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The building-blocks of our c...

The building-blocks of our community

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ARHS Happenings Newsletter



Beginning last year, teachers who are new to Amity Regional High School have met monthly with the principal and administrative team after school for a brief check-in. This 25-30 minute meeting allows the administration to answer questions and receive feedback for the newest members of our faculty. We held our 1st new-teacher check in on Thursday, October 13th. The first question I asked everyone was to state one thing that has been surprising but good this school year. Universally, each faculty member remarked on how

amazing the students are at ARHS. These new members of the faculty are impressed by students' level of intellectual curiosity and serious approach to school, but also by their sincerity and their politeness. The new faculty members also remarked on the level of support they have received from their colleagues. I was so pleased to hear that the sense of community that we are continuously striving to strengthen is clearly already alive and well at ARHS. [This editorial](#), by *New York Times* writer David Brooks, outlines the significance of a positive teacher-student relationship. These building blocks are essential to creating a positive learning environment. Thanks to our students, faculty and the support of our parents and community, we are well on our way to taking this highly successful academic institution and making it in to an outstanding learning community.

Sincerely,

Anna N. Mahon
Principal

High School Happenings and Information

Student Happenings Newsletter: In an effort to enhance communication with all members of our school community, representatives from student government will be sending out a newsletter tailored specifically for students at Amity Regional High School. This newsletter, based off of information in the community High School Happenings Newsletter, will be delivered on Monday mornings via the AmitySchools.org email. Please remind your children to check their school email for this weekly update.

Do you want to travel to Bermuda? If students are interested in marine biology, being outdoors, and learning to snorkel on coral reefs, we have a course for them. Find out more about Subtropical Environments (Bermuda), 0.5 CREDIT SCIENCE COURSE. Come to the course information night on Wednesday, October 19, 2016 at Amity High School from 7-8pm in the Lecture Hall. The course meets during the spring semester and culminates in a field study at the Bermuda Institute of Ocean Sciences, [BIOS](#). For more information contact Valerie.courmoyer@reg5.k12.ct.us or visit the course [website](#).

From the Nurse's Office: There has been a recent change in legislation for the administration of epinephrine during *regular school hours*. [Public Act 14-176](#) is designed to protect all students with a *potential life-threatening allergy*. Please follow [the link](#) for further information.

October 19th "MakeItHappen" Day-PSATs and special programing:

- All 10th and 11th grade students will take the PSAT during the school day on Wednesday, October 19th. The PSAT is the National Merit Qualifying Test for juniors and is used to help students prepare for the SAT test. A [modified schedule](#) will be followed. Students are asked to arrive promptly to school as no late admittance is accepted once the test begins. Students should bring a calculator and No. 2 pencils. This testing date is set by the College Board and no make up testing is permitted. For more information on the test, visit [College Board's website](#).
- All freshmen will be participating in a Link Crew Activity during the testing period.
- Seniors will take the **senior class photo at 7:45 am** and then participate in a series of workshops/post-secondary planning sessions.

Underclassmen Photo Make-Ups and Re-Takes: Underclassmen photo make-ups and re-takes will be taken in the district presentation room from 8:00 a.m. to 12:00 noon on Tuesday, November 1st. If your child still needs to have his or her school photo taken or would like to have it retaken, he/she should go to the district presentation room during a study hall period if possible. If your child does not have a study hall during periods 1, 2, 3, or 4, he/she should see Mr. Clark or Mr. Gaipa to obtain a pass before the end of the day on Monday,

October 31st.. All students desiring a re-take will need to return their original photo package, including all photos. There is a \$5 re-take fee. Checks should be made out to Robert Taylor Photography.

National Arts Honor Society Empty Bowls Night: On Friday October 21st, the National Art Honor Society of Amity High School, in partnership with the Jamie Hulley Foundation for the Arts and the Culinary Department, will be hosting Empty Bowls. This event will benefit those who are currently struggling with the inability to afford food. Students have created and decorated the ceramic bowls for the event and are excited to share their work. To participate in this event, community members are asked to come to the high school between 5:00-and 7:00pm. Each patron will receive a handcrafted bowl, refreshments and entertainment for a minimal donation of \$10. If you would like to donate, even if you cannot attend, please send your donation to the National Art Honor Society at Amity High School. All proceeds from the event will go to the Downtown Evening Soup Kitchen (DESK) in New Haven.

