

ARHS COMMUNITY HAPPENINGS NEWSLETTER



There were various activities throughout this week at ARHS that specifically highlighted the “planner” disposition reflected in the piloted BOWA Portrait of the Graduate. This week marks the middle of 2nd marking period and we have begun to discuss the upcoming midterm exams that will take place the week of January 18th, following the Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. holiday on January 17th. Additionally, we hosted the ARHS Class of 2026 at the high school on Thursday, December 9th during the morning hours, where they served as our first full, live audience for an Amity Creative Theater production in the John J. Brady Center in two years. The visiting 8th grade students watched the fall production of *Puffs* and then listened to some current ARHS students speak about their experience taking various elective courses offered at the high school. These students highlighted experiences in choir, orchestra, strings, and acting class, which comprise our performing arts offerings. Visual art classes such as ceramics, drawing and painting, and photography were discussed. A few of the students spoke about the importance of Career and Technical Education courses, including culinary, business, law, CAD, screen and specialty printing, metal and wood shop, automotive, and production classes. Over the next two weeks before winter break, we will be working to stay present and engaged in the current classes, activities, and programs we are hosting. Once we return from the holiday break, we will redouble our efforts regarding midterm exam preparation and closing out the 1st full semester of the 2021-2022 school year. I wish you all a good weekend.

Sincerely,

Anna N. Mahon

Principal

College/Career of the Week: [Regis College](#) is a private, Roman Catholic university located in Weston, Massachusetts, approximately 125 miles from the BOWA area. Originally [founded as a women's college in 1927](#), RC has been co-ed since 2007. Approximately 1,100 undergraduate students are enrolled in over 40 [academic programs](#) and ALL students participate in internships. Most popular majors are nursing, dental hygiene, radiation therapy, psychology and business. RC provides an active campus life for students with over 30 [clubs](#) and [20 NCAA Division 3 sports teams](#) ([Great Northeast Athletic Conference](#)). Annual [tuition, room and board](#) is \$61,396 (2020-2021). For more information, check out RC's [admissions website](#) or take

a [virtual tour here](#). “[Personal financial advisors](#) provide advice to help individuals manage their finances and plan for their financial future” (Bureau of Labor Statistics, 2020). [Personal financial advisors](#) usually have obtained a bachelor's degree to enter this field. Many go on to receive masters degrees and/or various industry certifications as well. Since finance is a highly regulated industry, specific licenses may be required to sell some financial products. PFAs may also need to register with the Securities and Exchange Commission. The median salary is \$89,330 and slower than average job growth is expected (5%) through 2030 (BLS, 2020). For more information, please visit the following websites: the [Financial Planning Association](#), the [National Association of Insurance and Financial Advisors](#), and the [National Association of Personal Financial Advisors](#).

Some schools that have business/financial planning programs include:

Regis College	University of Connecticut	Bryant University
Suffolk University	St Joseph’s Univ (PA)	UMAINE/Augusta
Univ of Rhode Island	Roger Williams University	Pace University
Bentley University	Fairleigh Dickinson Univ	Quinnipiac University
University of Tampa	Berkeley College (NYC)	Univ of North Florida
Keystone College	SUNY/Alfred	WM Paterson Univ (NJ)

Or search in Naviance for more choices!

Happenings and Information

Upcoming Lockdown Drill: As part of our continuous focus on establishing a safe and secure school community, we will be practicing a lockdown drill next week in conjunction with local law enforcement. This drill will take roughly an hour. On the day of the drill, an email will be sent to the community indicating the start of the drill. A follow-up email will be sent at the conclusion of the drill. Please refer to this [“School Safety Parent Reference Guide”](#) for specific information.

Parent Feedback Needed! Since October 2020, the BOWA School Districts have been collaborating to develop the BOWA Portrait of the Graduate (POG). The POG outlines the skills, knowledge, and dispositions that students across all grade levels should have in order to be ready for the world beyond. After months of seeking input and development, we are looking for final input from our stakeholders. Parent Focus Groups to provide feedback on the BOWA POG will be conducted on the following dates and locations:

- January 19, 2022 - Amity Middle School Bethany
- January 20, 2022 - Amity Middle School Orange Media Center
- January 25, 2022 - Amity Regional High School

All feedback sessions begin at 6:30 pm and will last about 1 hour. **ALL BOWA parents are welcome to attend** - elementary, middle, and high school parent feedback is sought. To help plan space for feedback participants, please [complete this very short form if you plan to attend](#).

Important Note from the Nurses: Recently we have seen an incline in the number of Covid positive cases throughout Connecticut and the country in general. Here at Amity Regional High School we are doing our best to prevent the spread of transmission. If you are sick and not feeling well, please stay home. If you are waiting for Covid PCR test results, we ask that you remain at home and quarantine until you receive them. Students should be maintaining 3 feet of distance in the classroom, adhering to cafeteria rules about social distancing, and always wearing a mask while riding the bus. A general rule to keep in mind is if you feel unwell enough to go to the Health Office during school hours due to a sore throat, cough, nausea or vomiting, severe headache, or diarrhea you really should not be around others potentially spreading illness at this time. Thank you for your cooperation.

ARHS Academic Interventionists Are Here to Help! As a reminder, the high school staff includes 3 academic interventionists in the areas of science, math, and writing, as well as an interventionist who oversees our testing center. Please encourage your child to seek help by reaching out via email to set up an appropriate time to meet.

