ARHS COMMUNITY HAPPENINGS NEWSLETTER, November 11, 2022



November 11 is Veteran's Day, and we spent the day at Amity Regional High School reflecting on the important sacrifices made by the veterans on our faculty and staff and in our community. As part of that reflection, I was fortunate to be able to share the following reflection with our students during our morning announcements:

Today is Veterans' Day, a day to honor the millions of American service men and women who have sacrificed to protect the rights we all hold so dear but sometimes take for granted.

I hope that you will spend some time reflecting on why we dedicate this day to honor and thank our military veterans. You won't have to go far to do that, since Amity Regional High School is fortunate to have several veterans from different branches of our military on our faculty and staff. You can find them in our main office, in the classroom, or serving in other support roles around the school. And outside of our school, many of you have parents, grandparents, siblings, aunts and uncles, or neighbors who have served in our armed forces.

That is always important, but it is particularly significant this year. This is an election year, and our nation has spent the months leading up to November focusing at times on those things that divide us. This focus on our differences sometimes turns bitter and gives the perception that we are a divided nation, but Veteran's Day provides another, more optimistic, view of our nation. If you visit Arlington National Cemetery you will see countless thousands of service men and women honored together, regardless of race, faith, or political views. Service to our nation calls for all of us to work together in support of that which unites us, and that is the common thread that connects all our veterans.

During SSP today, we will be sharing a video with you featuring several of the military veterans in our school community talking about why they served and how that has impacted their lives. Please listen carefully, and please be sure to give some thought to what they must share about the nature of their service.

We will also have a "Missing Person Table" display set up in our cafeteria. This is a display that is often found in military dining halls in honor of missing comrades. And as always, the display case

across the hallway from the cafeteria is filled with pictures of dozens of Amity graduates who have served in the military.

As you go about your day today, I ask that each of you spend some time reflecting on the sacrifices that our veterans have made to protect our nation and our way of life. And when you come across any members of our armed services, past or present, please remember to say, "thank you."

Go Spartans!

Andre Hauser

Principal

Amity Happenings and Information

- **Spirit Week and Homecoming:** Next week is Amity's annual Spirit Week and Homecoming Dance! The schedule for themed days and events for the week will be:
 - Monday: Class Colors Challenge
 - Gr. 12: pink
 - Gr. 11: blue
 - Gr. 10: green
 - Gr. 9: white
 - **Tuesday:** Twin Day
 - Wednesday: Groutfit Day (wear all grey)
 - **Thursday:** Anything But A Backpack Day, and class councils will decorate halls
 - **Friday:** Black and Gold Amity Colors/Class Shirts and Pep Rally at the end of the day.
 - Saturday: Homecoming Dance Homecoming Dance
- There is still time for students to register for the coral reef ecology course. Subtropical Environments (Bermuda), a 0.5 credit science course is held in the spring semester and includes a 7- day field study to Bermuda. All students in grades 9-12 including graduated 8th graders are welcome to participate. Registration and payments are being handled by Curriculum Travel of America. For more information visit the <u>www.CTAfieldtrips.com</u> or contact valerie.cournoyer@amityregion5.org. Registration will be closed on November 16, 2022.

Senior Happenings

- COLLEGE APP FREE APPLICATION FEE DAY! NOVEMER 15th to UCONN, CCSU, ECSU, SCSU and WCSU. CCSU will extend their free application fee from Tuesday, November 15th to Wednesday, November 30th.
- SENIORS are you applying to any of the following colleges?
 - SOUTHERN CT STATE U
 - UNIVERSITY OF NEW HAVEN
 - SUNY/STONY BROOK
 - o CENTRAL CT STATE U

- QUINNIPIAC UNIVERSITY
- WESTERN CT STATE U
- ALBERTUS MAGNUS COLLEGE
- SACRED HEART UNIVERSITY**
- EASTERN CT STATE U**

College representatives will be HERE to host ON-SITE ACCEPTANCE DAYS in late November/early December. ON-SITE DAYS are like EARLY ACTION applications; you will receive an admissions decision that day. (** will conduct INTERVIEWS ONLY.) Applications MUST be submitted to the college at least 2 weeks before the event. <u>REGISTER HERE</u> to attend ANY of these upcoming events!

