

# ARHS COMMUNITY HAPPENINGS NEWSLETTER



As we round out another calendar year it is appropriate to take some time to reflect on all that has happened throughout 2021. It has certainly been a year of continued challenges and amazing accomplishments, both within our school community and at state and national levels. While we continue to face the challenges of a global pandemic almost two full years after it began, we have also learned how to adapt, persevere, and appreciate all that we have. One thing I am extremely grateful for is the opportunity to have our students, faculty, and staff participate in an in-person full school day. Transmissibility and variants may continue to dominate the news feeds, but I am thrilled to have been able to support our student athletes throughout fall and winter seasons this year, attend an in-person showing of the Amity Creative Theater Fall Play as well as the Performing Arts Winter Concert, and witness the amazing work happening in classrooms and through student clubs during and after school. We have been tested as a school community, but we are growing stronger from the difficulties we have faced and will continue to navigate whatever 2022 has in store for us. Have a wonderful break and a happy holiday. See you in the new year!

Sincerely,

*Anna N. Mahon*

Principal

## Happenings and Information

**Parents of current 11<sup>th</sup> grade students (Amity Class of 2023):** The ARHS Counseling Dept. will host a post-secondary planning night for all junior students and their parents on Wednesday, January 5<sup>th</sup> at 6:30 pm in the Brady Center. Ann Fleming Brown, Director of Admissions at Union College will be our presenter. She will discuss the different components of the college application process

**End of 2<sup>nd</sup> Marking Period/Midterm Exams:** As a reminder, the high school will wrap up the second marking period on Friday, January 14<sup>th</sup> and host midterm exams from January 18<sup>th</sup>-21<sup>st</sup>. More information will follow the holiday.

**Reminder for Students and After School:** As a reminder, students are only allowed to remain in the school building after 2:18 for an official school program (club meeting, extra help, athletics, etc.). Late buses and most activities (with the exception of athletics/musical rehearsal) only take place on Tuesdays, Wednesdays, and Thursdays. Students are not allowed to loiter on campus after the school day has ended. Once the activity has concluded, students are expected to report to the front of the building near the security vestibule to wait for the late bus/to be picked. If you have questions, please contact the main office.

## **Senior Happenings**

**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.

**Attention Seniors/Parents of Seniors:** As a reminder from the email sent to school accounts on Wednesday, 12/22, counselors will be sending out mid-year reports at the beginning of February to the schools seniors have listed in Naviance. It is very important that Naviance is updated with status outcomes and that the attending school is set once a decision has been made. Thank you!

## **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.

**For High School Juniors (Rising Seniors):** The Mercy College Business Honors Program is hosting a Summer Leadership Academy in July 2022 for high achieving Juniors/Rising Seniors (graduating 2023). There are THREE separate weeklong experiences – CHOOSE ONE! If you are interested in a live-in, week-long college experience, please fill out a quick form-[CLICK HERE - Summer Leadership Academy 2022](#) – Bottom Link will direct you to our website and more information! [LA Application 2022 \(jotform.com\)](#)

## **Important Reminders**

**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	<a href="mailto:Margaret.ardwin@amityregion5.org">Margaret.ardwin@amityregion5.org</a>
Mary Cassidy-math	<a href="mailto:mary.cassidey@amityregion5.org">mary.cassidey@amityregion5.org</a>
Mary DiBenedetto-writing/reading	<a href="mailto:mary.dibenedetto@amityregion5.org">mary.dibenedetto@amityregion5.org</a>
Elizabeth Heiss-testing ctr	<a href="mailto:Elizabeth.heiss@amityregion5.org">Elizabeth.heiss@amityregion5.org</a>

## **Athletics**

**Winter Sports:** Winter sports are here! For information or if you have any questions, please contact the athletic department or view the website [here](#).

## **Community Happenings**

**SAT Prep Course:** Please see this [flyer](#) for information about an SAT Prep Course.

**Community Involvement Opportunity:** BOWDAAC hosts student billboard contests throughout the year. There are a total of 3 billboards for the months of March, May and June that can display artwork created by students related to

reducing substance use/promoting positive mental health. Please see this [announcement](#) for more information and how to be involved/submit.

**News From Woodbridge Youth Services:** Call 203-389-3429 or email [npfund@woodbridgect.org](mailto:npfund@woodbridgect.org) for information or to sign up for programs.

- **Woodbridge Food Pantry/Community Service Opportunity”**  
Students who wish to assist in the Woodbridge Food Pantry should contact Nancy Pfund at 203-389-3429 to schedule. Community Service hours will be approved.
- **Job Bank:** Woodbridge resident teens who want paid, outdoor work should contact Youth Services to schedule an interview. The Job Bank is a referral service for residents who offer odd jobs to members. Snow shovelers will be needed soon.
- **Resources Available to Families:** DCF (Department of Children and Families) has compiled some resources to assist families of children with mental and behavioral stresses due to Covid-19 and the increased isolation and anxiety children have experienced. Please click the following link to view: [www.connectingtocarect.org/support-services](http://www.connectingtocarect.org/support-services)
- The BOW (Bethany/Orange/Woodbridge) area is in DCF Region 2. Please also read about the BOW Collaborative to find more resources or get involved. Parents are welcome to attend meetings to find out more about available services or discuss concerns regarding children. Call Youth Services for additional information.
- **Toys 4 Kids:** Many thanks to those who donated toys or financially supported this program, which supports Woodbridge and Bethany families through TEAM, Inc. Your generosity brings the holiday spirit to many children in our community.
- **Do You Have a Teen Who Vapes?** Yale’s Vaping Cessation program can help high school students to quit the habit. They offer a virtual program, which provides financial rewards for progress in the effort to end the use of harmful substances in the vape oils. Teens also receive a note pad to use for checking in with Yale. To join the program and receive the support needed please call Youth Services for more information. Students are encouraged to call for assistance.

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