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 - [Cantonese](#)
 - [French](#)
 - [German](#)
 - [Italian](#)
 - [Tagalog](#)
 - [Vietnamese](#)
 - [Korean](#)
 - [Russian](#)
 - [Hindi](#)

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[AHS Newsletter](#)



Civic and character education

Civic and character education

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ARHS Happenings Newsletter



Over the course of this week, we spent time as a school reflecting on how to build character and our civic responsibilities with the impending presidential election. In Spartan Seminar, students and teachers watched [this video](#) on how to develop a growth mindset regarding building a strong character to pave the way to a successful, happy life. The concepts that are presented in the video relate directly to our Core Values, Beliefs and Mission Statement as these are the fundamental character traits our school is working to emulate. On

Thursday, the students and faculty watched [student-created political advertisements](#)(as part of a class assignment for Critical Issues) along with the end of the [mock-debate](#) that was presented to seniors on October 19th.

Next week marks the end of 1st quarter. We continue to work toward MakingItHappen at Amity Regional High School through a foundation of Fairness, Respect and Passion established in our classrooms, our hallways, in club meetings and through our athletic programs. We will continue to refine our programing and concentrate on communication and creating a positive climate. Have a fabulous last weekend of October!

Sincerely,

Anna N. Mahon
Principal

High School Happenings and Information

Halloween Costumes: Please be reminded that students are allowed to wear costumes to school on October 31st. However, students may not wear masks and costumes must adhere to school rules (i.e. no facsimile weapons, inappropriate outfits, etc).

Bermuda Course Registration: ACT NOW! Registration for Subtropical Environments (Bermuda), 0.5 CREDIT SCIENCE COURSE has begun. Applications are being accepted through October 30, 2016. If students are interested in marine biology, being outdoors, and learning to snorkel on coral reefs, this is the course for them. The course meets during the spring semester and culminates in a field study at the [Bermuda Institute of Ocean Sciences ,BIOS](#). For an application contact Valerie.cournoyer@reg5.k12.ct.us or visit the course [website](#).

Month of Gratitude sponsored by OBOA: The month of November will be the official ARHS Month of Gratitude, sponsored by the OneBookOneAmity Committee. More information will be forthcoming, but the focus will revolve around raising money and awareness about combating world hunger.

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.

STAR Testing Parent Information: Please find information for parents regarding the STAR Testing results [here](#). If you have any questions, please contact Dr. Marie McPadden, Director of Curriculum and Professional Development.

Chartwells Information: Please find the November Chartwells newsletter [here](#).

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.

End of First Quarter: The first quarter will end on Friday, November 4th. First quarter grades will be available in PowerSchool Thursday, November 10th at 5:00 p.m. Access to your child's PowerSchool grades

will be disabled from November 2nd-November 10th so that teachers may finalize grades.

For Seniors: Students who would like to have a copy of their first marking period grades sent to a college need to complete a transcript request in the Counseling Office.

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. This is no fee to attend. (Note: there is no school on Election Day.)

Important Reminders

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.

Attention seniors-first quarter grades: If you would like first quarter grades to be sent to colleges, you must fill out a form in the Counseling Office. We will plan to send out first quarter beginning the week of November 21st.

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 18th and again to \$80 on January 16th. Visit amityembers.com to reserve your copy today!

2017 Senior Yearbook Questionnaire: The 2017 senior yearbook questionnaire is now live on the yearbook website, amityembers.com. Students' responses to this questionnaire will be used to complete their profiles in the senior section of the yearbook. The questionnaire also asks students to nominate faculty and staff members for the 2017 yearbook dedication. The submission deadline is Friday, November 4th. Late submissions may not appear in the yearbook due to deadline constraints.

Senior Baby Pictures: The yearbook staff is now collecting baby pictures for the "senior scrapbook" section of *Embers*. Scan your photos and upload them directly to us! Visit amityembers.com and click "Submit Photos (eShare)" beneath either the seniors or parents tabs. Please send only high-resolution photos. Hard copy photos can be dropped off in the "Baby Pictures" box in the main office. All hard copies should be clearly labeled so that they can be returned to their owners. All photo submissions are due on November 23rd. Please keep submissions to just one or two per student.

Parent Support Group: Student Assistance Counselor, Gary Lindren, 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.

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](#) a list of colleges visiting the week of Oct. 1st - Nov. 4th.

Testing Registration deadlines: The registration deadline for the December 3 SAT is November 3rd. Please visit www.collegeboard.org to register. The registration deadline for the December 10th ACT is November 4th. Please visit www.act.org to register

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 [Political Scientist](#) and the college is [Carleton University](#). 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.

UNH Field Admission Day: [University of New Haven](#) will hold a Field Admission Day at Amity Regional High School on Monday, December 5th. 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 28th. 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?

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:

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

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 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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