

## ARHS HAPPENINGS NEWSLETTER



ARHS is a large school, with over 1480 students, and it can sometimes feel a bit overwhelming because of the size. In an effort to make this larger school feel smaller, we have had, among other program, an advisory program at the high school for the past 15 years. This program is called Spartan Seminar and is predicated on fostering connections among students, between students and adults in the building with whom the students do not necessarily have an academic class and a space for us to discuss, consider and reflect on our core values, beliefs and learning expectations. Throughout this year, we have focused specifically on our social and civic learning expectations through our Spartan Seminar program and this past week we discussed the value of integrity—specifically academic integrity (the lesson can be found [here](#)). As a community of learners, this value is of the utmost importance to maintaining a respectful and just school environment but it is also an integral part of upholding the intrapersonal responsibility we each have to being true to ourselves. During my discussion with a 9<sup>th</sup> grade Spartan Seminar, we discussed the dangers of cheating, including the loss of your own identity; when you cheat, you don't know where your own ability and potential ends and the cheating begins. I encourage you to take some time this weekend to discuss this Spartan Seminar lesson with your child. As we move in to this final stretch of the school year and we continue our focus on our academic, social and civic learning expectations, let us not lose sight of the core values and beliefs that anchor those expectations. Have a great weekend!

Sincerely,

*Anna N. Mahon*

Principal

**College and Career of the Week:** This week's college is **University of Delaware**, and the career of the week is **Chemical Engineer**. Known as the college where “study abroad originated”, the [University of Delaware](#) sent its first group of

students abroad to Rome, Paris, Vienna, London and Geneva during the 1926-1927 school year. Today the university has grown to over 17,000 undergraduate students and approximately 3,700 graduate students, offering over 150 majors. Learn more at their website. [Chemical Engineers](#) use the principles of chemistry, biology, physics, and math to solve problems that involve the production or use of chemicals, fuel, drugs, food, and many other products. The median salary is approximately \$102,000 per year (Bureau of Labor Statistics, 2017). Learn more from the professional association, the [American Institute of Chemical Engineers](#). For more information, students can view the bulletin boards in the main hallway and in the Career Center and/or speak with the Career Center staff.

## **Happenings and Information**

**2019-2020 Scheduling Process:** Parents MUST log on to Unified Classroom accounts and approve student requests by the end of the day today. Failure to do so may result in students not receiving courses that they requested. This approval process is your **LAST** chance to waive a level recommendation. After the deadline (March 8<sup>th</sup>) you will no longer be able to request a level change. Directions for navigating the approval process can be found [here](#).

**No School on March 15:** There will be no school for students on March 15 for staff professional development. **The building will closed on Friday March 15, from 11:00 am – 3:00 pm** so all staff can participate in Professional Learning.

**Becoming an Ally Training:** The Anti-Defamation League will be providing “Becoming an Ally” training to a select group of students on May 22<sup>nd</sup>. Students in grades 9-11 are encouraged to apply to participate in the training. This interactive training program is participatory, and provides practical opportunities to engage students in exploring the harms of name-calling and bullying and developing and practicing skills to respond to incidents. Please have your child complete this [Google form](#) if interested. The deadline to complete the form is March 22<sup>nd</sup>. Students will be notified in early April if they have been selected to participate.

**J. Hulley Foundation Sponsored Speaker:** Author and journalist Jake Halpern will visit Amity Regional High School on Tuesday, March 12<sup>th</sup> to offer workshops to students in Media and English Language Arts classes. Mr. Halpern has worked as a journalist for the past twenty years. His work has appeared in *The*

*New Yorker* and *New York Times Magazine*, and includes non-fiction books such as *Bad Paper*, *Fame Junkies*, and *Braving Home*. Mr. Halpern recently was awarded the 2018 Pulitzer Prize for the online publication *Welcome to the New World*, a true story of a family of Syrian refugees. Mr. Halpern's visit promises to be a lively discussion on the power of non-fiction writing, which he sees as a "magical and a powerful way to tell stories about issues like refugee migration, which are otherwise often hard to grasp or get interested in." The event will be hosted by Amity librarians Robert Musco and Victoria Hulse and is made possible by the Jamie Hulley Arts Foundation. More information about the Foundation's mission of bringing professionals in the arts to work with young people can be found at [jamiehulleyartsfund.org](http://jamiehulleyartsfund.org). This event is not open to the public.

**Embers Ad Space Is Sold Out:** The yearbook staff has now filled all ad space for *Embers* 2019 and cannot accommodate any additional requests at this time. Thanks to all family, friends, and businesses who purchased ad space--we appreciate your support!

## **Senior Happenings**

**Community Service Information for Seniors:** Seniors who have completed at least 100 hours of volunteer service during their high school career at Amity will be recognized at graduation for their service to the community. Each Senior will receive a certificate along with a special honor cord to be worn at graduation. All completed community service forms **must be handed no later than April 15th, 2019**. Seniors can find their accumulated hours in PowerSchool under Ecollect Forms. If you have any questions regarding community service, please stop by the Career Center.

**Local Scholarship Opportunity: The Orange Little League Baseball/Softball Scholarship** is now available for **seniors** who currently reside in Orange, Woodbridge, or Bethany and have previously either played, was a Scorekeeper or Umpire for the Orange Little League. Applications are available in the Career Center. **The deadline to apply is Friday, April 19, 2019.**

## **Notes from Counseling Department**

**Yale University ITS High School Internship:** The Yale Information Technology Systems Department has a Summer Internship Program that runs from early July to mid-August. This is a paid internship, and the experience is resume-worthy. Students must complete an application [online](#) by April 19, 2019. Students will be notified in May if they are selected to participate, after an interview in April. The following are the qualifying factors:

1. Orange residents only
2. US Citizen
3. Students must demonstrate strong aptitude
4. Well rounded, enthusiastic learners
5. An interest in Information Technology
6. Must be at least 16 by July 1, 2019

**Free Community College Field Trip:** Amity High School will be taking a field trip to **Naugatuck Valley Community College on Friday, March 22, 2019**. If interested, please pick up your permission slip in the Career Center.

### **Important Reminders**

**Amity Efficiency Award:** Please click on this [link](#) for the student application for the Jack B. Levine Efficiency Award of Excellence. The deadline for applications this year is April 26, 2019. There will be one recipient from each school. Each awardee will each receive \$300 and recognition at the June Board of Education meeting. Click on this [link](#) for more details. Completed applications should be sent to me in the main office.

### **Athletics**

**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 schedule, please click [here](#).

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

**Show Your Spartan Pride:** The Amity Athletics Booster Club is selling Yard Signs through March 22nd. Support our club and proudly display your pride for your Amity student(s); suitable for ANY high school or middle school student. Please see this [announcement](#) for more information.

## **Community Happenings**

**Amity Adult & Continuing Education - Spring 2019** The Amity Adult & Continuing Education program cordially invites you to check out our Spring 2019 online [catalog](#)! There are lots of courses to choose from! We have new courses in creativity, health and wellness, fitness, finance, specialty interests, spirituality and many more! View a full list of courses [HERE!](#) Log on today to view our catalog and sign up for one (or more) of our fun and informative courses! The Spring Session is starting now!

**More Upcoming public events in STEM @ Yale!** Click on this [link](#) for the upcoming public events at Yale.

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