

ARHS HAPPENINGS NEWSLETTER



“No one is born hating another person because of the colour of his skin, or his background or his religion. People learn to hate, and if they can learn to hate, they can be taught to love, for love comes more naturally to the human heart than its opposite.” –Nelson Mandela

Throughout this past week, our school community was faced with confronting issues of anti-Semitism and intolerant behavior. Students used their voices to create a platform for change both within our school walls and outside in the greater community. The faculty and staff have demonstrated a true commitment to listening, compassion and willingness to help students have difficult conversations throughout the week. The students have shown an amazing commitment to working collectively toward healing and making systemic change.

Our community has never been stronger and more willing to change. However, if we want to lay the groundwork for true, lasting change in our classrooms, our schools, and our communities, we must first be patient. Eternal change does not occur in a day, a week, a month, or even a year. By working together, we have begun to heal, to learn and to grow. Our commitment to creating a safe and supportive school community is steadfast. We will continue to collaborate with the faculty, students and members of the larger community to organize programming that will help us create lasting, positive change.

Hate does not belong in our time, nor any time to come. We are conquering this issue now not only for this generation, but for generations of the past who could not speak up, and for generations of the future so they will not have to speak up. That’s because we are **#StrongerThanHate**. Have a wonderful weekend.*

Sincerely,

Anna Mahon

Jonathan Schachter

Kobi Spence

Principal

Senior

Senior

*This week’s newsletter was co-authored by those listed above.

College and Career of the Week: This week's college is [Trinity College](#), and the career of the week is [Urban Planner](#). Trinity College is located in Hartford, Connecticut and has a student population of approximately 2,200 undergraduate students. Primarily a liberal arts college, Trinity also boasts programs in engineering and neuroscience. Urban planners develop land use plans and programs that help create communities, accommodate population growth and revive physical facilities in towns and cities. According to the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics, job growth for urban planners is expected to be 13% through 2026 - faster than the average for all occupations.

Happenings and Information

Spirit Week: Spirit Week will continue when we host the Flag Football game against North Haven on Saturday, November 17th at 4:00pm. There will also be various theme days for the week of November 19th-21st. More information will be sent to students via ARHS Student Happenings Newsletter, which is published every Sunday evening and sent to students via their @amityschools.org email addresses.

Wednesday, November 21st-The day before Thanksgiving, November 21st, will be a regular school day for students; it will be a modified A day with periods 4, 5, and 6 meeting for a full class period that day. We will also hold a modified homeroom in the middle of the morning and conclude our school day with our annual Student Government Pep Rally. Students will be dismissed at 12:12.

Amity Youth Survey: The Amity Youth Survey will be administered to students in grades 7, 9, and 11 on November 21, 2018. The survey should take no more than 20 minutes to complete. The results are completely anonymous; the survey does not ask for the student's name, nor is a respondent's information tracked individually. We are strongly encouraging all students to participate in the survey. A copy of the survey can be viewed [here](#). If you have any questions regarding the survey, we ask that you please contact Pamela Mautte or Lorrie McFarland at the Alliance for Prevention and Wellness by calling 203-736-8566 or via email at pmautte@bhcare.org or lmcfarland@bhcare.org. You do have the right to opt out of the survey and alternate arrangements will be made for your child when the survey is administered. If you choose to not have your child participate in the survey, please contact Dr. E. Marie McPadden at 203.397.4812 **by noon on Tuesday**,

November 20, 2018. We thank you for your support and look forward to sharing the results with you.

Parent/Teacher/Student Conferences: The parent-teacher conferences originally scheduled for last night were postponed to Monday, November 19th. Our next conference dates after Monday are November 28 from 5pm-7:30pm and December 5 from 12:45pm-3:15 pm. If you encounter any problems or have questions about signing up, please send an email: helpdesk@amityschools.org.

Speak-Up Reminder: Parents and students can help stop intolerant and inappropriate behavior by using our anonymous “Speak Up” system to report any bullying, drug possession, crime, and other school or community safety concerns by calling or texting 203-404-6740. There is also a link on the District 5 website.

Senior Happenings

Volunteer Opportunity: The **Yale New Haven Hospital 2019 Spring Youth Academic Volunteer Program** will be opening up their registration on or around December 1, 2018. The program dates will be from January 28 – April 26, 2019. If you are interested in more information, please pick up an informational packet in the Career Center.

WCSU Instant Decision Day: [Western Connecticut State University](#) will hold an Instant Decision Day at Amity High School on Tuesday, December 11, 2018. Interested seniors may meet with a WCSU admission’s representative on-site. WCSU admissions representatives will review completed applications and provide on-the-spot admission notifications. Students must apply through [The Common Application](#) by November 27, 2018. Interested seniors are asked to speak with their school counselor or see Mrs. Vallie in the Career Center to schedule a meeting.

Notes from Counseling Department

Community Service Postings: If you would like updated information regarding community service activities, please sign up to receive updates through "[REMIND.COM](#)". Please text @amityserve to 81010 to register. Community service opportunities are also posted on a bulletin board in the Career Center. We have

blank forms to be signed at your service sites and all hours are to be logged into PowerSchool/Unified Classroom before submitting to our office. See Mrs. Vallie or Mrs. Cocco for more details.

Important Reminders

Yearbooks Are Now On Sale: *Embers* 2019 is now available for pre-order at amityembers.com. Pre-orders must be placed by November 16th. The regular ordering window will then open on November 17th. Contact yearbook advisors Ken Clark and Vicki Hulse at embers@amityschools.org with any questions.

Amity School District Email Addresses: Please be advised, the current amity email address exchange of “first.last@reg5.k12.ct.us” has changed to “first.last@amityregion5.org.” This is an informational announcement only, as the old exchange will be automatically rerouted to the new exchange. However, you will be receiving emails from Amity Regional School District #5 employees from the new email exchange from now on.

Athletics

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

Buy your Amity Spartan Gear! Log on to this [website](#) to purchase athletic gear and support the Spartans.

For a copy of next week's competition schedule, please click [here](#).

For a copy of this week’s competition results, please click [here](#).

Community Happenings

Get your tickets now: *The Curious Incident of the Dog in the Night Time* Dec 07, 2018 - Dec 08, 2018 John J. Brady Center, Woodbridge, CT Winner of 7 Olivier Awards and 5 Tony Awards® including ‘Best Play’, *The Curious Incident of the Dog in*

the Night-Time brings Mark Haddon's best-selling novel to thrilling life on stage. Get your tickets [here](#).

Opportunity to help the “New Beginnings” Student Club:

The New Beginnings club helps provide donations and helps a women's shelter called New Reach. Last year the shelter helped around 3,587 women and their families. Currently, the club is making care-packages- backpacks filled with necessities like water bottles, blankets, and winter gear. These items can be gently used. There are donations boxes are outside of the main office. Thank you for your donation!

Amity Enterprises and FBLA Club: In a collaboration between the Amity Future Business Leaders of America Club and the Amity Manufacturing class, a wide range of products will be sold through Amity Enterprises. Amity Enterprises offers a variety of products that will lighten up any home with all sorts of customizations available with custom lettering and fonts. These products will be great for any home or they can also be a gift for the holidays. You can view the products and order through their [website](#).

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Reach Thousands in Seconds