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# Amity

## Regional District #5

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Making it Happen in 2017 thr...

**Making it Happen in 2017 through fairness, respect and passion (and grit)!**

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### ARHS Happenings Newsletter



Happy New Year and welcome back to school! We jump right back in to all-things Amity this week as we prepare for the midyear and look toward the rest of the school year. This week in Spartan Seminar the seniors learned about the Senior Service Learning Program, while the freshman, sophomores and juniors completed an activity on developing “grit” and perseverance. As part of the activity, students and faculty watched this [TedTalk](#) about developing grit. As we move toward the end of the first semester, it is important for all of us to consider how important tenacity and focus are to success. With that in mind, and working under the core

values of “fairness,” “respect,” and “passion,” we’re going to bring our best work and focus during 2017! Have a great weekend.

Sincerely,

Anna N. Mahon  
Principal

### High School Happenings and Information

**Amity Alumni Panel Presentation:** On January 9<sup>th</sup> Amity Alumni from the class of 2016 will return to school to speak to juniors and seniors about planning for the college search, preparing through high school and transitioning in to college. There will be 4 separate panels, all which will speak on the same topics. Students will be broken up in to 4 groups, with seniors attending during session 4 and juniors attending during session 6.

**Junior Planning Night Next Week:** Post-Secondary Planning Night for juniors will be held on January 10<sup>th</sup> 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.

**2017 Link Crew Annual 9<sup>th</sup> grade *Cocoa and Cram***-Is your freshman son or daughter preparing for his/her first Amity mid-terms exams? Link Leaders are ready to help! On Wednesday, January 11th, from 6 - 7:30 in the cafeteria, Link Crew is sponsoring our annual *Cocoa and Cram* study session for all freshmen. Link Leaders will answer questions about what to expect for with graders taking exams— and provide specific advice and tutoring for all areas of study, while serving free hot chocolate and sweet treats to make the evening both academic and social. This event is always very popular— and feedback from past attendees is extremely positive. Don't miss out! Parents of all ninth graders are asked to encourage their freshmen to attend this important event.

**Parent University Next Week:** On January 11, 2017, 6:00 pm, in the John J. Brady Center for Performing Arts, the Amity Regional School District will present a screening of *Chasing the Dragon: The Life of an Opiate Addict*. The film will be followed by a panel discussion with a recovering addict and professionals from law enforcement, law, and medicine. We encourage you to share this [flyer](#) with community members, returning college students, and colleagues in area schools.

**Early Student Dismissal for Professional Learning:** On January 13<sup>th</sup>, the school district will be running an early dismissal schedule for district-wide professional learning. Students will be dismissed at 12:12 on that day.

**Midterm Exam schedule and information:** Midterm exams will begin on January 17<sup>th</sup> and run through January 21<sup>st</sup> (the final day of the 2<sup>nd</sup> quarter). The midterm exam schedule can be found [here](#). If, for any reason, a student needs to reschedule an exam (due to sudden illness, emergency, etc), the student must receive written permission from his/her associate principal before rescheduling with the teacher. Please call the main office, 203-397-4830, if you have any questions.

**8th Grade Parent Night:** Save the date! Parents of current 8th grade students are encouraged to attend an informational session on **Thursday, January 26th at 6:30 pm** in the Brady Center. Amity High School administrators will provide an overview of the programs offered at the high school and department chairs will be available to answer general course offering questions. Parents will also have an opportunity to take a tour of the school building. This event will provide important information as we begin the 2017-2018 course selection and registration process.

**Early Dismissal/Late Arrival:** Reminder to all seniors that would like to have early dismissal or late arrival for the second semester. You must print a copy of your semester 2 schedule, circle the days that you would like to arrive late or leave early during a STUDY HALL, have a parent sign the sheet, and submit it to the attendance clerk in the main office. Even if you had this privilege first semester, you MUST do it again for the second semester. You may not use this privilege until the paperwork is completed. Once you have handed your completed sheet in to the office, you may begin leaving early or arriving late.

**SSLP info:** The presentation that was given to seniors on January 3, 2017 and parents on January 4, 2017 is available on the school [website](#).

**SAT for juniors:** April 5, 2017, all juniors will take the College Board SAT exam during the school day. The make-up dates are set at April 25 and 26. Please see the [Q & A Sheet](#) from the Connecticut State Department of Education for more information.

**Yearbook Senior Dedication Ads:** The deadline for senior dedication ad purchases has been extended to Friday, January 27th. Don't miss out on your chance to honor and encourage your graduating senior in a book that he or she will keep for years to come! We have several size options for your special message and photograph(s)—see our website information and pricing. Need some inspiration? Visit our [website](#) to see examples of past senior ads. Questions? Contact the yearbook advisors, Ken Clark and Tim Gaipa, at [embers@amityschools.org](mailto:embers@amityschools.org).

**Yearbook Purchases:** Pre-order your yearbook today before it's too late! The price of the yearbook will increase to \$80 on January 16th! To place your order, visit our [website](#). For further information on purchasing a yearbook, e-mail the yearbook advisors, Ken Clark and Tim Gaipa, at [embers@amityschools.org](mailto:embers@amityschools.org).

### Important Reminders

**Community Service Opportunity:** The Mary L. Tracy School in Orange is looking for Amity High School students to supervise/oversee babysitting for their monthly PTO meetings. The first meeting will be held on Thursday, January 12, 2016 from 6:00-8:00pm. If you are interested in helping with this event, please contact Chrissy Khachane at 203-232-4650 or stop by the Career Center for more information.

**Student Government Annual Clothing Drive:** The Amity Clothing Drive is underway! Please consider donating any new or used clothing items. All items go to help families in need from domestic violence. Please see this [flyer](#) for more information.

**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](mailto: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 10<sup>th</sup> 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.

### Notes from the Counseling Department

**Senior Service Learning Program (SSLP) Information:** The SSLP (also referred to as Senior Internship)

process has begun. Karen Waterman, The College and Career Counselor spoke to the entire Class of 2017 to detail deadlines and gave a general overview of the expectations of the program. Seniors can apply to participate until the deadline, **January 13<sup>th</sup>**. Students do not need to know their placement until April 18th. Seniors can apply here through their amityschools.org account at this [link](#).

**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 [Market Research Analyst](#) and the college is [Ithaca College](#). 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.

**Midyear Transcripts to Colleges:** Seniors, please be advised that midyear transcripts will be automatically sent out to all colleges to which you have applied through Naviance once grades are released.

**Local Scholarship Opportunity:** The Orange Scholarship Fund Association is awarding scholarship to help students further their education after high school. Students must be residents of Orange. The award is based on need, academic achievement, and service to the community. Scholarship money has been raised through the generosity of Orange businesses and professional and resident donors. The deadline to apply is April 15, 2017. Applicants can obtain an application in the Career Center.

### 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](#).

For a copy of this week's results, see [here](#).

### Community Happenings:

**Woodbridge Town Library:** The library is offering a free practice test for the ACT local area high school students. Take a full-length practice test given under the same testing conditions as the actual exam and get a personalized score report that shows your strengths and weaknesses. The practice test will take place on Saturday, January 21, 2017 from 10:30am -2:30pm. Students will receive detailed feedback within three weeks. Seating is limited. Please register [here](#).

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

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