

ARHS COMMUNITY HAPPENINGS NEWSLETTER



As we conclude our second week of off-site learning, it is safe to say that we are learning and growing from this process. To echo the superintendent's message from earlier today, I continue to be grateful to the hard work that our **entire** community is putting forward to continue some semblance of school. We appreciate all of the feedback and information we have gotten from parents regarding difficulties with platforms, questions about assignments, positive responses about interactions with school personnel and sharing resources. We have all acknowledged that we cannot recreate onsite learning, but we can continue to build relationships and community. As we continue to move through this unique experience together, it is really important for our students and teachers to continue to stay connected. Many teachers have offered real-time (synchronous) activities where they are able to offer support, instructions and confirmations to students. While often not required, it is important that students take advantage of these opportunities for all of the reasons listed above. As parents, we are all working to support our children socially, emotionally, academically and organizationally and, particularly now, it can feel overwhelming. One way to support your child is to discuss the assignments and expectations for each class and ask if there are any opportunities to interact with the teacher (it could be a virtual face-to-face meeting, but it may also be through an interactive Google doc). If there are opportunities, please encourage your child to take advantage to continue to foster the positive relationships within our school community. As has been reiterated over the past many weeks, we will get through this together and my goal is we will come out of this a stronger, more connected community than ever before. We've got this!

Sincerely,

Anna N. Mahon

Principal

College and Career of the Week: This week's college is [Florida Polytechnic University](#) and the career of the week is **Management Consultants**. Florida Poly opened for classes in the fall of 2014. The university is located in Lakeland, Florida along the "high tech corridor" between Orlando and Tampa. Currently, Florida Poly enrolls 1,289 undergraduate students and offers innovative academic programs in the STEM fields. (See list of [programs here](#).) Florida Poly was recently ranked as the number ONE college in the USA for "[Lowest Cost for Out-of-State Tuition](#)" and number TWO in the USA for "[affordable Mechanical Engineering degrees](#)". [Annual costs](#) are \$33,676 (2019-2020) per academic year (out-of-state tuition, fees, room and board). "[Management Analysts](#) propose ways to improve an organization's efficiency" (Bureau of Labor Statistics, 2018). Management analysts (sometimes called business analysts) collect and process data to assist their company or clients in making decisions. A bachelors' degree is required to secure an entry level position in this career field. Many analysts will later pursue a "[certified management consultant](#)" designation through a governing body called the "Institute of Management Consultants". The median salary is \$ 83,610 and the profession is expected to have **faster than average job growth at 14% through 2028** (BLS, 2018). For more

information, please visit the [Institute of Management Consultants](#) or the [Chartered Institute of Management Consultants](#).

Happenings and Information

Holiday Observations: Passover begins next Wednesday evening, April 8th, and the Easter Holiday is the weekend of April 10th. As such, all assessments and assignments will be due by mid-afternoon on Wednesday, April 8th.

End of 3rd Quarter Reminder: As a reminder, the 3rd marking period will close on April 9th. The beginning of 4th marking period will begin on April 20th.

Peer Tutoring returns!: ONLINE PEER TUTORING IS AVAILABLE - please submit your [request HERE](#) or email the advisors: alison.staak@amityregion5.org OR lynn.cocco@amityregion5.org

Parent/Guardian Resource: Our school social worker, Nicole DeNara, has created a Parent/Guardian Resource document. It can be found on our webpage under COVID Resources or click [here](#).

Outside Resources: We've created a community resource document for students so they have resources beyond Amity if they need outside support. [Click here to access](#)

Senior Happenings

ARHS Scholarships: Every year, we are able to select recipients for scholarships supported by members of the Bethany, Orange, and Woodbridge communities. Approximately 100 scholarships are given to members of the senior class who demonstrate the attributes and characteristics described in each scholarship. Our scholarship application is up and running. The deadline for all applications is April 10th. Students received directions on how to complete the application through school email.

Current Local Scholarships: All applications can be found and uploaded through Naviance under each individual scholarship. If you should have any questions regarding scholarships, please email Mrs. Vallie at paula.vallie@amityregion5.org.

- **Bethany Lions Club**
- **Orange Scholarship Fund Association**
- **Amity Charitable Trust Fund**
- **UConn (Waterbury Campus) Scholarship**
- **Connecticut Association of Latinos in Higher Education, Inc. Scholarship**
- **Beth-wood Baseball League Scholarship**
- **Orange Little League Scholarship**
- **The Lucy Scillia Scholarship**
- **Orange Youth Services Scholarship**
- **Orange Rotary Scholarship**
- **Joseph Cuzzocreo Scholarship**

Attention Seniors: If seniors have any completed community service forms at home, please scan or take a picture of your forms and email them to Mrs. Vallie at paula.vallie@amityregion5.org. If you are unsure how many hours you have accumulated, you can view your hours on PowerSchool under forms. Completed forms must be handed in by April 15th! As always, email Mrs. Vallie if you have any questions or concerns.

Notes from Counseling Department

ATTENTION JUNIORS - in lieu of visiting colleges this month, the College and Career Center has prepared links to "virtual tours" for the 50 most popular colleges with Amity students (2016-2019). Just click on the [link here](#) (or visit the College & Career Center's webpage) and enjoy the tours.

College Board has released some updates-General College Board updates can be found [here](#). The latest information about AP testing and AP instructional supports are found [here](#). This is a major change in AP testing so if you are scheduled to take an AP exam, please visit the link above.

AP Resources: The College Board, administrator of Advanced Placement exams, is offering students access to free, live AP review lessons, delivered by AP teachers from across the country beginning on Wednesday, March 25th. These optional, mobile-friendly classes are designed to be used alongside work that may be given by schools. These classes will also be available on-demand, so teachers and students can access them at any time. These online classes are not dependent on current AP teachers continuing instruction as we know many AP teachers now face challenges that would make that impossible. Additionally, for the 2019-20 AP Exam administration only, we're developing secure 45-minute online exams for each course. These streamlined digital exams will not require any test booklet shipments, external proctors, or any additional workload for schools. The exam content will focus on what most schools were able to complete by early-March. For each AP subject, there will be two different testing dates. By April 3rd, we'll publish the full exam schedule including the specific free-response question types that will compromise each AP exam. Please find more details [here](#).

Important Reminders

Attention 11th grade students/parents/guardians: The CT State Dept. of Education announced that there will be no Next Generation Science Standards testing for this school year for juniors.

In addition-SAT in-school testing: The CT State Dept. of Education also announced that there will be no SAT school day testing for juniors this year. The CSDE will work closely with the College Board to determine how best to afford all students the opportunity to take an SAT assessment either this spring or sometime in the future.

Student Information for Off-Site Learning: Please use the following links for help with getting children ready for off-site/online learning. This is a 3 minute [video](#) of instructions, and written instructions can be found here. These links will also be posted on the Amity Website school pages under *Students-Links/Resources*.

Speak-Up: 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 203-936-6784. There is also a [link](#) on the District 5 website.

Athletics

Athletic Department Update: Spring sports are postponed until further notice. The athletic department has been reaching out to students who have registered for a spring sport with information to get prepared for the season. Please refer to Amity student email for more information.

Continue to be safe and well, Amity!