



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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We've Waited Decades for This Night: Pike Road Schools to Celebrate First Varsity Homecoming

Join the Celebration: Community Pep Rally Sept. 20, Parade and Football Game Sept. 21

PIKE ROAD, Ala – The Pike Road Schools System (PRS) wants you to be part of a night to remember: The Pike Road Patriots will celebrate their first Homecoming as a varsity program this week, which will culminate in two community events Thursday and Friday, Sept. 20 and 21, before the 7 p.m. Homecoming game against Bullock County. The game will be played at Alabama State University's Hornet Stadium.

After a week of school spirit-boosting events for students, the PRS Patriots and their family, friends and fans will gather at Town Hall (9575 Vaughn Rd) for a Community Pep Rally at 6 p.m. on Thursday, Sept. 20. The event will feature cheerleaders, football players, the Pike Road High School Band, and a lot of Patriot Pride. With the help of PRHS Band Director, Patrick Darby, students have learned to play the original Pike Road School's alma mater, which Darby transcribed from a rendition by alumnus George Howell. We look forward to hearing this piece of history both at the pep rally, and after each PRS Patriots football game!

On Friday, Sept. 21, there will be a Homecoming parade at the Georgia Washington Campus at 2:30 p.m. The community is invited to participate in both the pep rally and the parade. Those who would like to enter their Pike Road business or organization in the parade should contact [Rebecca Williams](mailto:Rebecca.Williams@pikeroadschools.org), who will connect you with the Homecoming Committee. There is a \$10 parade entry fee, and proceeds benefit the Pike Road High School PTSA.

The Homecoming court will be announced at Thursday's pep rally, but the crowning of the Queen will take place at halftime of the 7 p.m. Homecoming game on Friday, Sept. 21. To be considered for a position on the Homecoming court, hopefuls were asked to fundraise for nonprofits close to their hearts. Last year, Homecoming hopefuls raised over \$5,200 for organizations such as the Montgomery Area Food Bank, the Humane Society, Common Ground, and more. This year, the tradition continued, and students raised \$13,000.

"Homecoming is a great opportunity to build school and community culture," said Dr. Chuck Ledbetter, PRS Superintendent. "The activities bring our schools together and include our community members, as well. We are looking forward to a great day! Go Patriots!"

"We have the unique opportunity to begin and build traditions that will stay with our school far longer than I will be here," said Terina Gantt, Athletic Director and Assistant Principal at Pike Road High School. "Last year we had our first Homecoming court. We began the tradition of the Homecoming hopefuls raising funds for their chosen charity, and it has grown tremendously. We want to create something that every person in our school can be a part of and that everyone in our community can be proud of."

"Pike Road Schools has been a source of great energy and enthusiasm for the Town of Pike Road since the original work on a city system began in 2005. Today, we are amazed at the tremendous community involvement and support for all the school's programs," said Gordon Stone, Mayor. "We look forward to celebrating the Patriots first varsity Homecoming because we know it will be another illustration of the uniqueness of the Pike Road story."

For more information or to schedule an interview, contact Turner Waddell by calling (864) 958-6577 or emailing Turner@pikeroad.us, or contact Rebecca Williams at Rebecca.williams@pikeroadschools.org or (334) 782-5334.

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