ARHS HAPPENINGS NEWSLETTER



Welcome to the 2018-2019 school year! We are very excited for the school year to begin and welcome all of our students, parents, faculty and staff back to the Amity Regional High School Community. The "High School Happenings" is the weekly newsletter distributed to help keep parents, students and community members informed about what is happening at the high school.

As mentioned in the mailing you received earlier in August, our first day of school on August 29th will be again be hosting the "Spartan Stories kick-off celebration" for all students. Link Crew 9th grade orientation day will be Friday, August 24th (see more information below). These programs highlight the importance of our core values of **fairness**, **respect and passion** along with building a strong school community throughout the school year. More information on the first day of school program will follow in next week's newsletter.

The weekly newsletters contain a plethora of information. If you have any questions about any of the information below, please do not hesitate to contact the main office where someone will be happy to assist you (203-397-4830, xt. 5). Enjoy the rest of the summer and we look forward to welcoming the entire ARHS student body on August 29th at 7:34am!

Sincerely,

Anna N. Mahon

Principal

Back to School Information

Link Crew Freshman Orientation: Link Crew, Amity's yearlong freshman transition program that pairs specially-trained juniors and seniors with groups of freshmen in order to make their move to the high school smooth and successful, works for a single purpose: **to make Amity High School a great, safe and connected place for kids to learn.** Link Crew begins with a

powerful orientation day that makes ninth graders excited and proud to be attending their new high school and allows them to begin developing relationships and strategies that will contribute to their high school success. Amity Link Crew's Freshman Orientation will be held on Friday, August 24th from 8:00 **am – 1:15 pm.** Parents and guardians are asked to drop their children off at the front entrance to the school by 8:00 am (when the event begins) where they will be greeted by Link Leaders. (This drop-off can become fairly congested, so consider arriving a few minutes before—or even car-pooling.) Nut-free snacks and a cookout lunch will be provided for free before the 1:15 pm pick-up. Please note: there are no bus runs on this day. Parents or guardians are asked to provide transportation. We suggest that ninth graders wear comfortable clothing and footwear for Orientation; have them save their snazzy first day of school outfit for the first academic day. We look forward to welcoming the Class of 2021!

2018-2019 Student Schedules: Student Schedules are now available through PowerSchool Unified Classroom. All students will be reporting to their Homeroom (same as Spartan Seminar room) location on Wednesday morning, August 29th. No printed schedules will be distributed. Full year schedules are also being emailed to parents today, August 17th.

2018-2019 Student Handbook: The ARHS Student Handbook can be found on the website at this <u>link</u>.

2018-2019 Region 5 District Calendar: Please find a copy of the Amity Regional School District No. 5 2017-2018 School Calendar here.

Link Crew Freshmen Parent Night: On the evening of **Wednesday, August 22nd**, from **7:00 pm to 8:00 pm**, all incoming freshman parents or guardians are invited to attend a participatory informational Link Crew assembly in the Amity High School main gym. The Link Crew coordinators will be talking about Link Crew and shedding some light on Friday's Freshman Orientation.

Student Agenda Pads: School-issued agenda pads for the 2018-2019 school year will be distributed on Wednesday, August 29th to all students.

One Book/One Amity: As a reminder, this year's school-wide summer reading is *All American Boys*. There will be various opportunities for students and faculty to discuss the book during the first few months of school, but students will be assessed for the

summer reading assignment through English class during the week of 9/4.

Bell Schedule: The 2018-2019 Amity Regional High School Bell Schedule can be found here. This document contains start and end times for the school day and all class periods. This schedule also contains start times and dismissal times for minimum days, two-hour delay openings, Spartan Seminar days and homeroom.

Bus Routes: Bus routes are posted on the Amity Regional High School website, and may be accessed here. Any requests for bus changes must be put in writing and submitted to Beth Cohen, President of B and B Transportation, via fax at (203) 393-9747. Ms. Cohen may be reached by telephone (203) 393-9750 or email Beth@BandBtrans.com. Students are reminded to please commit their bus number to memory.

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 6th. Back-to-School Night for parents of 10th and 11th grade students is scheduled for Wednesday, September 12th. 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*.

Drop Off/Pick Up Instructions: Please find a copy of morning drop off and afternoon pick up instructions here. Please note: the traffic flow from North Pease Road through the high school parking lot becomes very dense during arrival after 7:20 am. Students who do not drive/park at school are strongly encouraged to take the bus. Also please note: for safety reasons, Newton Road is not a designated student drop-off area.

MyPaymentsPlus: This <u>flyer</u> has information about MyPaymentsPlus. Amity Regional High School uses MyPaymentsPlus as a vendor for online payments for school-related expenses.

Student Parking: As outlined in this <u>letter</u>, 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 beginning the week of August 20th, 2018. Students must provide a copy of their driver's license and complete <u>this vehicle registration form</u>. 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. Follow this <u>link</u> to register online or mail in your <u>form</u> today and guarantee yourself an Amity High School Student Directory, which will be mailed in the fall. 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!

Annual Pesticide and Asbestos Letters: These letters contain information about the <u>district's pesticide use</u> (CT Public Act 99-165) and <u>asbestos abatement information</u>.

Green Cleaning: This <u>letter</u> contains information about the district's Green Cleaning Program in Schools (CT Public Act 09-81)

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

Athletics

FALL REGISTRATION AND TRY-OUT

INFORMATION: Fall athletics for the high school begins Thursday, August 23rd. All athletes must register online and have a physical on record with the athletic department that is dated any time after November 15th, 2017. Athletes must be marked APPROVED through the ECollect Form system (PowerSchool) prior to an athlete being able to participate. Please follow this <u>link</u> to our athletics webpage which has the registration information and tryout information as well. GO SPARTANS!

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