College and Career of the Week

Founded in 1831, the <u>University of New England</u> has <u>3 campuses</u> - the main campus is in <u>Biddeford</u>, <u>Maine</u>, another in Portland, Maine and the last in <u>Tangiers</u>, <u>Morocco</u>. UNE has approximately 2,300 fulltime undergraduate students who choose from <u>40 majors</u> including many pre-professional programs in fields such as medicine, dental, marine & environmental sciences, and social work. Close proximity to the coast allows for many nautical themed <u>clubs and organizations</u> on campus. In addition to <u>club</u> and <u>intramural</u> sports teams, UNE has 18 NCAA-D3 <u>athletic teams</u> that compete in the <u>Commonwealth Coast</u> <u>Conference</u>. Annual <u>tuition</u>, room and board is \$56,180 (2022-2023). To learn more, visit UNE's <u>admissions website</u>, check out their <u>at-a-glance page</u> or take a <u>virtual tour of the Biddeford campus</u>.

"Environmental scientists and specialists use their knowledge of the natural sciences to protect the environment and human health", (Bureau of Labor Statistics, 2021). Environmental scientists usually do most of their work in a laboratory - however, many go out into the field to gather various types of samples for testing. A bachelor's degree is required for most entry-level environmental scientist positions and a master's degree is likely needed for advancement. The average annual salary is \$76,530 with average job growth expected (5%) through 2031 (BLS, 2021). To learn more, please visit the following websites: the National Association of Environmental Professionals, The American Academy of Environmental Engineers and Scientists and the North American Association for Environmental Education.

Some colleges that offer programs in environmental or sustainability studies include:

Univ of New England UMaine/Farmington Univ of New Haven Univ of New Hampshire Emmanuel College So New Hampshire Univ

University of Connecticut Eastern CT State Keene State College Mass Maritime Academy Smith College Springfield College Western New England Un Univ of Rhode Island Endicott College Champlain College University of Vermont Salve Regina University

or visit NAVIANCE to search for more choices!

Notes from the Counseling Department

• Need help/questions with the financial aid process? For general assistance or to log in to a virtual help session, visit <u>fafsact.org</u>. Also, refer to this <u>family FAFSA guide here</u>.

- JUNIORS & SENIORS: An upcoming Alumni College Panel will be held during the school day on Wednesday, November 23rd, (the day before Thanksgiving) in the Brady Center. This event is for current juniors and seniors. Recent Amity alumni will share their college experiences and offer insight into the college process.
- Counselor Lessons to Juniors: The Counseling Department will be conducting developmental counseling lessons to all juniors during their English classes. Every student will complete the Do What You Are personality-type inventory in Naviance. Students will discover their four-letter Myers-Briggs personality code, an explanation of the various codes, strengths and blind spots pertaining to their personality codes, and potential careers of interest. Lessons will begin the week of Nov. 14th.
- Interested in taking the ASVAB? Amity will host another ASVAB test in the spring of 2023 IF enough students register! Please register here if you would participate in the ASVAB this spring. Please note that taking the ASVAB (Armed Services Vocational Aptitude Battery) test does not obligate students to enlist! For more information about ASVAB click here.
- U.S. AIR FORCE VISIT- A representative from the United States Air Force will be visiting Amity High School during all lunch waves on Monday, Nov. 14th from 10:30am to 12:30pm. This visit will be set up outside of the cafeteria to chat with interested students.
- Yale New Haven Hospital is accepting applications for their 2023 Spring High School Volunteer Program. Students interested in learning more about the healthcare field, giving back to their community, and exploring possible career paths are invited to apply. Students must be 15 years of age and fully vaccinated for COVID-19, including the booster. Students need to be available to commit to the 11-week program (1/30-4/14/2022) and volunteer a minimum of 20 hours to the hospital. You will be assigned one day during the week at either the York Street Campus or Saint Raphael Campus and volunteer a total of two hours per week (3 p.m. 5 p.m.). Upon receipt of your application, you will be invited to a virtual informational interview. If you are interested in applying for the 2023 Spring Volunteer Program, please carefully review the Spring High School Volunteer Information Guide, and complete the application. Submit your application to volunteerservices@ynhh.org by Nov. 19, 2022

Amity HS Athletics Booster Club

- Membership sign-ups are going on now! Help us to support ALL athletes by becoming a member today! Join here: <u>https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSfxdB1gAEQ-</u> ukkACc3cB76EgXfC3rAxeuQYtZZ7gZfawF8AFg/viewform
- For PayPal payment: <u>https://www.paypal.me/AthleticsBoosterClub?locale.x=en_US</u>
- Fundraise with us! Clean out your closets for the Booster Club. We have begun collecting gently used and new shoes, sneakers, and cleats. We will be collecting through the Thanksgiving Day game on 11/23. Adult and children's shoes accepted. There are 2 drop offs: the entrance to the stadium on game day and in the front hallway at the high school. The collected shoes and sneakers will be recycled.
- Available now! Amity "A" decal stickers. Get them while you can. Please email <u>goamityspartans@gmail.com</u> to order. Cash or PayPal payments accepted. We will drop off to you or arrange a pick-up at the high school.

