

ARHS COMMUNITY HAPPENINGS NEWSLETTER



We are halfway through 3rd marking period, and have experienced our 5th weather-related cancelation of the year. While it seems that March is coming in like a lion in terms of weather, we are working our way through (and hopefully out) of the global pandemic that has impacted us for the past 2 years. On Monday, February 28th, mask wearing for the Amity Regional School District community will be by choice in most situations, based on the state department of public health allowance for local boards of education to establish local practice. With the support of the two local health departments that serve the BOW region, the Amity BOE accepted Superintendent Byars' recommendation that mask wearing become the choice of families in school, apart from some performing arts environments where distancing cannot be achieved, the nurses' office, and on school buses (based on the federal mandate of masking on public transportation). The members of the ARHS community have worked hard throughout the year to create a community of prosocial behavior and decorum. As we move to this next phase, it is important to continue to be mindful of treating each other with respect and dignity, acknowledging that none of us knows exactly what is happening in another person's life. If we practice the basic tenet of treating others the way we wish to be treated, we will be able to ensure a foundation of respect, kindness, and empathy that will be an exemplar for our current and future Amity Regional High School students to emulate. Have a good weekend.

Sincerely,

Anna N. Mahon

Principal

College/Career of the Week: The [University of California at Irvine](#) is a public university that was [founded in 1965](#). UCI currently serves approximately 37,000 students; over 29,000 are undergraduate students and about 14,000 of them [live on campus](#). Over 85 [majors](#) and 70 minors are available to students and undergraduate research opportunities are available through the [UROP-Undergraduate Research Opportunities Program](#). [Student life](#) is very active with many clubs and organizations on campus as well as many recreational sports/activities. The "anteaters" also cheer on their [18 NCAA Division 1 teams \(Big West Conference\)](#). [Annual tuition, room and board](#) for out-of-state students is \$ 66,220 (2021-2022). For more information, visit UCI's [admissions website](#), check out UCI's [facts and rankings](#) or take a [virtual tour](#).

[“Computer and information research scientists](#) design innovative uses for new and existing computing technology” (Bureau of Labor Statistics, 2020). [Computer and information research scientists](#) are employed by the federal government and private industries. A masters degree is usually required to become employed in this field. The national median salary is \$126,830 and the profession is expected to have **faster than average job growth at 22% through 2030** (BLS, 2020). For more information, please visit the [Association for Information Science & Technology](#), the [Computing Research Association](#) and the [Association for Women in Computing](#).

Some colleges that have computer science programs include:

Univ of California at Irvine	University of Connecticut	Fairfield University
University of New Haven	Southern CT State	Sacred Heart University
Wesleyan University	Boston University	Wentworth Inst of Tech
College of Holy Cross	UMASS/all campuses	Framingham State Univ
Fordham University	SUNY/Albany	Rochester Inst of Tech
SUNY/Polytech	Marist College	SUNY/Stony Brook

Or search in Naviance for more choices!

Happenings and Information

Parent Course Selection Confirmation: Students’ official last day for registering for classes for the 2022-2023 school year is today. Once your child has registered for classes, you will need to log on to your parent portal through PowerSchool to review and confirm your child’s course selection. The deadline for parent approval is next Friday, March 4th.

Save the Date! Amity High School Spring College Fair is coming soon!: The Amity High School College Fair will be held on **Thursday, March 31, 2022 from 6:30-8:00pm** in the AHS Gymnasium. This is a great way for students and parents to meet one-on-one with college admission representatives from around the country. The college fair event is free and open to the public. A list of colleges attending will be posted soon! Mark your calendars for an important night!

Upcoming USA Gap Fair coming to Fairfield! Students & parents are welcome to attend an in-person gap year fair at **Fairfield Ludlow High (gymnasium), 785 Unquowa Road, Fairfield, CT on Wednesday, March 30, 2022 from 6:00 to 8:00pm**. Get the most up to date information about gap year basics, how the gap year field has adapted to COVID, tips for researching & planning your gap year, navigating the college deferral process, and which programs are accepting applications. For more information and to register for this event, please click [here](#).

