

## ARHS COMMUNITY HAPPENINGS NEWSLETTER



Today concludes our first full week of remote teaching and learning 2.0, but I am so impressed by the level of engagement and consistency of instruction that have been exhibited throughout the week. When I think back to where we were on March 13th and how far we have come by November 13th (I do recognize that they were both on Fridays), it is truly astounding how much growth and flexibility that is evident throughout our ARHS Community. We have worked hard to balance the clear changes that have been necessary to meet the learning, social and emotional needs of our students while trying to maintain a semblance of consistency for all of our students, teachers and staff, as well. Our school has demonstrated perseverance, responsibility and cohesion, especially since returning to school in late August. Thank you for the work you have done at home to support your children and our faculty and staff. Have a wonderful weekend.

Sincerely,

*Anna N. Mahon*

Principal

**College and Career of the Week:** [Howard University](#) is located in Washington, DC, approximately 305 miles away from the BOW area. [Founded in 1867](#), Howard University is one of our nation's oldest HBCUs ([Historically Black Colleges and Universities](#)). The university enrolls over 9,600 students who [pursue degrees](#) within 13 schools and colleges. [Annual tuition, fees and room & board](#) costs are about \$48,000 per year. Learn more by visiting Howard's [admissions office](#), viewing [fast facts](#) or taking a [virtual tour](#). Learn more about HBCUs by [visiting here](#). [“Physicians and surgeons](#) diagnose and treat injuries or illnesses” (Bureau of Labor Statistics, 2019). After enduring at least 10 years of rigorous training, most [medical doctors](#) will choose an area of specialty; pediatrics (children), internal medicine (general medicine) or cardiology (heart) are some of the most commonly known specialties. Doctors usually work in hospitals, clinics and private offices, while others may work as teachers or in government. The average annual salary for physicians is \$208,000 and average job growth is expected (4%) through 2029 (BLS, 2019). To learn more about [pursuing a medical career](#), visit the [American Medical Association](#), the [Society of General Internal Medicine](#) or the [American College of Physicians](#).

*Some colleges that offer programs in pre-medical studies include:*

Howard University	Univ of New Haven	Univ of Rhode Island
SUNY/Stony Brook	Univ of Saint Joseph	Quinnipiac University
Western New England U	Ithaca College	Merrimack College
Sacred Heart University	Southern CT State	Albertus Magnus College
Northeastern University	SUNY/Albany	UCONN
Central CT State	UMASS/Amherst	Hofstra University

*or visit NAVIANCE to search for more choices!*

## **Happenings and Information**

**Wednesday, November 25th:** The Board of Education has graciously designated next Wednesday, November 25th, a school-free day. School will conclude on Tuesday, November 24th for the Thanksgiving Holiday Recess and resume on Monday, November 30th with a "D" day. Happy Thanksgiving!

**Embers Yearbook Grad Ads:** Please see this [video](#) announcement for information on this year's Embers Yearbook Gad Ads campaign.

**Final 1st Quarter Parent-Teacher Conferences:** Thank you to everyone who has signed up and participated in our virtual parent-teacher conferences for 1st marking period. The final parent-teacher conference date is December 2nd. The sign-up form will be available through the morning of Tuesday, November 24th.

**PTSO Update and Fundraiser:** Thank you to everyone who attended last night's ARHS PTSO Meeting, which featured Dr. Mohammed and Mr. Brian Slugoski from the Orange Health Department. The PTSO will be sponsoring a family photo fundraiser (with photographer and ARHS Grad Stephanie Durkee). Please see this [flyer](#) for more information.

## **Senior Happenings/Counseling Department Notes**

**Additional College Resources:** Seniors and parents are encouraged to visit our College & Career website [here](#), where you can find general information about college search resources, weekly college visits, Direct Admission Days at Amity, College & Career of the Week, career search resources, community service information, and working papers requirements/employment guidance.

**College Visits Throughout the Fall:** This fall, college representatives will be visiting us virtually. Juniors and Seniors may register for virtual college visits by signing into NAVIANCE and following these instructions:

- Click on COLLEGES - RESEARCH COLLEGES - COLLEGE VISITS
- Scroll through the listing of colleges (sorted by date and time)
- REGISTER for those visits you want to attend. (More details to follow.)

Virtual visits will be held afterschool on week days between the hours of 3pm to 7pm. You can view the complete listing of visiting college representatives in Naviance, OR you can view the [upcoming week's visit listing HERE](#). Visits begin on Monday, September 14th and conclude in mid-November. For more information about virtual college visits, please contact the [College & Career Center](#).

**Attention Seniors/Financial Aid Information:** Please be aware - the FASFA has been made available as of **Oct. 1<sup>st</sup>**. Students and families should begin applying for [financial aid](#) as soon as possible. Colleges use FASFA information to determine need for institutional-based aid and grant money. Find out what documents you will need to complete [here](#). Get started now as many financial aid awards are distributed on a first-come, first-serve basis. Some colleges will also require the CSS Profile as part of their financial aid process. Please click [here](#) for a list of schools that require this form. Additional information can also be found on our AHS [website](#).

**Albertus Magnus College** of New Haven will be hosting a one-hour [virtual Financial Aid 101 Webinar](#) on **Monday, November 23 at 7:00pm**. Parents and students will have the opportunity to learn important information about the financial aid process.

