

ARHS HAPPENINGS NEWSLETTER



Once again, welcome back to our entire high school community! We opened the 2018-2019 school year with a hugely successful program this past Wednesday. Along with our annual Spartan Story Alumni Speakers, homeroom activities and a full run-through of the class schedule, students and teachers participated in some community building activities. To start us off, we showed [this slide show](#) which highlights our learning expectations (academic, social and civic) along with our Spartan Story Speakers and our school community as a whole. We will continue to highlight our [core values, beliefs and mission statement](#) along with our learning expectations throughout the school year as these serve as the fundamental aspects on which we build our academic, athletic and artistic programming—the three “As.” We will also be focusing throughout the year on our school-wide theme of “be the change,” which was nominated through our student climate survey at the end of last school year and chosen by members of the student body. We’ve worked on finding our passions, making things happen, going the distance and creating a just society by being the change. I look forward to seeing parents and guardians at our annual back to school nights that are taking place in the coming weeks (see below for more information) Have a great weekend.

Sincerely,

Anna N. Mahon

Principal

Happenings and Information

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. Class visits begin at 6:55. The schedule for the evening can be found [here](#).**

Star Testing Dates: The universal screening STAR test will be administered to all freshmen, sophomores and juniors this year.

The first of the three annually scheduled tests will occur during the 2nd full week of September.

Senior Late Arrival/Early Dismissal: If your child is a senior with a first or last session study hall (on any letter day) he/she is eligible to sign up for the senior privilege of “late arrival” or “early dismissal.” Seniors need to print out a copy of their schedules, circle the appropriate study hall periods, sign the form, have a parent or guardian sign the form and turn it in to their assigned administrator. Please note: this privilege can only be accommodated if a study hall falls at the beginning or end of a student’s scheduled day.

Underclassmen Picture Days: Underclass pictures will be taken during English classes on Wednesday, October 3rd, and Thursday, October 4th. English teachers will inform their classes of which day to prepare for. All underclassmen received portrait order forms during homeroom on the first day of school. If you have any questions, please contact the yearbook advisors, Ken Clark and Vicki Hulse, at embers@amityschools.org.

Amity Music Department Happenings: The fall is here! The music department is excited to begin preparations for the many performances that will be happening throughout the school year! First up, Music In Motion! Music In Motion is November 9th and 10th. Tickets go on sale soon!! Check the music department website for full details of our upcoming concerts and events! Log on to our [website](#) to see more! Be sure to follow us on Facebook at Amity.MusicDepartment and Twitter @AmityMusic01 for up to the minute updates!

Senior Happenings

College Visits: Each week, throughout the fall season, Amity High School hosts representatives from many colleges throughout the country. These representatives are available to share information about their institutions and discuss the admissions process with our juniors and seniors. A list of schools visiting Amity can be found [here](#) and on Naviance. If a student is interested in attending any of these info sessions, please register on Naviance and obtain a pass from the Career Center. Students are provided excused absences from class to meet with representatives.

Senior Parent Night: Save the date. The Amity Regional High School Counseling Department will host a Senior Parent Night on Tuesday, September 20th at 6:30 pm in the Brady Center.

Notes from Counseling Department

Important ARHS Dates: In an effort to communicate early and often, the counseling department has created a brief list of important dates for the 2018-2019 school year. In addition, we will be sending information through the weekly newsletter and, in certain cases, PowerSchool e-blasts. Please see this [list](#) of important dates and social media contacts.

Juniors and Seniors: Full-year or Semester 1 Independent Study proposals must be in to Mrs. Campbell by Thursday September 13. If you have any questions please contact Mrs. Campbell in the Counseling Department.

Financial Aid Night: Save the date. The Amity Regional High School Counseling Department will host a Financial Aid Night on Wednesday, September 27th at 6:30 pm in the Brady Center. Colleen Mulrooney Barker, Director Of Student Financial Services, St. Vincent's College at Sacred Heart University.

New Course Deadline: The deadline for students who wish to add a course to their schedule in place of a study hall must do so by Thursday, September 6th.

Community Service: Amity High School offers a community service graduation incentive for all students. Students who complete and document 100 hours of community service over their 4 years at Amity will receive recognition on their diploma upon graduation. Students may use volunteer sites they are already involved with, or may seek new ideas through Amity's Career Center. For more information about community service, please email Paula Vallie at paula.vallie@reg5.k12.ct.us. Current community service opportunities throughout the year will be posted in the Career Center and in the weekly "Happenings."

Important Reminders

Late Bus Schedule: Late buses, which begin on September 11th, 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.

Student Accident Insurance Coverage and Claim Form:

Please find information here regarding extended [insurance coverage information](#) and [claim form](#).

Free/Reduced Lunch, SNAP, and HUSKY Child Health

Insurance Information: Forms for free/reduced lunch, Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) and low cost HUSKY child health insurance are available on our website under “Parents”, “Forms/Applications” or by clicking on this [link](#).

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.

Amity High School PTSO: Join the PTSO to support your students and school. Mail in your form 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](#). You can also use this online [link](#) for membership. Join today and support Amity High School PTSO!

Athletics

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

Next week's full athletics schedule may be viewed [here](#).

Community Happenings

Support the Jamie 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 8th 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](#).

Free Community Program: Please see this [flyer](#) for information on a free “psychological first aid” program sponsored by Naugatuck Valley Medical Reserve Corps.

Amity Adult & Continuing Education Program: Fall courses are now available online! Some great new courses are coming this fall that include using SAT Prep courses, Photoshop, creative art courses, DIY Wood Sign making, Glass Etching and more! Log on [here](#) to register today! Space is limited! Questions? No problem! Contact us: philip.dolan@reg5.k12.ct.us

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