PTSO News:

- **Volunteers needed:** The PTSO is looking for volunteers to help with different activities and events throughout the school year. If you would like to volunteer, please let us know by sending an email to arhsptso@gmail.com. Your help is very much appreciated!
- **Join our monthly meetings:** PTSO meetings take place on the third Thursday of every month in the school's library media center. We hope to see you on March 17 starting at 7:00pm!
- **The PTSO is now on Amazon Smile:** When you designate the PTSO as your preferred charity on Amazon Smile and use the smile.amazon.com link to shop, Amazon donates 0.5% of the price of the eligible purchase to the PTSO. Please support us every time you shop by visiting <https://smile.amazon.com/ch/46-4101755> and selecting Amity High School PTSO Inc. as the charity of your choice!

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 College Board, 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)

Senior Happenings

Attention SSLP Interns: Seniors who participating in the 2022 SSLP are encouraged to search for job sites over the next 4 weeks. Please reach out to individual businesses/companies through an email or phone call. If you need assistance with finding a job site, please email Mrs. Cocco for an appointment.

Attention Seniors! Scholarship Season has begun! Please find the most recent and local scholarships on our school website [here](#). For questions or help with applying, please see Mrs. Vallie in the Career Center.

SENIORS/FAMILY MEMBERS - LEARN MORE ABOUT FINANCIAL AID OFFERS! Attend a free workshop on **Tuesday, March 1st at 6:30pm** to understand more about financial aid awards/offers from colleges. Click [HERE to register](#) for the workshop, sponsored by Sallie Mae.

Notes from Counseling Department

Attention Juniors! Are you interested in learning more about [West Point Military Academy](#)? If so, consider applying to their [Summer Leaders Experience](#) (deadline is March 15th). SLE is a weeklong, immersive on-campus experience. (Two sessions are available, May 28 – June 3 OR June 4 – June 10, 2022.) There is no fee to apply, and generous need-based scholarships are available. Standardized test scores are not required, but ideal applicants have a strong academic background, have participated in team sports and other extracurricular activities. Note: When you apply for SLE, you are also submitting an admissions screening application.

The **ASVAB - Armed Services Vocational Aptitude Battery** will be given here at Amity on **Thursday, April 21, 2022**. While the ASVAB is used by the military for recruiting purposes, individuals for career exploration and identifying skills for future careers also use it. Students may take the test for personal use and there is NO military obligation from participating. For more information, please visit the [ASVAB website here](#). Any sophomore, junior or senior who would like to take the ASVAB on April 21st may [register HERE](#).

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.

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.

Are you a student thinking of pursuing a career in law enforcement? The New Haven FBI Field Office in partnership with the Yale University Police Department will be offering a summer youth program called **Future Law Enforcement Youth Academy (FLEYA)** from **July 17-July 23, 2022**. Students who are graduating in the spring of 2022 are not eligible. Students 16-18 yrs. of age are eligible. This is an overnight camp at Yale University. FLEYA will give 30 Connecticut high school students between the ages of 16 and 18, an inside look at today's FBI, while simultaneously exposing them to various local, state and federal law enforcement agencies and practices. Classroom training will be provided on various subjects including: cyber technology, investigative forensics, domestic and international terrorism, civil rights (hate crimes) and more. If interested, please complete an application [here](#) and email the application in a PDF format to FLEYAprogram@fbi.gov. For questions, see Mrs. Vallie in the Career Center.

The **2022 Lieutenant Governor's Coding Challenge** is a statewide coding competition for Connecticut students in grades 3 through 12. Students are challenged to create applications designed to inspire health and wellness for all. This includes three options for submission: concept challenged prototype challenge and development

challenge. For more information, please click [here](#). **Submissions will be accepted until April 29th, 2022.**

Athletics

Amity HS Athletics Booster Club: Please join us on **Thursday, March 3rd** at 7pm for our next meeting (rm 501). This meeting will be our 1st annual meeting as a newly incorporated club. The Booster Club is a parent run organization that prides itself with supporting the athletes and coaches. The support we give through volunteering and fundraising help contribute towards equipment needs and scholarships, to just name a few. We would love you to join us! You will hear about our upcoming events and can share any ideas you have with us.