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 through the year.

Change in date for 1st night of parent conferences in November: PLEASE NOTE-the first parent-teacher conference night at the high school has been **rescheduled from the original date of Thursday, 11/17 to Tuesday, 11/15** to accommodate a large fundraising event for the Orange Elementary District which is being held at the high school on 11/17. More information will follow in future newsletters and via AlertSolution emails.

Important Reminders

Second Annual Senior Yearbook Ad Design Night: Calling all senior parents! Are you looking to honor and encourage your graduating senior with a senior dedication ad in the yearbook? Join us for our second annual *Embers* Senior Ad Design Night on Monday, November 7th from 4-7 p.m. in AHS computer lab 501 (across from the cafe). Take care of everything at once—complete all the paperwork, pay (cash or check), scan your photos, sit down with a yearbook staff member to craft the perfect dedication for your graduating senior, and approve it right on the spot. Appointments are not necessary.

Attention Amity alums serving in our Armed Forces: As you may know the administration and military family members at the high school maintain a showcase in the main hallway honoring our graduates who are currently serving the US military. If your daughter or son is in the military and you have a picture of her/him in uniform that you would like added to this display, please forward it to Jason Tracy, c/o Amity Regional High School, 25 Newton Road, Woodbridge CT 06525. We would love to acknowledge our Alumni and their service to our country.

Attention seniors!: Any senior student who is applying to UConn and would like to be considered for the Day of Pride or Nutmeg Scholarships through UConn need to submit their application to UConn prior to November 1st. Please encourage your child to see his/her counselor ASAP as nominations for these scholarships are done through the counseling office. For more information, please visit [this site](#).

Notes from the Counseling Department

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 [Speech and Language Pathologist](#) and the college is [SUNY](#)

[College at Cortland](#). Students will receive an e-mail through Naviance 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.

Career Fair: Amity High School will be hosting our 3rd annual Career Fair on Monday, November 14th at 8:30 a.m. Are you interested in volunteering to give insight to our students about your career or job? We are looking forward to providing a variety of career clusters to our students. Please contact Paula Vallie or Karen Waterman in the Career Center: 203-397-4836, paula.vallie@reg5.k12.ct.us or Karen.waterman@reg5.k12.ct.us

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](#) a list of colleges visiting the week of Oct. 17th – Oct. 21st.

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, please click [here](#).

For last week's results, please click [here](#).

Community Happenings:

Support AMITY BOYS SOCCER: This is a fundraiser that everyone can enjoy! **STADIUM BLANKETS with Amity logo**, waterproof black nylon on one side, gold fleece on the other side. **\$35 each**. Think about keeping warm on those cold days at the field or ice rink. Think about holiday gifts! Please email lanagad123@gmail.com with the following information: Number of blankets, Your name, address, phone number. Make check out to: AMITY BOYS SOCCER and mail to: Lana Gad 838 Indian Hill Road Orange, CT 06477

2016 Music in Motion: The Amity Music Department presents Music In Motion 2016: 2.0! Come enjoy a great evening of music presented in a way that you've never seen before! It's sure to be a great night of fun music for the entire family! Children 14 and under are FREE with the purchase of an adult tickets! Purchase tickets [here](#). Watch the trailer [here](#).

Community Service opportunity for students! Students who wish to assist with the Woodbridge Senior Center Holiday Fair or help in the local food pantry should contact Woodbridge Youth Services Director Nancy Pfund at ?203-389-3429.

Help Amity Girls Soccer Fight Breast Cancer! The Amity Girls Soccer Team is participating in the **Making Strides Against Breast Cancer Walk** at Lighthouse Point Park in New Haven on October 16th. If you would like to make a donation to the team's fundraising effort and help support the fight against breast cancer, please

navigate to [this link](#).

Autism Awareness Workshop: Amity Regional School District will be holding a workshop focused around understanding the autism spectrum and reading. The workshop takes place on Nov 2. Please see [this flyer](#) for more information.

Opportunity via the Amity World Language Department: Yale MacMillan Center for International and Area Studies (PIER) in collaboration with the Yale Center for Language Study is pleased to announce that it will once again be offering foreign language courses to Greater New Haven area students through the World CLASS (World Culture and Language After School Studies), during the 2016-2017 academic year. Please visit [this link](#) for more information. Note: these classes may not be taken for Amity Regional High School credit, but rather as enrichment only.

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

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