



Newsletter

Amity Middle School – Bethany Campus – 190 Luke Hill Road Bethany, CT 06524
Visit us on the web at www.amityregion5.org

May 2006

FROM THE PRINCIPAL

Dear Students and Families:

Spring recess is behind us, and we are quickly approaching the end of another school year. Some of the important end-of-year activities are:

Budget Referendum: The school budget referendum will be held on Tuesday, May 2. All parents and guardians are encouraged to vote. Information on the school budget can be obtained at www.amityregion5.org. Click on “Budget 2006-2007.”

PTO Meeting: The next meeting of the PTO will be held on Tuesday, May 2 at 9:00 A.M. in the library/media center. Parents and guardians are encouraged to attend.

Spring Concerts: The middle and high school String Concert will be on Thursday, May 4 at 6:30 P.M. in the high school cafeteria. The Spring Concert for the band, jazz band, and chorus will be on Tuesday, May 9 at 7:00 P.M. also in the high school cafeteria.

Practice “Lock Down” Drill: The school will be conducting a practice “lock-down” drill in May. The police have been invited to help supervise and assist with this practice drill.

Mid-Marking Period: The mid-marking period will be ending on Tuesday, May 16. Mid-markers will be mailed home to parents/guardians shortly thereafter.

Important End-of-Year Dates: The last day of school will be Thursday, June 22. Students will be dismissed at 10:00 A.M. We will conduct special end-of-year CMT/CAPT assessments and have 11:00 A.M. dismissals from Friday, June 16 through Wednesday, June 21.

Eighth Grade Dance/Promotion: There will be a special, semi-formal, eighth grade dance, sponsored by the Woodbridge Youth Services and supported by the PTO, on Friday, June 2, from 7:30 P.M. to 9:00 P.M. at the Bethany Town Hall for all eighth grade students. The eighth promotion ceremony will be on Wednesday, June 21, 2006 at 7:30 P.M. in the high school gymnasium.

Please look over our entire newsletter and activity calendar for May. If you have any questions or concerns, please let me know.

Very truly yours,

Richard Dellinger

PTO MESSAGE

As we head into the final months of school, the AMS PTO has been busy planning and will be co-sponsoring many of the upcoming student and teacher activities. The Teacher Appreciation Luncheon is scheduled for Friday, May 12. If you would like to make a dish or help set up and serve, please contact Karen Lockhart, Hospitality Chair at 387-0703. The PTO will be co-

sponsoring this year's 8th grade dance on Friday, June 2. Volunteers and chaperones will be needed. If interested, please contact Janet Hershman at 393-1417 or Judith Hess at 387-2280. The PTO Year-End Breakfast honoring current Board Members and welcoming incoming Board Members, Committee Chairs and new PTO members will be held on June 6 at 9:00 A.M. Don't forget to cast your vote regarding Budget Referendum on Tuesday, May 2.

Members of the PTO will be calling this Sunday to remind everyone to vote. The next PTO meeting will be Tuesday, May 2 at 9:00 A.M. in the Library. Coffee and Donuts will be served.

*Judith Hess and Janet Hershman
PTO Co-Presidents*

Congratulations to those who achieved Honor Roll for Marking Period 3

ACADEMIC HONORS

Criteria for First Honors

- A- or better in four subjects which meet 5 times per week for at least one semester.
- B or better in all other subjects which meet 5 times per week for at least one semester.
- B- or better in subjects which meet fewer than 5 times per week or less than one semester.

Criteria for Second Honors

- B or better in subjects which meet 5 times per week for at least one semester.
- B- or better in subjects which meet fewer than 5 times per week or less than one semester

Grade 7

Honors I

Peter Amadeo, Kara Anderson, Abigail Barrett, Matthew Beland, Matthew Bernobich, Elise Bitterman, Jodi Brignola, Theodore Burt, Deanna Cho, Nicole DeChello, Williams Dixon, Jacqueline Duhl, Charles Dunn, Pauline Dutka, Ashley Emery, Emily Feng, Connor Foster, Samantha Friedman, Nathaniel Gallant, Ana Gonzalez, Jonathan Greengarden, Jamie Hillas, Arian Jadbabaie, Jenna Kahane, Joseph Keller, Daria Koren, Lauren Larkin, Brenna Lilley, Gregory Loscalzo, Danielle McKinstry, Alyssa Morrow, Colleen Oleynik, Jenna Park, Stella Protopoulos, Alexander Pyne, Alisha Roopchand, Rachel Rosenblum, Isabelle Sanchez, Kimberly Simon, Emma Spiegel, Andrew Wang, Paige Woodward