- **SAVE THE DATE!** June 5th is Amity Family Fun Day! Join us for games and raffles...more info to follow. Visit our [Athletics Booster Club link](#) through the [Amity Athletics website](#) to join today!

Spring Sports Sign-Up: Student-athlete sign up for spring sports is now open through PowerSchool forms. If you have questions about signing up, forms, or returning to play, please visit the athletic department website [here](#).

Important Reminders

Parent Drop Off/Pick Up: As a reminder, the morning drop off location is on the side of the school following the one-way traffic flow from North Pease out to Newton Road. Students can enter the building starting at 7:10am. The afternoon pick-up location is in the front of the school (entering campus from Newton Road) following into the bus loop. Parent pick-up begins immediately after buses exit campus. Please note: it is not safe for students to be picked up in the Woodbridge town center or along Meetinghouse Lane, especially with the current amount of snow, the width of Newton Road, and the size and number of buses exiting ARHS property. Please keep students safe by adhering to the expectations that you pick your child up on school property at the end of the day.

Reminder-School Issued Device Expectations: As a reminder, all students are expected to bring their school-issued devices to school every day. As some programs are specifically installed on school-issued devices (such as the College Board Secure Browser for the upcoming mandatory SAT in March for 11th grade students), it is imperative that all students comply with this expectation.

Community Happenings

Amity Creative Theater presents *Mamma Mia!* Buy your tickets now for this year's spring musical presented by A.C.T. There will be 5 shows; click [this link](#) for tickets.

Attention Local Employers: If you are interested in hiring a high school student or would like to post a part-time position, please contact the College & Career Center (203-397-4836) or email Paula Vallie at paula.vallie@amityregion5.org. Jobs must conform to the State of Connecticut regulations regarding the employment of minors.

Nominations for Bethany First Selectman's Youth Award Sought: If you know a Bethany youth (up to 18 years old) who has volunteered their time working to improve the Town of Bethany or its residents, consider nominating that deserving resident. Principals, teachers, fellow students, neighbors, group, and religious leaders, etc., are encouraged to make nominations. Parents or family members may not nominate a relative. Nominations are due to the First Selectman's Office by April 11. The winner will receive an award and a gift at a date to be determined later this spring. The nomination form can be found on the Town Website at <https://bethany-ct.com> or call the office at 203-393-2100 x 1100.

From Woodbridge Youth Services- Call 203-389-3429 or email npfund@woodbridgect.org for information or to sign up for programs. Like us on Facebook [Woodbridge, CT Youth Services](#)

- **Snow Art Challenge for Woodbridge and Bethany Families:** Families looking for outdoor fun this winter can express their talents by entering in the Youth Services Snow Art Competition. Email a photo as an attachment of you and your family with your creation to youthone@woodbridgect.org. Prizes will be awarded for skill and creativity. Check the Town of Woodbridge website at <https://www.woodbridgect.org/160/Youth-Services> or see our Facebook page at <https://www.facebook.com/Woodbridge-Youth-Services-Woodbridge-CT-> for updates and prizewinners. Due date for photos is March 1, 2022. Sponsored by Woodbridge Youth Services and the Town of Bethany.
- **Job Bank:** It's snow season. Residents may call to request teens to shovel or do odd jobs. Please plan for snow shoveling as the number of teens is limited. Teens who want paid work should contact Youth Services to schedule an interview. The Job Bank is a referral service for residents who offer odd jobs to resident teens ages 13 – 18.
- **Nominations for First Selectman's Youth Award Sought:** If you know a Woodbridge youth (up to 18 years old) who has volunteered their time working to improve the Town of Woodbridge or its residents, consider nominating that deserving resident. Principals, teachers, fellow students, neighbors, group, and religious leaders, etc. are encouraged to make nominations. Parents or family members may not nominate a relative. Nominations are due to Youth Services by April 4. The winner will receive an award and a gift at a date to be determined

later this spring. The nomination form can be found on the Town Website at www.woodbridgect.org/472/Programs or call the office at 203-389-3429.

- **JOB POSTING- Town of Woodbridge Per Diem Program Assistants**
Wanted: Assist with occasional evening or after-school youth programs under the direction of the coordinator. \$15.07/hr. See Town of Woodbridge website for more information. <https://www.woodbridgect.org/357/Employment>

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