ARHS HAPPENINGS NEWSLETTER



Amity Regional High School and School District are committed to maintaining a rigorous academic experience for all students while creating a supportive and positive climate for all community members. Throughout the year, we will work to achieve both of these goals by making learning experiences relevant to students, releasing more responsibility of learning to students and building a supportive community through programing and school-wide activities. Our first day of school on Monday will be a celebration and enthusiastic welcome of the new school year. All freshmen will participate in our annual **Link Crew Freshman Orientation Program** in the morning. Upon arrival to school, all freshmen will be directed by Link Crew Leaders to the middle gymnasium where they will assemble to begin the Link Crew Orientation Program. After the morning orientation, freshmen will eat lunch with Link Crew Leaders in the school cafeteria (**lunch is provided and gluten free/vegetarian options are available**). After lunch, the freshmen will join the rest of the school in cycling through brief (9 minute) classes to meet all of their teachers and get excited for the academics ahead.

Sophomores, juniors and seniors will report directly to their designated Spartan Seminars on Monday morning to begin the day's activities. After a brief Spartan Seminar session, all 10th-12th grade students will attend 2 different sessions where they will listen to ARHS alumni speak about how what they learned at Amity helped them to be successful in their various life endeavors. After the Spartan Stories speakers, students will return to Spartan Seminar to participate in small-group community building activities. Students will receive their student IDs during this portion of the program. After lunch, all students will run through a truncated schedule to meet this year's teachers. Please have your child bring a copy of his/her schedule with him/her to school on Monday. More information about the speakers for the first annual "Spartan Stories" speaker series can be found here.

We are so excited to start the school year and can't wait to welcome all of our students to ARHS on Monday. Have a wonderful weekend!

Sincerely,

Anna N. Mahon

Principal

Happenings and Information

Monday Schedule/Student Summer Work: As mentioned, we will be holding a special schedule on Monday where we will celebrate welcoming students back to school and focus on building a community! While students will

meet their teachers during brief (9 minute) classes on Monday, they are not required to bring any summer work or school materials with them. Due to the focus of the day, and the limited time in the class schedule, **all summer work will be due starting on the first day of class on Tuesday, August 29th.**

Bring a School Supply to Donate: We will be collecting donations for school supplies on Monday, August 28th, to donate to area school districts. Students can drop off donations either in the main office or in Spartan Seminar during the morning portion of Monday's program. All students, including freshmen, are encouraged to bring a school supply donation to help make the school year great for all area schools.

Student School IDs: All students will be receiving a student ID with picture and bar code on the first or second day of school. Student IDs will be used for lunch purchases, copying/printing and signing in late to school this year. All students must carry their student IDs with them at all times (similar to student passports). Lunch accounts are automatically linked to student IDs. If a student loses his/her ID, a small replacement fee will be assessed to the student's PowerSchool account.

Exciting News! The most recent Niche.com school and district rankings have been released. Amity School District is ranked #7 in the state of CT and Amity High School is ranked #10 in the state. If you would like to see the full rankings, please visit this <a href="https://link.ncm/link.nc

Late Bus Schedule: Late buses, which begin on September 5th, are provided on most Tuesdays, Wednesdays, and Thursdays from ARHS. Students are able to stay after school for a designated program or in a supervised area (such as with a teacher or in the library). Late buses pick up at the high school between 3:40-3:55, with one bus designated for each town.

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 A. Hulley Arts Foundation runs a number of fundraisers throughout the year. Come out on Saturday, September 9th for the annual "Evening of the Arts" celebration. This is an amazing night and the proceeds go to supporting the arts at Amity and other area programs. More information can be found here.

Important Reminders

Free and Reduced Lunch Form Application: All information regarding the free and reduced lunch program can be found on the district website at this link.

Student Agenda Pads: School-issued agenda pads for the 2017-2018 school year will be distributed on Tuesday, August 29th to all students.

One Book/One Amity: As a reminder, this year's school-wide summer reading is *Everyday*. We will be discussing the book throughout the first semester. Students will be assessed during the first two weeks of school through English class.

Back-to-School Nights: Mark your calendars, Back-to-School Night for parents of 9th and 12th grade students will be held on Thursday, September 7th. Back-to-School Night for parents of 10th and 11th grade students is scheduled for Wednesday, September 13th. Back-to-School Nights begin at 6:30 pm in the Brady Center. More information about Back-to-School Nights will be forthcoming in future *ARHS Happenings Newsletters*.

Student Parking: Student parking at Amity High School is restricted to juniors and seniors. Eligible students who wish to drive to school must register their vehicles and pay a \$100.00 registration fee. Payments will only be accepted online using the MyPaymentsPlus System. Students must provide a copy of their driver's license and complete the attached vehicle registration form. Vehicle registration forms must be returned to the attendance secretary in the Main Office.

Amity High School PTSO: Join the PTSO to support your students and school. Mail in your <u>form</u> today and guarantee yourself an Amity High School Student Directory, which will be mailed in the fall. You can also register online by following this <u>link</u>. 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!

Notes from Counseling Department

Schedule Changes: As a reminder, schedule changes may only be made for students missing courses, in need of a level change or requesting additional electives. We do not make schedule changes for switching electives or based on teacher. Please come to the counseling department to fill out a schedule change form for your counselor.

Athletics

FALL REGISTRATION AND TRY-OUT INFORMATION: Fall athletics for the high school began on Thursday, August 24th. Please follow this <u>link</u> to our athletics webpage for further information. GO SPARTANS!

Community Happenings

Milestone C Is coming to Amity: Milestone C is an after-school program that offers hands-on aerospace experience for grades 9 through 12. This unique and groundbreaking approach to STEM education was created by leaders from Fortune 500 corporations, lead engineers, veteran aviators, and research scientists. With a mission to shape future STEM leaders, Milestone C's engineering & aviation programs are the first of their kind to unleash the full potential of experiential learning and serve as internship experiences for middle and high school students.

- No prerequisites
- No previous experience required

To learn more about the program, please see this flyer.

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