Honors II

Isabel Ashwood, Brett Borgognone, Chase Brinton, Maya Brownstein, Cara Bryce, Brandon Capuano, Leesa Cho, Michael Choiniere, Kevin Dempsey, Dominique Haywood, Nicole Hirshfield, Edward Hochman, Rachel Hohman, Sin See Leung, Alexandra Lodynsky, Chiara Lombardo, Alec Mansfield, Colin McNulty, Mitchell Negri, Penelope Papanikolaou, Caitlin Peterson, Samantha Saslafsky, Hannah Simpson, Alessandra Vecchio, Tyler Zaniewski

Grade 8

Honors I

Rachel Amarante, Thomas Bergman, Julia Blanchette, Nikki Bloch, Adam Brocklehurst, Alexandra Buda, Kattie Chen, Jack Chen, Louis Concato, Lars Demander, Benjie Ding, Lauren Fox, Chelsea Geremia, Jennifer Green, Rebecca Han, Sandy Honig, Seong-Hun Kim, Hannah Klein, Ewen Kronemeyer, Alexandra Lopez-Vila, Thomas Mattessich, Emily Nadelmann, Jennifer Peat, Colby Plaskowitz, Lucia Rieur, Lindsay Roffman, Sara Sampoli, Samuel Schnittman, Nikhil Shah, Dakota Spear, Rebekah Stein, David Steinmetz, Jack Sun, Aliza Taft, Robert Trachtman, Laura Van Dyck, Cara Welch Rubin, Ivana Zakoworotny, Max Zaniewski, Yuqi Zhang

Honors II

Rachel Amato, Gabriel Ashwood, Marisa Bedron, Shayna Benjamin, Nkenge Blue, Jack Brunwin, Michelle Burt, Vincent Canepari, Catherine Caracciolo, Dylan Cohen, Nathan Coutermarsh, Pauline Critch-Gilfillan, Jonathan DeMaio, Alexandra Desir, Devin Diglio, Christine Esposito, Ian Farrell, Lisa Ferrentino, Amanda Fimbers, Sudhir Ganesan, Aliza Gans, Samuel Gelernter, Sophia Hart, Molly Kehoe, Laura Kurjanowicz, Mary Li, Rachel Mahler, Andrew Maude, Ruthie Medovnikov, Alexis Parente, Kyrsti Perkins, Jessica Pignataro, Nicholas Platoff, Stephanie Prete, Margaret Robinson, Chelsea Roffman, Molly Sachs, Erik Scott, Alex Snyder, Julia Summers, Steven Svirdoff, Melissa Vernik, Olivia Zajac

Also Congratulations to...

- Media Specialist Toby Zabinski who will be a presenter at the May 9, 2006 Connecticut Library Association Conference in Wallingford, CT. Toby will be presenting "Teen Titles: New Books and Hot Uses for Them" at the state conference.
- Noelle Fazio, our Quinnipiac Intern/Student Teacher, who recently accepted a position, starting in the fall, at the Cavallini Middle School in Upper Saddle River, New Jersey.



Celebration of Reading

April was School Library Media Month and Amity Middle School celebrated with stickers for anyone caught reading! The Media Center also recognized outstanding readers with prizes and gift certificates. The top 24 readers in our school have checked out over 975 books since September! Three of our students: Leesa Cho, Jenna Park and Andrew Wang have read over 90 books EACH since September. Other outstanding readers who were honored this month include:

Matt Beland	Robyn Kenyon
Maya Brownstein	Dan Latham
Rachel Cardozo	Jared Levine
Janna DelBuono	Mary Li
Kevin Dempsey	Meghan McGovern
Yugi Ding	Melissa Ottaviano
Yichen Dong	Penelope Papanikolaou
Dan Duhaim	Ariana Saadat
Emily Feng	Kimberly Simon
Dominique Haywood	Sheng-nan Zhao
Holly Hickerson	



TEAM DAY GREEK MYTHOLOGY

On Thursday, April 13, the 7th grade Goldstein Team celebrated an interdisciplinary unit on Greek mythology. Students worked in groups creating and decorating their own Greek life-sized god or goddess, writing creation stories, and composing myths. Later, groups shared with the team their god or goddess and read their myths. We met such Greek gods as “AV” the god of elements and “Aquafina” the goddess of water. Students also watched the movie, The Clash of the Titans, a wonderful story of Olympian gods, mythological monsters, and heroic mortals. An imaginative day of mythical proportion was had by all!



CT Educator’s Computer Association

Art Teacher Sara Frank and Computer Technology Teacher Mrs. Stanley, and selected students presented at the 12th annual CECA Technology Expo on April 5 in Hartford. Mrs. Frank and Mrs. Stanley have created art lessons which combine traditional art techniques with digital enhancements.

Max Zaniewski, Lucy Lehman, Andrew Wang, Rachel Cardozo and Kevin Howard answered questions and demonstrated how they use PhotoShop to enhance digital pictures taken of their projects. Many viewers complimented the students on the display.

