

ARHS COMMUNITY HAPPENINGS NEWSLETTER



"We must find time to stop and thank the people who make a difference in our lives."

~John F. Kennedy

This has been a trying fall after a difficult summer of planning and an unprecedented end of the 2019-2020 school year. However, through it all our Amity Regional High School Community has stuck together, leaned on each other and collaborated to tackle significant issues head-on. While school looks very different from this time last year, I am immensely proud of how far we have come from when we were forced to shut down the physical building on March 12th, 2020. Thank you for your trust, support and faith in our work as educators. Have a very restful Thanksgiving holiday.

Sincerely,

Anna N. Mahon

Principal

In lieu of the College/Career of the Week: Instead of sending along the regular message, we wanted to share a video for an annual ARHS tradition: Annual Alumni College Panel. Enjoy!

ANNUAL ALUMNI COLLEGE PANEL - A panel of 8 recent Amity graduates/current college students got together on November 13th, 2020 to discuss college transition issues. This event is usually held live on the day before Thanksgiving for our juniors and seniors. This year, it has been made available to everyone! Please [watch it HERE](#) and enjoy!

Happenings and Information

2020-2021 Midterm Exams: In an effort to focus on instruction and supporting our student social and emotional wellbeing, the high school will not be holding midterm exams for this year. The first semester will still equal 50% of the full year grade (with each marking period counting 25% toward the final grade). The plan is still to have the second semester follow the regular published plan (20% for each marking period; 10% for the final exam).

Post-Thanksgiving Calendar: Please see this [document](#) for the current District-Wide plan for learning cohorts between Thanksgiving and the December Holiday Break.

IMPORTANT HEALTH OFFICE INFORMATION: Please continue to contact the school nurse's office when a member of our community tests positive for COVID-19. Not only does this allow schools and health districts to contact trace efficiently – it will also provide us with information during our weekly meetings to determine the appropriate instructional model based on current data. Parents/guardians should also contact the nurse's office if a student is ill so a date for that student to return to in person learning/school activities can be determined. The direct line to the high school health office is 203-397-4850. Test results may be faxed confidentially to 203-397-4868 or emailed to Kendra.luth@amityregion5.org.

Reminder About Remote Learning Classrooms: Thank you to parents and families for your support throughout the fall as we have navigated this new landscape of hybrid and remote instruction. Please remind your child to have the camera on the device turned on during direct instruction/classroom time, unless otherwise instructed by the teacher. This helps ensure student engagement and supports a cohesive classroom community.

Senior Happenings

Congratulations to Our Seniors: Well done to all of our seniors, who have spent the past summer and fall working hard to prepare for life after Amity. Fall of senior year is always stressful, but this year was made even more so due to the impact of the pandemic. You continue to persevere and focus on the bigger picture. We are thankful for you!

For Seniors: Students who are looking to apply to a college/university with a January 1 deadline must submit a transcript request in Naviance no later than December 7th. Please keep in mind that school counselors will be on winter break beginning on

Dec. 23rd and not returning until Jan. 4th so no materials will be sent out during that window.

Notes from Counseling Department

Hamden Adult Education Program: Any students (17 years or older) who would like to consider enrolling in Hamden Adult Education's Credit Diploma Program, must attend the registration days from 6-8 pm Tuesday, Dec. 15, 2020 or 6-8 pm Thursday, Dec. 17, 2020. Please see the information below or contact your school counselor or Hamden Adult Education at 203-407-2028 for more information. Please note that students must withdraw from Amity to attend this no cost program.

Athletics

Thank You, Coaches: A huge thank you to our fall coaches for their creative approaches and dedication to Amity Regional High School student-athletes. We are thankful for you and all that you do!

Community Happenings

"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 9th, 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.