ARHS HAPPENINGS NEWSLETTER

We begin February this week and, with it, our month of highlighting the core belief of: RESPECT. In Spartan Seminar on Tuesday, students and adults talked about not only being committed to goals (solidifying our focus on persistence for January), but also being respectful or yourself and the community in which you live. One of the best ways to demonstrate self-respect is to set high goals and continue to work toward them. This <u>video</u> in an excerpt from a commencement speech given to the University of Texas at Austin in 2014 by US Navy Admiral William McRaven. In it, he encourages the graduates to set goals for themselves and respect those goals by continuously working toward achieving them. Developing a healthy self-respect is only one part of this month's focus. A very significant other part is highlighting the respect we have for our community. One way we are doing this is through the displays presented throughout the high school building. If you have the chance to visit the high school, please take some time to peruse the front fover display, which was set up by student members of our Diversity Club to celebrate Black History Month and highlight some wonderful examples of people who have been amazing contributors to American society. At this time of upheaval in our nation and world, it is imperative to remind ourselves that we are a community of strength and unity. As Thurgood Marshall once said, "In recognizing the humanity of our fellow beings, we pay ourselves the highest tribute." Have a wonderful weekend!

Sincerely,

Anna N. Mahon

Principal

College and Career of the Week: This year the Career Center will highlight a complementary career and college of the week. This week, the career is <u>Ocean Engineer</u> and the college is <u>Massachusetts Institute of Technology</u>. 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.

Happenings and Information

Viewing Report Cards: The second marking period has ended and grades have been finalized. An electronic report card is viewable through PowerSchool. Simply log on to your PowerSchool account, navigate to the portal login page through the quick links tab and click on the SwiftReach SwiftK12 link. You will need to enter your child's date of birth in an xx/xx/xxx format.

2018 AP Exam Registration: Students taking AP exams at Amity Regional High School for courses taken during the 2017-18 school year must register through Total Registration. The link can be found on the school website. The regular registration period will open on **Friday, January 19** at 3:00pm and will close on **Sunday, February 18** at 11:59 pm. The 2018 AP Exam cost is \$97 per exam. Please be sure to have a credit card or debit card available before beginning registration. There will be a late registration period, with a \$10 late charge, from February 19-23. Please contact Mrs. Ferguson at Gerilyn.Ferguson@reg5.k12.ct.us if you have any questions regarding exams.

February Parent/Teacher Conferences: Please note, there is 1 high school date for parent-teacher conferences to review 2nd marking period/midterm exam grades. Please follow these instructions to sign up for parent-teacher conferences to be held on Wednesday, February 7th. Registration will begin next week after grades are finalized in PowerSchool.

Senior Happenings

Yearbook Grad Ad Design Night - Round 2: Calling all senior parents! Are you looking to honor and encourage your graduating senior with a grad ad in the yearbook? Our second *Embers* Grad Ad Design Night of the year will be on Thursday, February 8th from 4-7 p.m. in AHS computer lab 501 (across from the cafe). This is your last chance to take care of everything at once—paperwork, payment, etc. Appointments are not necessary. Visit the yearbook website at amityembers.com for more information and to check out samples of ads from previous yearbooks.

Community Service Reminder: All seniors who have completed at least 100 hours of community service over the four years at Amity will be recognized on graduation day, only if all community forms are handed in by **April 2, 2018**. If you have any

questions or concerns regarding your service hours, please email Mrs. Vallie at <u>paula.vallie@reg5.k12.ct.us</u> or stop by the Career Center.

Local Scholarships: Please see this <u>link</u> for local scholarship opportunities. Contact Ms. Vallie in the Career Center for more information.

Notes from Counseling Department

Save the Date!! Career Fair: Amity High School will be hosting our 4th annual Career Fair on Friday, April 27th 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 or Karen.waterman@reg5.k12.ct.us

ASVAB Career Exploration Program: The Armed Services Vocational Aptitude Battery (ASVAB) is a multiple-aptitude battery that measures developed abilities and helps predict future academic and occupational success in the military. The ASVAB will be administered at Amity High School on Wednesday, February 7th beginning at 8:00AM to interested sophomores, juniors and seniors. We will ask the students to arrive at 7:34AM. If your child takes the ASVAB, they do not have any obligation to the US Armed Services. It is a comprehensive battery that will look at ability, along with interests to explore possible career choices. For more information, please contact Karen Waterman in the Career Center at Karen.Waterman@reg5.k12.ct.us or you child's school counselor. It is recommended that students prepare for the test; student can access the free ASVAB practice test.

2018 UConn Pre-College Summer Program: Find out what it's like to be a UCONN student for 4 weeks! The Pre-College Summer Program at UConn offers rising high school juniors and seniors (class 2019 or 2020) the chance to study and live on their university campus. Please see their website for detailed information.

Gateway Community College Field Trip: The Career Center is planning a field trip for interested juniors and seniors to Gateway Community College on Thursday, February 15th. If you feel your

child would benefit from this field trip, please contact <u>Karen.waterman@reg5.k12.ct.us</u>.

Upcoming College Fair: The annual **Amity High School College Fair** will be held **Monday, March 26, 2018 from 6:30**- **8:00pm** in the AHS Gymnasium. We have approximately 100 institutions signed up and more adding every day. This is a great way for students to meet many of the college admission decision-makers in an intimate and convenient way. The college fair is free and open to the public. A complete list of colleges/universities attending will be posted soon!

Athletics

Athletic Department Website: For all information regarding practice and athletic schedules for winter sports, please refer to the athletic department's website here.

Winter Conditioning Session: Please see this permission slip for information on the pre-season conditioning sessions to be held at the high school on Tuesdays and Thursdays from 6-7:30.

For a copy of next week's competition schedule, please click <u>here.</u>

For a copy of this past week's results, please click <u>here</u>.

Community Happenings

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.

 Mary L. Tracy School in Orange is holding their annual Children's Fair this Saturday, February 3rd and we need your help! If you are looking for some fun volunteer hours, this is a great opportunity for you. They are looking for students to run some games, help with nail painting, tattoos, and face painting. The hours are from 11-3 and they are looking for either 2 hour shifts or if possible, the entire 4 hours. Please sign up using this <u>link</u>. Any questions please contact Dianna Fuehrlein at gatordianna@gmail.com

Amity Creative Theater/Choir Fundraiser: The Amity Theater Department and The Amity Choir students are performing this April in Walt Disney World. They have organized a fundraiser to help offset the cost--selling Amity apparel through Blanchettes sporting goods online store. We are offering everything from tshirts to sweatshirts, jackets, hats and even kids clothes! When you go to the website you will see two choices for each item. The first choice is the Amity Creative Theater logo. The second choice is the Amity "block A" with a dropdown box for your choice of wording underneath. The wording choices are: Spartans, Staff, Alumni, Choir, Band and Creative Theater. All the funds that are raised go towards the students' trip to Orlando this coming April. Thank you in advance for your support! Use this link to access the online store and use the following code: AmityCT2017.

Student Government Clothing Drive: The annual student government clothing drive has begun. Please take a minute to clean out those drawers and closets. All of our clothing goes to "My sister's place" in Ansonia that serves families suffering from domestic violence or in desperate need of clothes. All gently used items, including shoes, jackets, pants, shirts, gloves, scarfs and sweatshirts, are welcome. The clothing drive will conclude by February 16th.

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