News and Tips from the Nurse

- All students entering 8th grade must have completed all 3 Hepatitis B vaccine doses. Please get documentation to the health office as soon as possible.
- Sports Physicals: Try to have physical exams over the summer when possible. This will allow students to be covered for fall, winter and spring sports. The ending physical dates for the 2006/2007 school year are as follows: Fall: Physical after November 30, 2005 Winter: Physical after March 17, 2006 Spring: Physical after June 13, 2006.



Health Tip - With the incidence of skin cancer on the rise, especially in the younger population, sunscreen should be applied on a daily basis. Hats and sunglasses should also be worn whenever possible. Not only does “baking” in the sun increase your cancer risk, it also damages your skin’s structure which leads to wrinkles.



INTRAMURAL SPORTS

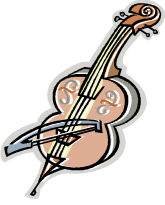


Need some exercise? Want to play just for fun? An Intramural Sport League is forming! Hours will be 2:30 - 4:00. Some activities that are being considered are Ultimate Frisbee, Dodgeball, Kickball, Softball, Obstacle Courses, Basketball and Walking/Fitness. This will be a student/faculty club so all are welcome. If interested just show up on the days listed and dress appropriately. Any questions, please see School Nurse Mrs. Luth.

Planned dates are as followed:

Tuesday May 2/Thursday May 4
 Tuesday May 9/Thursday May 11
 Tuesday May 16/Thursday May 18
 Tuesday May 23/Thursday May 25
 Tuesday May 30/Thursday June 1
 Tuesday June 6/Thursday June 8

Strings Ensemble Concert



The Amity Middle School in Bethany will present its Strings Ensemble Concert as part of a district wide concert to be held at Amity High School on Thursday, May 4 at 6:30 P.M. The Bethany Strings players will be performing with the Orange Middle School and the Amity High School Strings players. A special performance of “Highlights from Harry Potter” will include band members from the Amity High School Concert Band. All students, parents, and friends are welcome to attend.

Leo Club Happenings....

The Amity Middle School Leo Club had a great time assisting the Bethany Lions at their Annual Auction in early April. Not only did the girls make delicious desserts and run a bake sale, but they also did a wonderful job helping “display” the items up for auction. The bake sale netted \$185.00, and we will be deciding on one or more organizations to donate the money to at our next meeting. Overall, it was a great experience!

The Leo Club will also be working with Amity Middle School teachers Jen Gibson and Barbra Bulkley over the next year to organize a “Locks for Love” event at Amity Middle School in May 2007. We are hoping to get students and teachers alike more aware of the organization and “pledge” to donate hair next spring. (We hope to also involve the Amity Senior High School Leo Club as well, so don’t worry if you want to participate but you’ll no longer be a student at the middle school next year!) Stay tuned... more details will follow!

Career Fair

Bethany Middle School held a Career Fair on April 12, and was enjoyed by all. We had a great variety of careers and student response was excellent. Thank you to the presenters and peer advocates (listed below), Dan Whitney for his technical support, Karen Wojciechowski for organizing the event one more time before her retirement, the PTO for the coffee and...., and to all who helped out. We are glad everyone had a great experience and we look forward to our 2007 Career Fair!

Peer Advocates: Christine Esposito, Shayna Benjamin, Catherine Caracciolo, Brianna Eisensmith, Lindsay Miller, Amanda Hershman, Michael Malinconico, Max Zaniewski, Jennifer Peat, Alexandra Buda, John Cocco

Presenters:

Mr. Gene Frohman	Aeronautical Engineer	Mr. Steven Ciardiello	Lawyer
Mrs. Janet Brunwin	Accountant	Mr. David Miller	Lighting Design Architect
Mr. Haydn Lassiter	Advertising Photographer	Ms. Roxana Buda	Nurse
Mr. Mark Scott	Aeronautical Engineer	Mr. Les Julian	Professional Musician
Ms. Toni Gelineau	Attorney	Dr. Karen Thomas	Pediatrician
Mr. Colin Douglas	Chef	Dr. Patrick O’Connor	Physician
Dr. Gilles Tamagnan	Chemist	Ms. Denise Walsh	Real Estate Broker
Dr. Janet Russo	Dentist	Dr. Glennis Orloff	Research Scientist
Mr. Richard Webster	Electrical Engineer	Dr. Michael Caplan	Scientist
Mr. Glen Dulko	Entrepreneur	Mr. Paul Gifillan	Social Security Administrator
Mrs. Kate Luciani	FBI Agent	Mr. Philip Simon	Web Designer
Ms. DeAnn Sinatra	FBI Agent	Ms. Sonia Baghdady	Television News Anchor
Ms. Faye Pite	Graphic Designer		
Ms. Judi Watt	Informatics Nurse		

