

# ARHS HAPPENINGS NEWSLETTER



Greetings and welcome back to school! We are very excited for the 2019-2020 school year to begin. We have been busy throughout this summer preparing for a fantastic new school year. The “ARHS Community Happenings Newsletter” is the weekly email distributed to help keep parents, students and community members informed about what is happening at the high school.

As a reminder, Link Crew 9<sup>th</sup> grade orientation day will be Friday, August 23<sup>rd</sup> (see more information below). As has become a tradition at Amity, our first day of school on August 28<sup>th</sup> will be packed with various activities to kick-off the school year, including hosting the “Spartan Stories Program” for all students. 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 full-student day of school program will follow in next week’s newsletter.

Please remember that our Back to School Night for parents of 9<sup>th</sup> and 12<sup>th</sup> grade students is on Thursday, September 12<sup>th</sup> and Back to School Night for parents of 10<sup>th</sup> and 11<sup>th</sup> grade students is scheduled for Wednesday, September 18<sup>th</sup>. The program will start at 6:30pm on both nights.

The weekly newsletters contain a plethora of information. You will also receive supplemental information from the district throughout the school year. All academic grade information is communicated through PowerSchool. Please be sure to create a separate PowerSchool account from that of your child. Emergency notifications, such as weather closures, will be also be communicated via PowerSchool. If you ever have any questions, 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 28<sup>th</sup> at 7:34am!

I’m looking forward to an exciting year and hope that you and your child/children are able to have a restful last few weeks of the summer.

Sincerely,

*Anna N. Mahon*

Principal

### **Back To School Information**

**Link Crew Freshman Orientation:** Link Crew, Amity's year-long 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 23rd 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 of hot dogs and hamburgers 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. Also, ninth grade parents should know that Link Leaders will make every attempt to personally contact all incoming ninth graders. If the telephone number provided in PowerSchool is NOT a phone number where a Link Leader can easily reach your child, please click this [link](#) to provide us additional information.

**2019-2020 Student Schedules:** Student schedules will be available through PowerSchool Unified Classroom beginning Monday, August 19<sup>th</sup>. As a reminder, students will be reporting to their homeroom (same as Spartan Seminar room) location on Wednesday morning, August 28<sup>th</sup>. No printed schedules will be distributed.

**Student Parking:** Student parking at Amity Regional 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. Please see this [memo](#) regarding the process for registering for a parking tag as well as the parking rules and regulations. **Eligible seniors and juniors may park on campus without a parking tag (while applications are being processed) through September 6<sup>th</sup>. Parking tags must be displayed beginning September 9<sup>th</sup>.**

**2019-2020 Student Handbook:** The ARHS Student Handbook can be found on the website at this [link](#) under “school information.”

**2019-2020 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 21<sup>st</sup>**, 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. This event is specific to the Link Crew Program and orientation day activities.

**Student Agenda Pads:** School-issued agenda pads for the 2019-2020 school year will be distributed on Wednesday, August 28<sup>th</sup> to all students.

**One Book/One Amity:** As a reminder, this year’s school-wide summer reading is *Dear Evan Hansen*. Students, parents and community members are invited to a special OBOA event on Monday, August 26<sup>th</sup> from 6-7:30 call OBOA A La Mode. Please see the [flyer](#) for more information.

**Important Counseling Dates:** Please see [this document](#) for a list of important night-time events hosted by the ARHS Counseling Department. If you have any questions, please contact the counseling department at 203-397-4846.

**Bell Schedule:** The 2019-2020 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. Students are reminded to please commit their bus number to memory.

**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 [flyer](#) has information about MyPaymentsPlus. Amity Regional High School uses MyPaymentsPlus as a vendor for online payments for school-related expenses.

**Annual Pesticide and Asbestos Letters:** These letters contain information about the [district's pesticide use](#) (CT Public Act 99-165) and [asbestos abatement](#) information.

**Green Cleaning:** This [letter](#) 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 [link](#).

## **Athletics**

### **FALL REGISTRATION AND TRY-OUT INFORMATION:**

Fall athletics for the high school begins in the next few weeks (dependent on the sport). All athletes must register online and have a physical on record with the nurse that is valid for the entire fall season. Athletes must be marked APPROVED on the Form Release registration site prior to an athlete being able to participate. Please follow this [link](#) to our athletics webpage which has the registration information and tryout information as well. GO SPARTANS!

## **Community Happenings**

**Jamie A. Hulley Arts Gala:** Jamie Hulley was an outstanding student at Amity Regional High School with a true passion for the arts. Tragically, Jamie passed away during her college years. Her family established The Jamie Hulley Arts Foundation to promote a legacy of support for artistic endeavors. Amity students benefit each year from generous donations from the Hulley Fund. This year's gala will be held on Saturday, September 7, 2019, at the Quick Center of Fairfield University will feature "*OH WHAT A NIGHT!*," a musical tribute to Frankie Valli & The Four Seasons. The performance begins at 7 p.m. and is preceded by an *Evening for the Arts* reception at 6 p.m., which includes complimentary beverages, dessert bar, and a 100 item silent auction. Tickets are \$45 in advance or \$50 at the door. Call the Quick Center Box Office at 203-254-4010. It will be a wonderful evening and a worthy cause! Here is a [Press release](#) and [link](#) with more information about the event.

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