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# Amity

## Regional District #5

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### **Astonishing ourselves**

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## ARHS Happenings Newsletter



This week we kicked off our culminating focus on the 2016 OBOA book *The Boy Who Harnessed the Wind* through an introduction to a school-wide fundraiser in Spartan Seminar. During the month of November, ARHS will hold a “Penny War” where the 4 grades will compete again each other and the faculty/staff to see who can raise the most money to fight hunger in Malawi. The “Month of Gratitude” will culminate on November 23<sup>rd</sup>, when we will have our 3<sup>rd</sup> “MakeItHappen” day. This final day of Spirit Week will include programing and speakers that will help raise awareness about the hunger crisis in Malawi as well as help

highlight areas of gratitude that our ARHS community can appreciate. The day will end with our annual Pep Rally, organized and sponsored by the ARHS Student Government.

Thomas Edison once stated, "If we did all the things we are capable of doing, we would literally astonish ourselves." Our school community continues to be astonishing in academics, the arts and athletics. Our students and staff demonstrate our core values of fairness, respect and passion along with the multiple beliefs that accompany our values. We are striving to help our students realize the mission of creating an inclusive community that affirms the contributions, strengths, and talents of all of its members. The members of Amity Regional High School demonstrate that we bear a responsibility to ourselves and to the school community to develop in all students the skills and the desire necessary to become contributing members of a just society. Whether through raising money to fight hunger, partnering with veterans to help educate our students, selling pottery to support local soup kitchens or being recognized at the state level as a superior program through the CIAC, we continue to work toward "MakingItHappen."

Have a great weekend!

Sincerely,

Anna N. Mahon  
Principal

### High School Happenings and Information

**Homecoming 2016:** Amity High School's Homecoming Dance will be November 18th! Come for a night of music, dancing, dinner, and more! Tickets are \$12, available only on [www.mypaymentsplus.com](http://www.mypaymentsplus.com).

**Freshman Movie Night:** Link Crew is sponsoring **Freshman Movie Night on Monday, November 7th from 6:00-8:00 pm** in the Brady Center. The event is open to all freshmen. Free popcorn and treats, raffle, a great (classic) flick, and lots of good company! Please encourage your ninth graders to enjoy a night out with friends and their Link Leaders. There is no fee to attend. (Note: there is no school on Election Day.)

**Election Day Professional Development:** As a reminder, there will be no school for students next Tuesday, November 8<sup>th</sup>, due to district-wide professional development. As such, we will also not have Spartan Seminar next week.

**End of First Quarter/Parent-Teacher Conference Sign Ups:** The first quarter will end on Friday, November 4th. First quarter grades will be available in PowerSchool Thursday, November 10<sup>th</sup> at 5:00 p.m. Access to your child's PowerSchool grades will be disabled from November 2nd-November 10<sup>th</sup> so that teachers may finalize grades. The sign-up for parent/teacher conferences will begin on November 10<sup>th</sup> at 5:00 pm. Instructions for sign-ups may be found [here](#). An AlertSolution message will be sent on Monday with the high school username and password for Virtual Paragon, the system through which you may register for conferences. Please be reminded that there are 3 parent-teacher conference dates/times:

November 15th from 5-7:30

November 30th from 5-7:30

December 7th from 12:45-3:15

**Amity Creative Theater Cabaret:** The Amity Creative Theater will be debuting the first in a series of Broadway Cabaret nights on Thursday November 10th @6pm in the Black Box Theater. This student produced cabaret will perform current and classic Broadway show tunes. Admission is free but donations will be accepted for the Catalde Family House Fire Fund. We hope to see you there and bring the family!

**PTSO November Meeting:** The November meeting for PTSO will take place next Thursday night, November

10th, in the library media center at 7:00. We hope to see everyone there!

**Veterans Day Program:** Next Friday, November 11<sup>th</sup>, is Veterans Day. We will be holding a special program in the library throughout the day, which 9<sup>th</sup> and 10<sup>th</sup> grade students will be visiting through social studies classes. ARHS students and staff are encouraged to wear red, white and blue to honor our veterans.