Parent-Teacher-Student Organization (PTSO) Information

• **Support us!** Help the PTSO and your student by joining us today! To access our membership form, please visit <u>amityptso.org</u>, click on Membership, and then Click Here to join!

- Attend our monthly meetings: Our next meeting will take place on Thursday, November 17th at 7pm in the media center. We hope to see you there!
- **Donate through Amazon Smile**: Donate to the PTSO every time you shop, at no cost to you, by visiting <u>this site</u> and selecting Amity High School PTSO Inc as the charity of your choice.
- Join our Facebook Group: Be a part of our virtual community by visiting <u>this page</u> and answering the security questions required to gain access.

Community Happenings

- WOODBRIDGE YOUTH SERVICES NEWS: Call 203-389-3429 or email <u>npfund@woodbridgect.org</u> or <u>youthone@woodbridgect.org</u> for information or to sign up for programs. Like us on Facebook: <u>https://facebook.com/WoodbridgeYouthServices.CT</u>
- Welcome to our New Program Coordinator: Woodbridge Youth Services welcomes new Youth Program Coordinator Jami Joy Gibson. She is a New Haven, CT native who has her bachelor's degree in Psychological Science from Vassar College and is presently working towards her master's in social work at SCSU. She spent her last two years working as a math teacher for a middle school. Jami Joy loves to spend time with her family watching movies and cooking. She also loves to sing in her spare time and is excited to work on programming for youth in the community. Please feel free to call or email Youthone@woodbridgect.org to welcome her and share your thoughts for the future of Youth Services and its programs.
- **Toys 4 Kids**: Woodbridge Youth Services is collecting toys for the TEAM Toys 4 Kids program which benefits several families in our area. Collection boxes are in the Woodbridge Public Library and by the Woodbridge Center Gym. Call Youth Services with questions. Toys are due by 12/7 and will certainly bring some smiles to kids for the holidays.
- We Care Kits-Community Service Opportunity: Students and community members can help people in need by placing items in large gallon size bags for the homeless. Anything that could create more comfort for someone including warm hats, gloves, mittens, underwear, socks, water bottles, healthy snacks, gift cards for food/coffee, and small toiletries are appreciated. We approve community service hours for students. Donations of items like blankets or pillows, paper products and items for families will also be accepted for a homeless shelter. Drop off day is Wednesday, December 7, 2022, from 2:15 4:15 at Youth Services in Room 12 of the Woodbridge Center Building at 4 Meetinghouse Lane. Please contact Youth Services with questions.
- Woodbridge Job Bank Seeks Teens Who Want Work: The Job Bank in Woodbridge offers occasional jobs to teen residents (ages 13 18) who would like to work in Woodbridge to earn money. Youth Services provides an opportunity to learn about the interview process, safety on the job, and how to negotiate pay. Do yard work, babysitting, weeding, dog walking, raking, etc. Call for an interview at 203-389-3464 or e-mail npfund@woodbridgect.org. Masks and social distancing may be required.
- **Teens Need Jobs**: Woodbridge residents who wish to hire someone for odd jobs like babysitting, yard cleanup, weeding, moving boxes, etc. Save your energy and keep teens working to gain experience. Call 203-389-3464 for more information.
- Volunteers Needed: The Woodbridge Youth Advisory Board makes recommendations for Youth Services programming and seeks to include a diverse membership to support our diverse population. A few positions remain open for adults and high school students. Community Service hours will be approved. Interested residents may contact Youth Services for information.

- BOWDAAC-Let's Talk Prevention: BOWDAAC (Bethany, Orange, Woodbridge Drug/Alcohol Action Committee) is a grant-funded Local Prevention Council serving the communities of Bethany, Orange, and Woodbridge. Its mission is to reduce underage drinking and substance use by promoting awareness through educational programs and community collaborations. New members are welcome. For more information or to join our committee, email info.bowdaac@gmail.com or check out our website www.bowdaac.org
- **Families in Need**: Woodbridge families in need should contact Human Services to apply for food, fuel assistance, and holiday toys. Call 203-389-3429 for more information.
- **Mental Health First Aid Trainings Available**: BRIDGES of Milford is providing Mental Health First Aid Trainings for Youth and Adults. To register see website: <u>https://bit.ly/trainings-MHFA</u>

