#### ARHS HAPPENINGS NEWSLETTER



We often identify the 3 "As" of Amity Regional High School as academics, athletics and the arts. Over the past few weeks, we have continued to interweave the 3 As with the amazing work that is getting done in classrooms and co-curricular clubs such as Academic Decathlon and Junior State of America, through artistic endeavors like The Laramie Project: Ten Years Later, Empty Bowls and the winter concert and the beginning of the winter athletics season with basketball scrimmages, hockey games and wrestling meets. As we are all working tirelessly in and outside of the classroom, we are looking forward to one more week of intent focus followed by a well-deserved December break. Teachers were asked in late November to mindfully plan assignments so that major assessments are not due or expected immediately following the holiday break. Our hope is that everyone can take some time to rest and rejuvenate and be ready to greet the New Year with renewed vim and vigor. We look forward to our final school week of December where we will continue to embrace the core belief of **compassion**. Next Tuesday we will host this year's first rendition of "AmityTalks" where we will feature students and faculty sharing short talks around the core values and beliefs we have highlighted throughout the fall. To get everyone in the spirit, and to continue to share the idea of compassion throughout our community, please take a few minutes to watch this TedTalk by journalist Krista Tripett on her evolving definition of compassion. 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 careers are <u>mathematicians and statisticians</u> and the college is <u>Hamilton College</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**

**PSAT Score Information:** College Board released PSAT scores on December 13th. Students should log into their College Board accounts to access the detailed score reports. General test scores have been uploaded to student Naviance accounts. Please see this <a href="Parent Tutorial">Parent Tutorial</a> to learn more about PSAT scores. If you need assistance with accessing scores, please contact your child's school counselor. Next week's Spartan Seminar activity for juniors will focus around PSAT scores and how to link to Khan Academy for access to free resources.

**Senior Service Learning Program Parent Informational Evening**: On Thursday, January 4, 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.

**Updated AmityEnterprises/FBLA information**: On behalf of the FBLA Club and Amity Enterprises, please see the new <u>website</u> that highlights products and ordering information. These products are all student-created and produced. Please note: any order taken now will not be ready before the holiday break.

**Community notice-connectivity disruption:** On the morning of December 27, 2017 we will be making a change to the fiber network connection between the district and the CT Education Network. During this time all network connectivity for the district will be down. The entire process should take no more than 30 minutes, however due to the complexity of the operation there is the chance of a prolonged outage while we work to resolve the issue.

# **Senior Happenings**

**Senior Service Learning Program (SSLP) & Senior Interest Project (SIP) Information:** The SSLP (also referred to as Senior Internship) and the new pilot- Senior Interest Project process will begin January 2, 2018. Karen Waterman, The College and Career Counselor will be speaking to the entire Class of 2018 to detail deadlines and give a general overview of the expectations of the program. More details to follow.

Attention Seniors and Senior Parents: Please log into MyPaymentsPlus and pay the Cap and Gown fee. Also, please remember to log into Naviance and document how you would like your name to displayed on the high school diploma (ex. using full middle name vs. just an initial). Please check to make sure all spelling is correct. The deadline is December 22nd, 2017.

### **Notes from Counseling Department**

**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.

**SAVE THE DATE-Post-Secondary Planning Night for juniors:** A planning night for current juniors will be held on January 9<sup>th</sup> 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.

**SAVE THE DATE-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 <u>site</u>.

## **Important Reminders**

**Calling all possible STEM Fair Judges:** Are you willing to spend Saturday morning February 3<sup>rd</sup>, 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 3<sup>rd</sup>, 2018. Please see this <u>link</u> for more information.

Yale Summer Program: The Yale Young Global Scholars Program is offering a summer academic enrichment and leadership program for outstanding high school students from around the world. The YYGS offers six sessions at Yale's Campus in New Haven and one session in Beijing, China. Admission to the program is very selective and is offered to sophomores and juniors only. The application deadline is February 6, 2018 at 11:59 PM. For additional information, please visit this site.

#### **Athletics**

**Athletic Department Website:** For all information regarding practice and athletic schedules for winter sports, please refer to the athletic department's website <a href="here">here</a>.

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 here.

# **Community Happenings/Opportunities**

**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. 26<sup>th</sup>-Dec. 30<sup>th</sup>. Please see this link for registration details.

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