**Senior Aerial Drone Picture:** On November 17<sup>th</sup>, the senior class will have their class aerial picture taken during homeroom. Students will report to homeroom first and then be directed to the appropriate location for the picture.

### Important Reminders

**Writing Center Help:** As a reminder, students are able to receive extra help and feedback from teachers and through other supports throughout the high school. The writing center (room 103) is staffed by certified English and social studies teachers throughout the day for students to receive feedback on their writing and assignments. The Peer-Tutoring Homework Help Center, which is open Tuesday and Thursday afternoons from 2:30-3:30 in the Career Center, is another venue for students to receive help in any subject, including writing.

**Buy Your Yearbook:** The 2017 edition of *Embers* is now officially on sale! The cost, which is currently \$70, will increase to \$75 on November 18<sup>th</sup> and again to \$80 on January 16<sup>th</sup>. Visit [amityembers.com](http://amityembers.com) to reserve your copy today!

**Parent Support Group:** Student Assistance Counselor, Gary Lindgren, will be conducting a parent's support group for all who have concerns with substance related issues. This group will meet in the district presentation room beginning Thursday Nov. 3 7:45am-8:45am and will run for weeks. There is no need to pre-register for this group.

### Notes from the Counseling Department

**College Visits:** Each week, throughout the fall season, Amity High School hosts representatives from many colleges throughout the country. These representatives are available to share information about their institutions and discuss the admissions process with our juniors and seniors. A list of schools visiting Amity can be found on Naviance. If a student is interested in attending any of these info sessions, please register on Naviance and obtain a pass from the Career Center. Students are provided excused absences from class to meet with representatives. Please click [here](#) for a list of colleges visiting the week of Nov. 7<sup>th</sup> – Nov. 11<sup>th</sup>.

**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 [Occupational Therapist](#) and the college is [University of Washington](#). 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.

**UNH Field Admission Day:** [University of New Haven](#) will hold a Field Admission Day at Amity Regional High School on Monday, December 5<sup>th</sup>. Interested seniors may meet with a UNH admission's representative on-site. UNH admissions representatives will review completed applications and provide on-the-spot admission notifications. Students must apply through [The Common Application](#) by November 28<sup>th</sup>. Interested seniors are asked to speak school counselors or see Mrs. Vallie in the Career Center to schedule a meeting.

**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.

**Community Service Texts:** If your child is interested in learning about upcoming community service opportunities, please have them sign up for Remind notifications from the Career Center. Please have your child **text the message @amityserve to 81010**. When the Career Center hears about a community service opportunity, we will share it with our service-minded students.

### What's Happening in Athletics?

**EXCITING NEWS! Amity has been named a Michael's Cup Award Winner:** Amity Regional High School has been selected as one of fifteen high school athletic programs as CIAC Michaels Achievement Cup exemplary programs. This award recognizes outstanding achievement as overall athletics programs for the 2015-16 academic year. More information can be found [here](#).

**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 championship schedule, please visit the CIAC website [here](#).  
For last week's results, please click [here](#).

### Community Happenings:

**ACT Community in Action:** The Amity Creative theater students are participating in the national "Trick or Treat So Kids Can Eat" food drive. Students will be collecting dry goods and donations throughout Halloween for the New Haven Food Bank. Students, Families, Faculty and staff can drop off donations during lunch waves or directly to the black box theater. For more information contact Rob Kennedy at [Robert.Kennedy@reg5.k12.ct.us](mailto:Robert.Kennedy@reg5.k12.ct.us)

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

**Amity Boys Hockey Fundraiser:** [The Amity Boys Ice Hockey Team](#) is having their 1<sup>st</sup> Annual Mattress Fundraiser on Saturday, November 19th to raise money for their Trip to Germany to play hockey. The event will be from 9am to 5pm in the high school cafeteria.

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

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