

## ARHS COMMUNITY HAPPENINGS NEWSLETTER



Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. once stated, “The function of education is to teach one to think intensively and to think critically. Intelligence plus character – that is the goal of true education.” That statement has always been a truism, but has never been so poignant as it is for our society today. As we conclude the tenth month of living through a global pandemic that has upended our lives as well as political unrest that threatens to divide our nation, it is imperative that we, as an educational community, redouble our commitment to the significance and importance of true education. By working together, staying true to our core values of fairness, respect and passion and practicing kindness and patience, we will see ourselves through these trying times and work together to build a just society. Have a good weekend.

Sincerely,

*Anna N. Mahon*

Principal

**College & Career of the Week:** One of the most unique programs available to Connecticut students is the “[Regional Student Program](#) (RSP)”, sponsored by the New England Board of Higher Education. “Tuition Break” or RSP “***provides significant tuition savings to residents of the six New England states when they enroll at out-of-state public colleges and universities within New England and pursue approved programs***” ([nebhe.org](#)). Students pay less for tuition within hundreds of [approved programs](#). Learn more about [eligibility](#) and applying to these programs by visiting the website. “[Environmental scientists and specialists](#) use their knowledge of the natural sciences to protect the environment and human health”, (Bureau of Labor Statistics, 2019). [Environmental scientists](#) usually do most of their work in a laboratory - however, many go out into the field to gather various types of samples for testing. A bachelor’s degree is required for most entry-level environmental scientist positions and a master’s degree is likely needed for advancement. The average annual salary is \$71,360 with much faster than average job growth expected (8%) through 2029 (BLS, 2019). To learn more, please visit the following websites: The [National Association of Environmental Professionals](#), [The American Academy of Environmental Engineers and Scientists](#) and the [North American Association for Environmental Education](#).

*Some colleges that offer programs in environmental or sustainability studies include:*

Univ. of New Hampshire	University of Connecticut	Western New England Univ.
UMaine/Farmington	Eastern CT State	Univ. of Rhode Island
Univ. of New Haven	Keene State College	Endicott College
Mitchell College	Mass Maritime Academy	Champlain College
Emmanuel College	Smith College	University of Vermont
Southern New Hampshire Univ.	Springfield College	Salve Regina University

*Or visit NAVIANCE to search for more choices!*

## **Happenings and Information**

**Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr Day:** In honor of Dr. King, there will be no school on Monday, January 18th.

**End of 2nd Marking Period/1st Semester:** The marking period/semester will conclude next Friday, January 22nd. As a reminder, there are no midterm exams this year.

**Second Semester Schedules/Electives:** The end of the marking period/semester will be on Friday, January 22nd. We will begin second semester on Monday, January 25th with an "A" day. Please be reminded, we are unable to make class schedule changes, including electives, for second semester.

## **Senior Happenings**

**Midyear Transcripts for seniors:** Just a reminder that we automatically send a mid-year transcript to all schools listed in Naviance. Please be sure to update Naviance with college outcomes and make sure the list is up to date. Mid-year reports will be going out the first full week in February.

