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# Amity

## Regional District #5

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[AHS Newsletter](#)



["Why I Teach"](#)

### "Why I Teach"

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## ARHS Happenings Newsletter



Last night we hosted the first in our annual series of two Parent Back-To-School nights. In keeping with the concept of building a strong sense of community, teachers were encouraged to focus on explaining to parents why they teach rather than exactly what they will cover in the course or how the grade will be compiled. My own story about why I teach starts with the fact that I absolutely love kids, particularly teenagers. I get such a

kick out of the intellectual curiosity and uninhibited questioning that teenagers bring to their daily lives. I love to debate ideas and share concepts with students because they are not afraid to disagree or challenge an idea simply because of a person's role (such as teacher, parent or administrator). I am a teacher by nature and absolutely learn best about my own thinking when I am sharing with someone else. Collaboration is important to me as is self-reflection. I teach because I love to learn and I am in the best place in the world to do both of those things.

Thank you to all of the parents who attended last night, to the Link Leaders who helped show the parents around and the teachers and staff who "made it happen" last night. We look forward to welcoming the parents of our 10<sup>th</sup> and 11<sup>th</sup> graders next Wednesday. Have a wonderful weekend!

Sincerely,

Anna N. Mahon  
Principal

### High School Happenings and Information

**Late Buses:** Late buses are available for students who wish to stay after school for extra help or to meet with their clubs. Late buses will run this year on Tuesdays, Wednesdays, and Thursdays beginning Tuesday, September 13<sup>th</sup>. Late buses depart from the high school around 3:40 pm. There will be **no** late buses on Wednesday, September 14<sup>th</sup> due to back-to-school night that night.

**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.

### Important Reminders

**Amity High School PTSO:** The first PTSO meeting of the 2016-2017 school year will next Thursday, September 15<sup>th</sup>, at 7:00pm in the Library Media Center. Join the PTSO to support your students and school. Membership is \$15 for families and \$10 for faculty. 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](#).

**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](#).

**Calling all freshmen:** Freshmen! Want to get involved in our school community? [Apply](#) for student government! Application deadline is September 23 at 2:18pm.

**Support the Jaime Hulley Arts Foundation:** The Jamie Hulley Arts Foundation is a tremendous supporter of arts educational experiences at Amity Regional School District. To support the arts at Amity, the Jamie Hulley Arts Foundation runs a number of fundraisers throughout the year. Come out **tomorrow**, Saturday, September 10<sup>th</sup> at the Quick Center on the campus of Fairfield University. Please come for a fun night and to support the

arts at Amity. More information can be found [here](#).

**National Art Honor Society Calendar Fundraiser:** District Calendars have arrived and are being sold through the National Art Honor Society. Calendars are filled with important contact information for the district, a plethora of important dates, and fabulous student artwork. The District Calendar has been recognized by the Connecticut State Board of Education for excellence in school publications. The District Calendar will be available for purchase for \$10.00 at the Back to School Nights. All proceeds benefit the Amity National Art Honor Society. For more information or to arrange purchase of a District Calendar, please contact the National Art Honor Society Advisory, Jessica Zamachaj at [jessica.zamachaj@reg5.k12.ct.us](mailto:jessica.zamachaj@reg5.k12.ct.us).

**Visitor Kiosks:** Beginning in mid-September, the Amity Regional School District will be initializing the use of self-serve style school visitor management kiosks at each school. The system performs the same function as the systems currently employed in our Member Town elementary schools. For more information, please visit the District No. 5 Facebook page.

**Back-to-School Nights:** The Back-to-School Night for parents of 10<sup>th</sup> and 11<sup>th</sup> grade students is scheduled for Wednesday, September 14<sup>th</sup>. Back-to-School Nights begin at 6:30 pm in the Brady Center. A full schedule for the night can be found [here](#).

**National Honor Society Service Project-Collections for Louisiana:** The National Honor Society will be collecting toiletries to support those affected by Louisiana flooding. Please bring unopened soaps and cleaning supplies to the NHS table at back-to-school night or outside the cafeteria during lunch waves. All donations will be sent to Louisiana charities to aid their recovery efforts.

## Notes from the Counseling Department

**Naviance Parent Workshop:** Parents who want to learn more about Naviance Family Connection may come to the Naviance Family Connection Parent Workshop on Thursday, September 22nd 2:30 pm or Friday, September 23<sup>rd</sup> 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 [Food Scientist](#) and the college is [Clemson University](#) in South Carolina. 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.

**Senior Parent Night:** Save the date. The Amity Regional High School Counseling Department will host a Senior Parent Night on Wednesday, September 21st at 6:30 pm in the Brady Center.

**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. 12<sup>th</sup> – Sept. 16<sup>th</sup>.

### 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](#).

### Community Happenings:

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

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