Margaret Ardwin-science Margaret.ardwin@amityregion5.org

Mary Cassidy-math mary.cassidey@amityregion5.org

Mary DiBenedetto-writing mary.dibenedetto@amityregion5.org

Elizabeth Heiss-testing ctr Elizabeth.heiss@amityregion5.org

December PTSO Meeting: We will be holding the December PTSO meeting next Thursday, December 16th, at 7:00 in the library media center classroom. Join us!

New Videos Posted: Check out the [newly posted videos](#) on the district website for highlights of recent activities at the high school and throughout the district.

Senior Happenings

Military Visit: A representative from the Marine Corps. will be visiting Amity during all lunch waves on **Thursday, December 16th**. They will speak individually with interested students regarding the NROTC Scholarship opportunities. If you are a student who is interested in pursuing a degree at a [NROTC college](#), please stop by to see the Marine representative.

SENIORS! Need help with your FAFSA? Want to learn more about need based financial aid? Attend a FREE, virtual information session on **THURSDAY, DECEMBER 16th at 6pm.** [REGISTER HERE](#). Sponsored by New Haven Promise and the State of CT.

Attention Seniors! Scholarship Season has begun! Naviance is only one of the many resources for researching scholarships. The College and Career Center posts local and national scholarships on Naviance throughout the school year. Students can navigate through these scholarships in Naviance under the college tab. Scholarships can also be found on our school website [here](#). Additional merit based and need based scholarships may be available by checking with the individual college/university or additional websites like <https://www.fastweb.com/> If you need help navigating scholarships or with the process of applying, please see Mrs. Vallie in the Career Center.

Yearbook Grad Ads: A reminder to all senior parents! There are just two weeks left to purchase a grad ad—the deadline is Friday, November 17. Do not miss this opportunity to remember, honor, and encourage your soon-to-be graduate with a grad ad! Visit amityembers.com for details.

Senior Baby Photos for Yearbook: The yearbook staff is now collecting baby pictures for inclusion in *Embers* 2022. Scan your photos and upload them directly to us! Visit amityembers.com and click “Submit Photos” beneath either the "For Seniors" or "For Parents" tabs. Please send only high-resolution photos, and note that we cannot print any copyrighted professional portraits. Please keep submissions to just one per student. If you submit more than one, the yearbook staff will select a single photo for inclusion in the yearbook. All photo submissions are due Friday, December 17. Write to embers@amityschools.org with any clarifying questions.

2022 Senior Yearbook Questionnaire: The senior yearbook questionnaire, due Friday, December 17, is now live on [the yearbook website](#). This questionnaire provides seniors with an opportunity to share various information with the yearbook staff. This information—, which includes a list of all their activities, leadership roles, awards, and other accomplishments—is then featured in the yearbook alongside their senior portraits. The questionnaire also offers seniors the chance to vote for the recipient of this year's yearbook dedication. Because the yearbook's publisher imposes deadlines on the *Embers* staff, it is extremely important that all seniors complete this form on time; late submissions will not appear in the yearbook. Families, please encourage your seniors to complete this form on time!

Notes from Counseling Department

All STUDENTS - need help with academics? Work with a peer tutor for extra help. Either stop into the Career Center after school on Tuesdays or Thursdays OR fill

out the [form HERE](#) for one-to-one tutoring assistance at other times. See Mrs. Staak or Mrs. Cocco in the Counseling Office if you have any questions.

Start Your Path To Become An EMT! Members of the Bethany Volunteer Ambulance Corps. will be offering the **Karen R. White Memorial Training Program**, which will host an **EMT-Basic Training Initial Certification Course**. If you would like more information on the upcoming Winter Course Program being held at the Bethany Fire Dept., please click [here](#). To learn more about the recruitment info session and open house click [here](#).

Career Opportunities: Are you interested in Architecture, Engineering or Construction careers? If so, check out a FREE mentoring program called "ACE" where students can explore these career areas, work with professionals in the field and possibly win scholarships. Go to [this link](#) to learn more.

Important Reminders

AP LATE registration is open! Thank you to everyone who signed up during the general registration window. For those who missed it, you can still sign up with a late fee. Use this [link](#) to register and pay for AP exams:

- The late registration window is from now until March 1, 2022. There is a \$40 extra late fee (as set by CollegeBoard, not ARHS)
- AP Exam Fee: \$100 per exam (\$140 with late fee)
- AP Seminar and Research Exam Fees: \$148 per exam (\$188 with late fee)

Fall 2021 PSAT Results: Online score reports for the PSAT are available for all 11th grade students who took the test in October. Students will need to access their College Board accounts to see their scores.

Athletics

Winter Sports: Winter sports began last week. If you have any questions, please contact the athletic department or view the website [here](#).

Community Happenings

Amity Creative Theater Fall Play: Tonight and tomorrow will continue the run of the A.C.T. production of *Puffs!* Please see [this link](#) for information and tickets.

Amity Regional High School Winter Concert 2021: The Amity High School Music Department is excited to announce that we will be having our 2021 Winter Concert indoors, our first indoor concert in 2 years! Come join us for "**A Very Winter Concert**" on December 21st at 6:30pm in the Brady Center. Masks are required and please social distance between family groups. **Visit the [Amity Website](#) for more information.** We hope to see you there!

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