**Discover Pre-college opportunities for High School Students during Winter Session 2021!** UMass Amherst is offering online pre-college programs designed to give you a preview of the UMass student experience, including college-level academics and being part of a learning community of high school students from all across the U.S. and the world. Register [here](#).

**USA Gap Year Fairs Association** is offering a virtual series of gap year informational sessions from Nov. 30-Dec. 4. For convenience, these workshops will be offered after school hours. Here is a [link](#) for more details!

**Local Scholarship Opportunity: Big Y Foods, Inc**-In tribute to both its employees and its customers Big Y offers an annual scholarship program. This program offers over 300 scholarships each year totaling \$250,000. Big Y scholarships recognize academic merit and achievement and are awarded to the most academically outstanding students in the Big Y area. In addition, there is a scholarship program to commemorate All applications, must be submitted by **February 1, 2021**. Applications must be filled out online [here](#).

**Silver Pen Essay Contest**, sponsored by Evergreen Woods Retirement Community in North Branford, is offering high school seniors, within a 25-mile radius of any Senior Living retirement communities, an opportunity to apply for 3 scholarship award. Students can apply by writing an essay in response to a specific topic. Community members on the Resident Advisory committee will choose who will receive cash prizes. This Advisory Council consists of successful retired business professionals, educators and community leaders. Please visit their website to apply online [here](#).

**The CT Bar Foundation** is running their **21<sup>ST</sup> Annual Quinton Johnstone Statewide High School Essay Contest**. Prizes will include one \$2,000 winner and two runners-up for \$1,000 each. Essay submissions are judged on content/originality, organization, use of resource materials and writing. For more information and application, please click [here](#).

## **Important Reminders**

**Peer Tutoring help:** The ARHS Peer Tutoring program is back and eager to help Amity students. To request PEER TUTORING, please use [this new link](#). Thank you!

## **Athletics**

**ARHS Flag Football:** For those interested in playing girls' flag football, we still plan to play in the spring, COVID willing. However, "swag" is available now, just in time for the holiday season. Deadline to order is November 29. Tell your friends who are interested! Anyone can order now by navigating to [this site](#) and using the SalesCode **AHSFF2020** – it's OK if you are on the fence about playing/change your mind.

## **Community Happenings**

**Attention all former AMSB 9<sup>th</sup> Graders:** Your **AMSB Yearbooks** have finally arrived!!! You or your parents can **pick up your yearbook at Bethany Middle School** at the security office from 7am to 2:30pm. If you have a sibling in school they can pick it up from you and they will also go to the security office and tell them your last name and sign that you received it. Please note, we do not have any extra books....Stay safe and stay active. If you have any questions, email or reach out to me and hopefully I can answer them ! ~Miss Dubai

### **Updates from Woodbridge Youth Services:**

- **“We Care” Kits to Aid Homeless/Community Service Project:** Youth Services invites teens to help the homeless this holiday season by making kits of essentials to donate to our local shelters. Your kit should be a minimum of a gallon size, zip lock bag or drawstring size bag. We suggest decorating your bag letting someone know you are thinking of them, and you care. Some ideas to include in your kits; toiletries (travel size), feminine hygiene products, hats, gloves, socks, tissues, wipes, hand sanitizers, masks, band-aids, water, mints, \$5 GC, granola or protein bar, fruit cup (spoon), flashlight, peanut butter crackers, lip balm, etc. Youth Services will have a drop off time on December 9<sup>th</sup>, between the hours of 1-2:30 pm beside the Center at 4 Meetinghouse Lane (under the canopy) or by appointment. We will be giving one hour of community service for every kit made. Please make sure you bring your completed community service form for approval (if needed). Should you have any questions, please call Youth Services at 203-389-3449 or email us at [youthone@woodbridgect.org](mailto:youthone@woodbridgect.org).
- **Woodbridge Job Bank Seeks Teens Who Want Work:** The Job Bank in Woodbridge offers occasional jobs to teen residents (ages 13 – 18) who would like to work to earn some extra cash. The application process provides an opportunity to learn about the interview process, safety on the job, and how to negotiate pay. Due to COVID-19, most jobs are currently outdoors with masks and social distancing as required. Teens can do yard work, dog walking, shoveling, etc. Responsible teens who wish to join the Job Bank should call for an interview at 203-389-3464 or e-mail [npfund@woodbridgect.org](mailto:npfund@woodbridgect.org) .
- **Need Yard Cleanup and Leaf Raking? Woodbridge Job Bank Can Help:** Woodbridge Job Bank teens will work for Woodbridge residents who wish to hire someone to assist for odd jobs like yard cleanup, weeding, moving boxes, and snow shoveling. Call 203-389-3464 for more information.
- **TEAM Toys 4 Kids Program:** Beginning on November 16, parents who meet income guidelines are eligible to apply for holiday toys for children 12 years of

age or younger. Due to Covid-19, applications for the Toys 4 Kids Program will only be processed online. Income guidelines and applications are available [here](#). Community support is needed. Donors may use the above link to make purchases and view suggestions. If you have a new toy to donate, please contact Youth Services at 203-389-3464 to set a time to drop off your donation before December 9. Your generosity is much appreciated.