

ARHS HAPPENINGS NEWSLETTER

One important part of creating a safe school environment is vigilance regarding security measures, such as locking doors, establishing check-in protocols and planning for emergencies. However, another extremely important part of creating a physically and emotionally safe school environment is being an empathetic community that notices and validates all members of a community. It is important for students and staff to feel connected by being noticed by and engaged with the people around them. Our month of February is focused on the core value of **respect**. One way to demonstrate respect is to be kind and inclusive; by modeling kindness, we also encourage others to do the same. No one should feel anonymous at Amity and parents can help by simply talking to their children about being involved and engaged in school, including classes, clubs and with peers. Communicating with each other is not only one of the best preventative approaches to school safety, it also has a huge impact on positive school culture. Thank you for your vigilance, empathy and support of your students and the school community. Have a wonderful long 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 [Journalist](#) and the college is [Northeastern University](#). 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

Parent Resource: This [link](#) has some good information on how to talk to your children about traumatizing incidents, such as the recent school shootings in Florida, Kentucky and elsewhere.

Student Government Clothing Drive: The clothing drive sponsored by ARHS Student Government ends today. All of the clothes will be picked up and donated to “My Sister’s Place” in Ansonia. Check out [this picture](#) of the volume of the collection. Thank you to everyone who donated clothing items! This year’s drive was a huge success!!

February Parent/Teacher Conferences: The Parent-Teacher Conferences originally scheduled for Wednesday, February 7th have been postponed to Wednesday, February 21st. The same time slots will be held for the postponed date and conference scheduling is now closed. Please contact your child’s teacher directly if you are unable to keep the scheduled appointment or if you have any questions about second marking period or the midterm exam grade. As a reminder, parents are welcome to make appointments for phone conferences or after-school conferences at any time throughout the year.

AP REGISTRATION EXTENDED: We will be extending the AP Registration process through Friday, 2/23 at 11:59pm for regular registration. Anyone who wishes to register after that date will be charged a \$10 fee for late registration. No registrations will be accepted after Wednesday, 2/28 at 11:59pm. Please use this [link](#) to access the registration website. Any questions can be directed to Gerilyn Ferguson at 203-397-4846 or Gerilyn.Ferguson@reg5.k12.ct.us.

Student Application for State Board of Education: The CT State Board of Education is looking for current juniors in high school who have an interest in serving on the BOE. Selections are made through a multi-step application process. Any interested students should refer to this application.

8th Grade Parent Night: All parents of rising 9th graders for the 2018-2019 school year are encouraged to attend to an informational night regarding high school programming and classes on March 8th at 6:30 starting in the Brady Center at the high school.

Senior Happenings

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 paula.vallie@reg5.k12.ct.us or stop by the Career Center.

Local Scholarship Opportunity: The Orange Youth Services Program is awarding three \$500 scholarships to high school seniors residing in Orange. Students must have demonstrated excellence in academic achievement and participation in extra-curricular activities while attending Amity. Scholarship applications will be available at the Community Services Office in the High Plains Community Center at 525 Orange Center Road in Orange. Office hours are 8:30am to 4:30pm Monday through Friday. The application deadline is Friday, May 15, 2018.

Additional Scholarship Resource Information: Naviance is only one of the many resources for researching scholarships. The Amity College and Career Center posts local and national scholarships on Naviance throughout the school year. Students can navigate through these scholarships in Naviance under the scholarship tab. Additional merit based and need based scholarships may be available by checking with the college or university or additional websites like fastweb.com.

Notes from Counseling Department

For juniors-Spring SAT Information: All juniors will be taking the SAT during the school day on March 21, 2018 as part of the State of Connecticut SAT School Day. Students will report to testing rooms at the beginning of school and test through session 4. Students may be dismissed with a parent note at the conclusion of testing. Please see the [this parent letter](#) from the Connecticut State Dept. of Education for more information.

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 Thursday, February 22nd 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](#).

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

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!

Summer Opportunity: The FBI of New Haven and Yale University Police Department will be conducting their third annual Future Law Enforcement Youth Academy (FLEYA). The FLEYA will conduct a week-long law enforcement and legal training camp for selected youth throughout Connecticut. This overnight camp is open to youth from ages 15 to 18 years old. A total of 30 students (15 boys/15 girls) will be selected from urban and suburban area high schools in Connecticut. Student applications and instructions for FLEYA can be found [here](#). The application process starts February 9, 2018 and applications will be accepted through April 6, 2018.

Athletics

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

Boys Volleyball Informational Meeting: On February 21st from 2:30-3:00pm there will be a meeting for anyone wishing to gain more information on the Boys Volleyball team. The meeting will be held in room 608, next to the wrestling/rock wall gym. Any

students interested in more information about trying out for the team are encouraged to attend.

For a copy of next week's competition schedule, please click [here](#).

For a copy of this past week's results, please click [here](#).

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.

National Honor Society Winter Sock-Hop Fundraiser: On Friday, February 23rd from 7:00pm-10:00pm the National Honor Society is hosting its first annual Sock Hop! The Sock Hop is a school-wide dance that seeks to raise money and materials for the Columbus House in New Haven. Students are encouraged to wear their coolest socks and bring a pair to donate. The donated socks (along with the money from the ticket sales) will all go to the Columbus House in New Haven. There will be music, raffle prizes, and food. Tickets available through MyPaymentsPlus!

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