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# Amity

## Regional District #5

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#### **Listening to Gandhi**

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### ARHS Happenings Newsletter



“When I despair, I remember that all through history the way of truth and love have always won.”

-Mahatma Gandhi

We continue to refine our practice and work toward living our core values at ARHS. This morning, teachers spent time reflecting on student information to help them set specific goals that will enhance student

achievement throughout this year. Over the past few weeks, the faculty and administration have discussed the concept of working toward a more student-centered classroom that will foster student independence and engagement so as to help students prepare to be contributing members of a just society. We continue to work toward creating that “just society” at ARHS that is referred to in our mission statement. As Mahatma Gandhi states in his quotation, it is important to remember that truth and love are what matter most to creating that culture of a just society that is referred to in our school’s mission statement. We are committed to the idea that the Core Values and Beliefs document is a vision statement of where we aim to get to; it is not, necessarily, where we are currently. Through collaborative, honest discussions, such as those that have happened with the faculty during this morning’s professional learning time, we will continue along the road to developing the culture of a just society at Amity Regional High School.

Sincerely,

Anna N. Mahon  
Principal

### High School Happenings and Information

**Club Day:** We will hold our annual Club Day during modified lunch waves on Friday, September 30<sup>th</sup>. Students are encouraged to peruse the various offerings and enjoy the extended lunch.

**Senior Parent Night:** The PowerPoint Presentation from Senior Parent Night, which was held on Wednesday, September 21<sup>st</sup>, is available on the ARHS website at [this link](#).

**Digital acceptance through PowerSchool:** Sign off of Student Handbook, Acceptable Use Policy and Turnitin forms are all digital this year. If appropriate parental signatures have not been obtained by Tuesday, October 4<sup>th</sup>, students and parents will be shut down from accessing school accounts (such as PowerSchool and student access via WiFi at school), until the proper documentation has been reviewed and signed.

**Amity High School PTSO:** The PTSO held the first meeting of the school year last night and there is still time to join and receive a school directory! Membership is \$15 for families. The membership fee supports a variety of student and school activities. A PTSO Membership Form can be found [here](#). Join today and support Amity High School PTSO! There is also an option to join the PTSO [online](#).

**Observance of Religious Holidays:** There will be no school in Monday, October 3<sup>rd</sup> in observance of Rosh Hashanah. Teachers have been reminded to adjust class assignments so as to avoid unnecessary conflicts with individual and family activities associated with major religious holidays.

**Course changes:** The last day for a student to drop a course or move a level WITHOUT it appearing on his/her transcript is November 4<sup>th</sup>. If your child is considering this, please be sure to make contact with his/her teacher and counselor prior to the deadline.

### Important Reminders

**PSAT:** All sophomores and juniors will be participating in the National PSAT day on Wednesday, October 19<sup>th</sup>. Students will be receiving a PSAT Student Guide next week to help prepare them for the test. Students may also access the [College Board](#) website for additional information.

**Last Chance for Senior Portraits:** "Last chance" senior portraits will be taken on Thursday, October 13<sup>th</sup>.

This will be the last opportunity for anyone who missed a summer appointment to have a portrait taken in time to be included in the yearbook. If your child still needs a portrait taken and did not receive a pink pass during homeroom this week, please contact the yearbook advisors, Ken Clark and Tim Gaipa, at [embers@amityschools.org](mailto:embers@amityschools.org). We want all our seniors to be in the yearbook, so please note that THERE IS NO CHARGE for this single sitting.

**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.

**Homework Help Center:** Peer tutoring will begin on Tuesday September 13<sup>th</sup> in the Career Center from 2:30-3:30 and will run every Tuesday and Thursday thereafter. If you need help with homework, getting organized or just like doing homework with other students please drop in, get some work done, and have a homemade snack. One-to-one tutoring is available for some classes. Please contact Mrs. Staak or Ms. Fazzini for more information.