**Need to know more about COLLEGE ADMISSIONS DEFERRALS? Please read this [article HERE](#).**

## **Local Scholarship Opportunities:**

- **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. Applications, must be submitted by **February 1, 2021** and 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](#) by **February 12, 2021**.
  - **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](#). Deadline to apply is **February 22, 2021**.
  - The **Amity Charitable Trust Fund**, established by the Amity Club of New Haven, is awarding scholarships to Orange and Woodbridge seniors attending college in the fall. Criteria includes, students who have scored a combined 1000 or more on SAT's or 20 or more on ACT. Applications must be submitted by **March 31, 2021**. All applications are available in the Career Center.
  - **Yale New Haven Hospital Auxiliary** is offering ten \$2,000 scholarships to area students planning to pursue a career in a healthcare-related profession. The application deadline is **Monday, March 19, 2021**. Please stop in the Career Center for an application.
  - **Justin Wisniewski Firefighters Scholarship Fund**: To honor Justin's memory, his family, along with the Southington Fire Department, is offering a scholarship to those who are a child, grandchild or sibling of a Connecticut Firefighter. Please go to [www.ride4justin.com](http://www.ride4justin.com) to get more information or to download an application. Applications are due **Monday, March 15, 2021**.
  - **Connecticut General Assembly's African American and Latino and Puerto Rican Sub-Commissions of the CWCSEO** will be offering 6 scholarships totaling \$6,000 to African American and Latino high school seniors. Interested students are asked to fill out the application and return it via email to [cwcseo@cga.ct.gov](mailto:cwcseo@cga.ct.gov) by 5:00pm on **Friday, January 29, 2021**. Applications are available in the Career Center.
  - **Live Out Loud Young Trailblazers Scholarship** is awarding scholarships of \$5,000 to LGBTQ+ identifying youth in financial need. Applications are available [here](#). Applications are due **Monday, March 15, 2021**.
  - **New Haven Alumnae Chapter of Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Inc.** is awarding scholarships to an African American senior who has excelled academically. Applications must be submitted electronically by **Friday, January 29, 2021**. Details can be found [here](#).

- **Bethany Lions Club Scholarship** has established four scholarships for \$2,000 each and one scholarship for \$3,000. Applications are available at the Clark Memorial Library, the Bethany Town Hall and the Career Center. Applications must be returned to the Amity Guidance Office or Bethany Town Hall on or before **May 1, 2021**.
- **Glenn Moon Scholarship** is offering financial help to qualified Seniors who are planning a career in education. Apply online at [www.artct.org](http://www.artct.org). Deadline to apply is March 31, 2021.
- **Carl Moller Scholarship Program**-The CT Police Foundation will award a \$1,000 scholarships to five deserving seniors, one student from each region, who will pursue a career in law enforcement. Applications can be downloaded at [www.cpcanet.org](http://www.cpcanet.org). Application deadline is **April 1, 2021**.

## **Notes from Counseling Department**

**NOTE TO ALL STUDENTS:** Struggling with the end of the marking period? Don't stress! Peer Tutors can help you with your academics. Just fill out the [REQUEST FORM HERE](#).

**Educational Center for the Arts Program 2021-2022 Applications:** ECA is now accepting applications for the 2021-2022 school year. While most of our applicants tend to be in grade 8, we invite students currently in grades 9 - 11 to apply also. All application information is on the [website](#). If students or parents have questions about ECA and/or the application process, they can contact the ECA school counselor, Julie Michaelson ([jmichaelson@aces.org](mailto:jmichaelson@aces.org)), or program director Leslie Abbatiello ([labbatiello@aces.org](mailto:labbatiello@aces.org)).

**Interested in learning more about the LEVEL UP Program?** Please join us for a virtual information session on TUESDAY, JANUARY 19th from 6:30-7pm with Sheri Guerrero, Vocational Counselor with the CT Department of Rehabilitation Services. Learn more about how the LEVEL UP Program can assist students in entering the world of work. Contact the Career Center to obtain the ZOOM link: 203-397-4836 or email [lynn.cocco@amityregion5.org](mailto:lynn.cocco@amityregion5.org) OR [paula.vallie@amityregion5.org](mailto:paula.vallie@amityregion5.org)

**Military Programs** Students who are interested in Military Programs can come to the Career Center to obtain information regarding the Armed Forces. Representatives from all divisions visit Amity High School virtually by request. Students who are considering applying to Military Academies should schedule an appointment with their school counselor to discuss requirements. To learn more about a career in the military click [here](#) and to explore individual branches of service please visit these individual sites: [www.airforce.com](http://www.airforce.com) [www.army.mil](http://www.army.mil) [www.uscg.mil](http://www.uscg.mil) [www.usmc.mil](http://www.usmc.mil) [www.navy.mil](http://www.navy.mil)

**Volunteers Needed:** The Orange Youth Services Program is looking for student volunteers to help with organizing the food bank at the High Plains Community Center

in Orange. Students will help sort and date food that has been donated through food drives throughout the town. If you are interested in volunteering, please contact the Orange Youth Services Coordinator, Jessica Simone, at 203-891-4785 or email [jsimone@orange-ct.gov](mailto:jsimone@orange-ct.gov). For questions, please stop in the Career Center.

