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AHS Newsletter

Perseverance and planning

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ARHS Happenings Newsletter

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During the month of December, we continue to focus on reflection and preparation at ARHS. We have completed surveys to gather information about school climate, Spartan Seminar programming and healthy behaviors. Students have also set academic and personal goals in Naviance to help motivate and guide them as we head in to the new calendar year. Believe it or not, over the next few weeks we will begin to think about preparing for next semester and next year. Juniors will have a parent planning night in January, and seniors

will begin to solidify plans for life after Amity Regional High School. A faculty member shared this article with me from the *New York Times*, which explores the benefit of gap years. If you are interested in finding out more information about gap year programs, please see the information below about the gap year fair coming up in January.

With the school play, the beginning of the winter sports season, 1st AmityTalks of the year coming up, clubs like Math Team and Debate Team thriving in competitions and continued focus on work in the classroom, ARHS students, faculty and staff are MakingItHappen in every venue. Ramana Maharishi once wrote, "No one succeeds without effort. Those who succeed owe their success to their perseverance." As we move through the end of December and in to the new year, we need to remember the ARHS core belief of "perseverance" and continue to work toward achieving success.

Sincerely,

Anna N. Mahon Principal

High School Happenings and Information

PTSO Holiday Basket Donations-HELP NEEDED: Every holiday season the Amity High School PTSO supports a family in need from Bethany, Woodbridge and Orange. If you would like to donate please contact your local town coordinators listed below. Monetary donations or gift cards to Walmart, Stop & shop, Target and Kohls are the most helpful so we can shop and meet the family's needs in the best way possible. All donations can be sent into AHS main office by December 13th so we have time to shop and prepare the gifts for delivery. Thank you in advance for your continued support.

Bethany- Eileen Babbitz eileenebean@aol.com

Orange- Durga Anumolu <u>danumolu@hotmail.com</u> and Anna Mahon <u>Anna.mahon@reg5.k12.ct.us</u> Woodbridge- Lynn Estra lfestra@gmail.com and Nancy Nadelmann karolnadelmann@yahoo.com

PTSO December Meeting-Change of Date: The December PTSO meeting will be held at 7:00pm on Tuesday, December 13th in the library classroom.

Parent Communications: This <u>letter</u> explains the **Alert Solutions** update process. With winter on our doorsteps, school delays and cancellations are possible. It's important that the information in PowerSchool Alert Solutions is up to date and that your preferences are indicated. You can receive the alert as a text, call, email or all three!

Mid-Marking Period for 2nd Marking Period: The mid-marking period for second quarter will close on Friday, December 9th. Please check PowerSchool for updates on student progress.

Our Town tonight: The Amity High School Theater Department will be performing Thornton Wilder's Pulitzer Prize-winning drama *Our Town* tonight, December 9th 2016 at 8pm. *Our Town* presents a timeless tale of everyday life in the fictional Grover's Corners, New Hampshire. Teenagers George and Emily meet, fall in love, and marry, enduring both the joys and sorrows of everyday life. Wilder transforms their ordinary story into a poignant and captivating exploration of mortality and the wonder of living. Tickets can be purchased online at www.amitytheaterdepartment.com or by calling (203)-392-2019

Chartwells Information: Please find the December Chartwells newsletter here.

AmityTalks: AmityTalks is back! We will hold our first round of AmityTalks on December 13th at 3:00 in the Black Box Theater. Please come by and listen to the line up of student and faculty speakers. We plan on holding at least 2 AmityTalks this year. Thank you!

Winter Concert, December 15th: The annual winter concert will take place at 7:00pm on December 15th in the John J. Brady Center. This is a free concert and open to all!

2017 AP Exam Registration: For the 2017 AP exams, students at Amity Regional High School will be **registering online**. This registration will take a few minutes and can be completed from any computer with internet access. This year, each AP exam costs \$97.00. Students requiring financial assistance should contact Mrs. Gerilyn Ferguson (Gerilyn.Ferguson@reg5.k12.ct.us) in the Amity Counseling Dept. Online Exam registration will begin on Fri, Jan 20, 2017 at 3:00 PM and end on Wed, Feb 15, 2017 at 11:59 PM. A late fee of \$10 will be assessed for any registrations that come in after Fri, Feb 10th at 11:59 PM. In order to register, students should click on this link to register. To complete registration, students must answer all of the required questions. Registration is not complete until students have printed the PDF of the confirmation page that is provided at the end. We strongly recommend that parents and students are both present while registering to ensure that the correct exams are ordered.

Hamden Adult Education: Registration for the second semester of Adult High School Credit Diploma Program will be held on Monday, December 19th and Wednesday, December 21st from 6:30 pm to 8:30 pm. At Hamden High School. Students must be seventeen years of age and be officially withdrawn from Amity Regional High School to be eligible. Please see your school counselor for more information.

Save the Date: Post-Secondary Planning Night for juniors will be held on January 10th at 6:30 in the John J. Brady Center. Ann Fleming-Brown, Director of Admissions at Union College will be presenting on the college and university search and application process.

Parent University: Save the date for an Amity Regional School District No. 5 Parent University on January 11th where we will be viewing the documentary "Chasing the Dragon" followed by a panel discussion of experts. The program will begin at 6:00pm and will be held in the John J. Brady Center at Amity Regional High School.

Important Reminders

Amity High School *Trident* **Newspaper:** The Trident school newspaper can now be found <u>online</u>. It is posted by Valley Publishing; the November issue is currently available.

Notes from the Counseling Department

Senior Service Learning Program (SSLP) Information: The SSLP (also referred to as Senior Internship) process will begin January 3, 2017. Karen Waterman, The College and Career Counselor will be speaking to the entire Class of 2017 to detail deadlines and give a general overview of the expectations of the program. More details to follow.

WCSU Direct Admission Day: Western Connecticut State University will hold a Field Admission Day at Amity Regional High School on Friday, December 16th. Interested seniors may meet with a WCSU admission's representative on-site. WCSU admissions representatives will review completed applications and provide on-the-spot admission notifications. Students must apply through The Common Application or the

WCSU application by December 9th. Interested seniors are asked to speak school counselors or see Mrs. Vallie in the Career Center to schedule a meeting.

Career and College of the Week: This year the Career Center will highlight a complementary career and college of the week. This week, the career is Criminologist and the college is St. Anselm College located in Manchester, New Hampshire. Students will receive an e-mail that details aspects of the varying careers and colleges. Students can also view the bulletin boards in the Career Center and/or speak with the Career Center staff for details.

SAVE THE DATE: A Gap Year Fair is being held on January 11, 2017 at Fairfield Warde High School from 6-8:30 pm. For more information, please visit this <u>link</u>.

What's Happening in Athletics?

Athletic Department Website: For all information regarding practice and athletic schedules for winter sports, please refer to the athletic department's website here.

For a copy of next week's competition schedule, see here.

Community Happenings:

Student volunteer opportunity: There are various volunteer opportunities, such as child care, food pantry help and senior center holiday fair, open to ARHS students and toy donation initiatives. If you are interested, please contact Nancy Pfund at 203-389-3429, or email NPfund@woodbridgect.org or Woodbridge Senior Center Director Jeanette Glicksman at 203-389-3430.

Amity District Office: 25 Newton Road, Woodbridge, CT 06525 | Phone 203-397-4811

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