students interested in taking an enrichment class during Anchor Time should register now. Space is limited and registration is on a first come basis.

Link: [https://tinyurl.com/ATenrichment](https://tinyurl.com/ATenrichment)

Save the Date: Saturday, January 4th - Distribution of Spring Off Campus Stickers:

Students taking Dual Enrollment (College), GAVS Virtual, FVS Virtual, and students with Off-Campus Internships should plan to report to AHS on Saturday, January 4th between 8:00 a.m. and 12:00 p.m. to return the required off campus waivers and receive their spring off campus stickers.

All students with off-campus classes spring semester must complete and return the relevant attached waiver/s in order to receive permissions to have off campus courses as well as receive the required Spring 2020 Dual Enrollment Sticker, Virtual Course Sticker and/or Flex Schedule Sticker to be placed on the student’s required photo identification.

Waiver attached:

If you cannot come to AHS on Saturday, January 4th or if you need to have your ID reprinted, you will report to the cafeteria during 1st period to return your waiver and receive your stickers.

After Advisement on Monday, January 6th, all students with any Off Campus 1st period courses who are able to come to AHS on Saturday, January 4th and receive their Spring Off-campus stickers will be able to leave campus starting Monday, January 6th or may remain in the cafeteria during 1st period.

Important Information from FCS regarding Social Media Warnings:

AHS, in partnership with Fulton County Schools, wants to educate students, parents and our school communities on the topic of Sexting and Social Media. Sexting is defined as “when people take and send sexually revealing pictures of themselves or send sexually explicit messages via text message or social media”. Our school leadership teams have been increasingly concerned with the number of students engaging in this activity as it can threaten the safety of students, future college and career opportunities and in some cases, is considered...
an illegal activity. Please see the two attached documents for more information and please talk with your child about this important topic.

Text4Help:
The holidays can be tough for some of us. Please know that there is a free resource for all our students! Parents, students were reminded today during our morning announcements that Text4Help is a free, anonymous, 24/7 text for help resource. Students may just text AHS Raiders to 1-844-201-9946 to get help for themselves or a friend. From all of the AHS faculty and staff, we wish you all a safe and happy winter break!

I want to wish you all in Raider Nation a wonderful holiday season with family and friends! As this decade comes to a close, I am reminded that this is my 10th year serving AHS and my ninth year as principal. Together, we have accomplished much for our school and community! I am humbled and honored to continue to serve Alpharetta and look forward to next year and the many great accomplishments yet to come! Thank you for your continued support!

With Raider Pride,

Shannon N. Kersey, Ph.D.
Principal
Alpharetta High School

Creating Opportunities for Excellence in Academics, Arts, Athletics & Altruism.

Dates to Remember:

December 18th – 20th – Fall Final Exams
December 20th – Last Day of 1st Semester
December 21st – January 3rd – Winter Break for Students
January 4th – Off-campus Waiver Collection and Sticker Distribution 8am – 12pm
January 6th – First Day of Second Semester
January 15th - Sophomore Parent Meeting, 12:00-1:00pm, AHS Auditorium
January 23rd - Financial Aid Night, 7:00pm in the AHS Auditorium