**Working Papers:** Due to restrictions governed by the Connecticut Department of Labor, some jobs may require WORKING PAPERS. In order to obtain WORKING PAPERS, a student must present a promise of employment letter from the hiring employer as well as a copy of **one** of the following: student's birth certificate, passport, driver's license or a learners permit. WORKING PAPERS are needed for formal employment by students under the age of 17. You may obtain working papers in the College & Career Center.

**ASVAB test** will be given at Amity High School on **Wednesday, April 21, 2021 at 8:00am**. Any student in grades 10, 11 or 12 is welcome to take the test. The ASVAB or "Armed Services Vocational Aptitude Battery" is an online, multiple-choice test that helps students identify career strengths. **Students may register to take the test by signing up [here](#)**. While the US military branches all use the ASVAB as an admissions exam, *students do NOT have to be interested in military careers to take the test*. **Taking the ASVAB does not obligate students to enlist!** Please [visit this link](#) for more information.

**ACT Registration** is now **open for the February 6, 2021 test**. The **deadline to [register](#) is January 15, 2021**. The following local schools will be hosting the ACT on February 6<sup>th</sup>: Branford HS, East Haven HS, Fairfield Warde HS, Hopkins School (New Haven), New Milford HS, Southern CT State University and Trumbull HS. For a list of future ACT Test Dates, please click [here](#).

**Interested in an upcoming NACAC Virtual College Fair on Sunday, January 31, 2021 from 1-7pm?** Drop in on Zoom sessions offered by hundreds of colleges. Hear about student life, majors and programs, financial aid, scholarships, and more. To start exploring, sign up now at [virtualcollegefairs.org](http://virtualcollegefairs.org). Families are invited too!

## **Athletics**

**ARHS Winter Sports Begin:** As a reminder, winter sports begin on Tuesday, January 19th. Student athletes must be registered and approved and must be participating as an in-person learner (following the current hybrid model) to participate. Please be reminded to complete the daily screening, as well. Watch [this webinar](#) from this past week or the [athletic department website](#) for more information.

## **Community Happenings**

**A Youth Roundtable--The Future of Organizing Work:** On **Monday, January 18** from **1:00 pm - 3:00 pm** join local youth organizers for a roundtable discussion curated and hosted by Students for Educational Justice. Listen to a conversation, moderated by Benie N'sumbu, between local youth leaders organizing for social justice. Hear their reflections on Dr. King's legacy and their thoughts on the future of organizing. There will be break-out sessions following the discussion open to young adults only. Featuring Adrian Huq, Sebastian Ward, Jamila, Mellody Massaquoi, and Julie Hajducky. Pre-registration is required. [Register on Zoom](#) (Pre-registration required) this event is sponsored by the [Yale Peabody Museum](#).

**Prevention Presentation:** Please see this [flyer](#) for information about an anti-vaping presentation by Tricia Dahl, senior research assistant at Yale School of Medicine. The February 4th presentation will be fully virtual. This event is sponsored by BOWDAAC.

**Reminder- Stop & Shop shoppers:** please choose Amity PTSO to receive A+ Rewards from your Stop & Shop card! This is free to you (does not interfere with Gas Rewards or any other rewards program), and brings free \$ to Amity. To sign up, please register your 13-digit Stop & Shop card #, if you haven't already, at [Stopandshop.com](#). Then go to "My Account," then "Rewards & Savings," then "A+ School Rewards." When asked for School ID #, please enter: **07220**. That's it! You will automatically earn points for the school every time you shop! If you need assistance, please call 1-877-366-2668, option 1. Please encourage friends and family to sign up too, thanks!