

## ARHS HAPPENINGS NEWSLETTER



“The future belongs to those who believe in the beauty of their dreams.”

~Eleanor Roosevelt

After a hugely successful 2019 Link Crew Freshman Orientation today (please see these pictures: [welcome](#), [group](#) and [poster](#)), we turn our attention to the opening of school for all students, faculty and staff next week. For the past 4 years, we have worked hard to kick-off the school year with a program that highlights our core values of **fairness**, **respect** and **passion** as well as one that inspires and excites our students. Rather than spending the entire day reviewing class and school rules, homework expectations and logistics, we spend the first day of school on Wednesday celebrating the opening of the 2019-2020 school with an enthusiastic welcome for our entire school community.

On Wednesday, students will report directly to their designated homeroom/Spartan Seminar room locations to begin the day's activities. During the first portion of the day, students will attend our annual “Spartan Stories” series. The Spartan Stories annual kick-off program invites ARHS alumni to share their stories with our current students and explain how their experience at Amity helped them to be successful in their various endeavors. During this first portion of the day, students will also participate in a few community building activities and receive important information and materials for the school year through homeroom. After the morning Speaker Series and homeroom sessions, all students will run through a truncated schedule to meet this year's teachers, go to lunch and meet with the building administration to be welcomed during whole-school meetings in the Brady Center. The day will conclude with a community-building activity with homeroom groups. The schedule for the day can be found [here](#). Please have your child bring a copy of his/her schedule with him/her to school

on Wednesday. Biography information for this year's Spartan Stories Speakers can be found [here](#).

We can't wait to welcome all of our students to ARHS on Wednesday. Have a wonderful weekend!

Sincerely,

Anna N. Mahon

Principal

## **Happenings and Information**

**Exciting News from Niche.com!** Amity Regional High School has been voted the best public high school in New Haven County, according to the popular website Niche.com. Please see this [link](#) for more information.

**School offices closed on Tuesday, August 27th, in the AM:** Please note that the entire building will be closed on Tuesday, August 27, from 7:30 a.m. until 12:30 p.m. as all staff will be at the opening of school convocation and participating in professional development.

**Letter Day Calendar:** This upcoming school year's letter day calendar with important program information can be found [here](#). This important resource for students and parents is subject to change due to weather, etc. Updates will be communicated if a change is necessitated.

**High School Counseling Department and Main Office Hours:** Monday, August 26<sup>th</sup>, will be a faculty/staff only day for Amity Regional High School. Counselors will be available sporadically throughout the day, but will also be in meetings for large portions of the day. Due to the District #5 convocation on **Tuesday, August 27<sup>th</sup>**, main and counseling offices will be opening at **9:30am and closing at 2:30pm**. School year hours (7:00am-3:30pm) will begin on Wednesday, August 28<sup>th</sup>.

**Wednesday Schedule/Student Summer Work:** As mentioned, we will be holding a special schedule on the first day of school where we will celebrate welcoming students back to school and focus on building a community! While students will meet their teachers during brief (19 minute) classes on Wednesday, they are not required to bring any summer work or school materials with them. Due to the focus of the day, and the limited time in the class

schedule, **all summer work will be due starting on the first day of class on Thursday, August 29<sup>th</sup>.**

**Amity High School PTSO:** Join the PTSO to support your students and school. Follow this [link](#) to register online or 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](#). Join today and support Amity High School PTSO!

**Late Bus Schedule:** Late buses, which begin on September 10<sup>th</sup>, 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.

**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](#).

**Scheduled power outage this weekend:** On Saturday, August 24, 2019, there will be a complete power outage for approximately 8-10 hours at the Amity Regional High School campus. This will impact both building access, as the building will be closed, and technology access to PowerSchool/Unified Classroom. The testing will take place during the day on Saturday and technology should be back up and running by 7am on Monday, August 26<sup>th</sup>.

## **Important Reminders**

**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.

**OBOA A La Mode:** 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.

**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.

**Back-to-School Nights:** Mark your calendars, Back-to-School Night for parents of 9<sup>th</sup> and 12<sup>th</sup> grade students will be held on Thursday, September 6<sup>th</sup>. Back-to-School Night for parents of 10<sup>th</sup> and 11<sup>th</sup> grade students is scheduled for Wednesday, September 12<sup>th</sup>. 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.**

**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>.**

**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.

## **Athletics**

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

Fall athletics for the high school have begun or will begin soon. Please follow this [link](#) to our athletics webpage for further information. 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 a [link](#) with more information.

