

ARHS HAPPENINGS NEWSLETTER



Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. once said, "If you can't fly then run, if you can't run then walk, if you can't walk then crawl, but whatever you do you have to keep moving forward." This month's core value is **persistence**, an extremely significant concept in this month of midterm exams, transition to 2nd semester, cold weather and intermittent disruptions to our schedules. **Due to the 2 cancellations this week, we are extending the 2nd marking period by 1 day and beginning exams on Wednesday, January 17th. The last day of class for 2nd quarter for classes is January 16th, where we will follow an "all 8 period" day schedule.** If a cancellation occurs during the week of exams, that day's exams will be pushed to the next day of school and the rest of the exam schedule will follow. We will be sending updates via PowerSchool and Twitter if weather threatens to disrupt the exam schedule. For now, enjoy the snowy, cold weather and 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 [Astrophysicist](#) and the college is [Harvard 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

Shift to the end of 1st semester: Due to the school cancellations, the 2nd marking period will end classes on Tuesday, January 16th, instead of Friday, January 12th. We will follow a modified class schedule on Tuesday, January 16th so students can

attend all classes on the last day of the quarter before midterm exams begin. The last day of class schedule can be found [here](#).

Midterm Exam schedule and information: Midterm exams will begin on January 17th and run through January 22nd. The **revised** midterm exam schedule can be found [here](#). Please be reminded that each exam will be a 2 hour time slot. If, for any reason, a student needs to reschedule an exam (due to sudden illness, emergency, etc), the student must receive written permission from his/her associate principal before rescheduling with the teacher or for one of the makeup sessions during the week of January 22nd. Please call the main office, 203-397-4830, if you have any questions.

Internet Safety presentation: We have invited former law enforcement officer Scott Driscoll to speak with all students in sixth, seventh, and eighth grades about online safety and social media. The student presentations for seventh and eighth grade students will take place during school hours on January 9, 2018. Parents are invited to an evening workshop with Scott on the same day, Tuesday, January 9, 2018 from 6:30pm-8:00pm at Amity Middle School Orange. This event is open to parents of students at all grade levels, including elementary. Please join us for this informative workshop! Please see this [link](#) for more information.

2018 Link Crew Annual 9th grade *Cocoa and Cram*-Is your freshman son or daughter preparing for his/her first Amity mid-terms exams? Link Leaders are ready to help! On Wednesday, January 10th, from 6 - 7:30 in the cafeteria, Link Crew is sponsoring our annual [Cocoa and Cram](#) study session for all freshmen. Link Leaders will answer questions about what to expect for with graders taking exams— and provide specific advice and tutoring for all areas of study, while serving free hot chocolate and sweet treats to make the evening both academic and social. This event is always very popular and feedback from past attendees is extremely positive. Don't miss out! Parents of all ninth graders are asked to encourage their freshmen to attend this important event.

Early release and Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Day: Students will have an early dismissal on Friday, January 12th for professional development for staff. The District will be closed on Monday, January 15th in honor of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr Day.

Save the date-8th Grade Parent Night: Parents of current 8th grade students are encouraged to attend an informational session on **March 8th at 6:30 pm** in the Brady Center. Amity High School department chairs and administrators will provide an

overview of the courses and programs offered at the high school. This event will provide important information as we begin the 2018-2019 course selection and registration process.

Senior Happenings

For seniors: Just a reminder that we automatically send a mid-year transcript to all schools listed in Naviance. Please be sure to update Naviance with college outcomes and make sure the list is up to date. Mid-year reports will be going out the first full week in February.

College Visits: A former Amity graduate and present **Bowdoin College** student will be visiting Amity to speak about his experience at Bowdoin on Monday, January 8th from 12:30-1:00pm. A representative from **Savannah College of Art and Design** will also be here on Tuesday, February 6th from 10:45-11:45am. If you are a student interested in meeting with a representative, please register on Naviance and pick up a pass in the Career Center.

Notes from Counseling Department

Attention Juniors and Seniors: Any junior or senior that is interested in doing a second semester Independent Study must submit a proposal to Mrs. Campbell by Friday February 2. Please contact Mrs. Campbell in the Counseling Office for a proposal application.

Post-Secondary Planning Night for juniors: A planning night for current juniors will be held on January 9th at 6:30 p.m. in the Brady Center. Parents and students are strongly encouraged to attend. Ann Fleming-Brown, Director of Admissions at Union College will be presenting on the college and university search and application process.

Gap Year Fair: Amity Regional High School will host a Gap Year Fair on January 10, 2018 from 6-8:30 pm. USA Gap Year Fairs is organizing the event which provides students with a broad exposure to Gap Year Programs and the opportunity for face-to-face conversations with professionals in the field. Many of these

programs also offer summer opportunities for students. For more information and to register, please visit this [site](#).

SNOW DATE: Senior Service Learning Program Parent Informational Evening: On Tuesday, January 16, 2018 at 6:30pm in the Amity Senior High School Cafeteria, Karen Waterman, the College and Career Counselor will be presenting the expectations and guidelines of 2018 Senior Service Learning Program (generally referred to as the Senior Internship or SSLP) and the new pilot-Senior Interest Project. Parents are asked to attend if your senior is likely to participate in the May-June 2017 unpaid experiential learning program.

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](#).

Naviance Parent Workshop: Parents who want to learn more about Naviance Family Connection may come to the Naviance Family Connection Parent Workshop on Thursday, February 1 at 7:30 am or 2:30 pm 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

Important Reminders

Morning student drop off: As a reminder, any student who is being dropped off at school instead of taking the bus must be dropped off on the side entrance to the school after accessing the campus via North Pease Road (the school driveway becomes one way from N. Pease down to the school between 7:10-7:40). Students are able to be dropped off at the sidewalk as all side doors of the building are unlocked between 7:10-7:34. Please be reminded that

the driveway becomes a two-way access from the tennis courts out to the Newton Road exit.

Calling all possible STEM Fair Judges: Are you willing to spend Saturday morning February 3rd, 2018, discussing STEM projects with some of the best and brightest high school students in Connecticut? Then the Connecticut STEM Fair wants you to be a judge! The event will take place at Amity Regional High School on Saturday, February 3rd, 2018. Please see this [link](#) for more information.

Updated AmityEnterprises/FBLA information: On behalf of the FBLA Club and Amity Enterprises, please see the new [website](#) that highlights products and ordering information. These products are all student-created and produced.

Athletics

* Please be sure to check the website for updates regarding postponements and cancellations*

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

Community Happenings

2018 Summer Opportunity-The Connecticut State Parks Division is gearing up for the 2018 summer season! They anticipate increasing lifeguarding services at numerous parks and need your help to get the word out. The Shelton Parks & Recreation will be offering a lifeguard course from Dec. 26th-Dec. 30th. Please see this link for registration details.

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.

Jamie Hulley Sponsored Event: Author and illustrator Dave Roman will visit Amity Regional High School on January 10, 2018, to offer workshops to particular Amity's Art and English Language Arts classes. Mr. Roman is the creator of *Astronaut Academy: Zero Gravity*, which won Maryland's Black-Eyed Susan Book Award. Mr. Roman has also written *Teen Boat!*, which was honored as a Junior Library Guild Selection, and *Agnes Quill: An Anthology of Mystery*. He is the co-author of two New York Times best-selling graphic novels, *X-Men: Misfits* and *The Last Airbender: Zuko's Story*.

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 t-shirts 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.

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