**Amity Booster Club:** The Amity Booster Club is an organization dedicated to supporting the athletic teams at Amity Regional High School. Your support to the Amity Athletics Booster Club directly affects ALL Amity Athletic Sports Teams throughout the year. Please find the 2016-2017 Amity Booster Club Membership form [here](#).

### Notes from the Counseling Department

**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 1<sup>st</sup>. 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](#).

**Freshmen Counseling Lesson:** All 9<sup>th</sup> grade students will be meeting with the Counseling Department this coming week to discover some **Keys for High School Success**. Freshmen will be reintroduced to the Naviance Family Connection and complete a Strength Explorer Inventory. Counselors will also discuss study skills, testing strategies, and various Amity High School resources.

**Naviance Parent Workshop:** Parents who want to learn more about Naviance Family Connection may come to the Naviance Family Connection Parent Workshop on Friday, September 30th at 7:30 am in computer lab room 501. College and Career Counselor, Karen Waterman, will walk parents through the benefits of Naviance. To sign up, please contact Paula Vallie in the Career Center at 203-397-4836 or by email at [Paula.Vallie@reg5.k12.ct.us](mailto:Paula.Vallie@reg5.k12.ct.us)

**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 [Advertising Manager](#) and the college is [San Diego State 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.

**Career Fair:** Amity High School will be hosting our 3<sup>rd</sup> 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 or at [paula.vallie@reg5.k12.ct.us](mailto:paula.vallie@reg5.k12.ct.us) or [Karen.waterman@reg5.k12.ct.us](mailto:Karen.waterman@reg5.k12.ct.us)

**Financial Aid Night:** Save the date. The Amity Regional High School Counseling Department will host a Financial Aid Night on Thursday, September 29th at 6:30 pm in the Brady Center. Morgan A. Kelly, Director of Student Financial Assistance at Sacred Heart University will present.

**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 see [this link](#) for a list of colleges visiting the week of Sept. 19<sup>th</sup> – Sept. 23<sup>rd</sup>.

**Support Group:** The Counseling Department will be starting a Grief Support Group for anyone who has experienced loss or serious illness of a loved one. Please contact Gary Lindgren or Jenna DeRosa in the Counseling Dept. at 203.397.4846 for more information.

**Hamden Adult Education:** Registration for Term 2 for Hamden Adult Education will be held on Wednesday, October 5, 2016 at 6:30 pm. Classes begin on Tuesday, October 25, 2016. For more information, contact your child's school counselor or the Hamden Adult Education Office at 203.407.2028 or visit their [website](#).

### 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 the Girls' Soccer Team:** Make dinner a selfless act by joining the **Amity Girls Soccer Team at Chipotle in Milford on Wednesday September 28th between 5:00 pm and 9:00 pm**. Bring in the [attached flyer](#), show it on your cell phone or tell the cashier you're supporting Amity Girls Soccer to make sure that our team receives 50 % of the proceeds. Thank you!!

**Boys' Ice Hockey Fundraisers:** There are two upcoming fundraisers that the Boy's Ice Hockey will be doing in September. On Tuesday, September 27 there will be a Chip's breakfast fundraiser in Orange from 5:00pm-9:00pm. Tickets will be \$10. On Friday, September 30<sup>th</sup>, we will be hosting [a hypnotist/magician show](#) in the Brady Center @7:00pm. Tickets can be navigating to this [link](#) and clicking on the "events" tab.

**Amity Girls Basketball Clinics:** This fall the Amity Girls basketball team is running six clinics for young ladies in 2<sup>nd</sup> grade to 8<sup>th</sup> grade. The Amity coaching staff and team will provide drills, shooting sessions, and much much more. Come and support the Amity Girls basketball team and get ready for the upcoming season! Check out [the flyer](#) for more information.

**Community Service opportunity for students!** Students who wish to assist with prep and set-up for the the 23<sup>rd</sup> annual Woodbridge Senior Center Holiday fair activities and clean-up should contact Woodbridge Youth Services Coordinator Nancy Pfund at 203-389-3429 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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