



AHS Parent Newsletter: Friday, Oct. 13

Principal's Message

Today is the last day of the first quarter. Teachers will work between now and Wednesday to grade last tests, projects, and papers; grades will be submitted by next Wednesday. For students, all work is due today for this quarter unless an individual teacher has made other arrangements with them. Grades should be posted by next Friday. A reminder to any basketball, soccer player and potential wrestler - these grades will be the determinant for sports eligibility this winter. The semester grades in December may also impact a player's eligibility.

PSAT

Tomorrow, AHS will administer the PSAT to about 200 juniors and sophomores. In the past, the PSAT was used as a practice test for the SAT tests that most colleges required as part of their admission process. Many universities no longer require the SAT, but invite students to submit their scores as part of their application packet. Because of this change at the university level, interest in the exam has dropped off by about a third. We used to order 300 tests and this year we ordered less and still only had 200 students sign up to take the test. The PSAT is still used as part of the National Merit Scholarship program, as well as some other scholarships for juniors who take the test. This is a main reason why many of our juniors take the exam. This year, the test is being administered completely online. There is no pencil to paper aspect of the test.

Students taking the PSAT are expected to arrive at school between 8:00 am and 8:15 am. They need to bring their school ID, their fully charged, school provided chrome book, and the charger in case it is needed. They do not need to bring any writing utensils or calculators as one is provided in the test. The test requires a particular App that the district has uploaded to all district Chrome books. All smart phones and watches will be collected at the beginning of the exam. The test will wrap-up by 11:30 am unless a student has accommodations of additional time.

Senior Banquet

The Senior Banquet will take place on Saturday, November 4. The banquet is a bay cruise for seniors. Students who attend are treated to a dinner, dancing, senior slide show, and the announcement of the Senior Superlatives. The evening goes from about 6:15 pm, with the boat leaving dock at 7:00 pm and returning at 11:00 pm. Tickets go on sale this Monday, October 16, to November 1. The price for the tickets is \$126 with ASB and \$133 without ASB. Permission slips should have been handed out in government classes and if your child didn't get one, they can pick one up from the Hive during lunch. There are a fair number of seniors who are presently on the exclusion list due to unserved detentions. There is still time for these students to serve those detentions, but if they wait too long may miss their opportunity to buy their ticket if they cannot make-up all unserved detentions by the first of November. Other seniors are not eligible due to exceeding 10 tardies or missing any period more than 6 times. Unfortunately, these students cannot remove themselves from the exclusion list.

Make-up Pictures

Make-up pictures for students who missed the first round or who are new to AHS in the last month and a half are scheduled for this coming Thursday, October 19. Ms. Stahl has schedule times for students and those times are posted outside C 125. If your child is not on the list and did not have pictures taken for the yearbook and their school ID card, they should go into C 125 before next Thursday and speak to Ms. Stahl about scheduling a time. If your child is a senior and did not have their senior portrait taken, this day is not for them unless they need an ID card. Senior portraits will be scheduled in January for all seniors who have not had them taken.

School Site Council

AHS will have our first School Site Council meeting this coming Wednesday, October 18, at 5:30 pm on Teams. At this first meeting, we will review our goals for this year; look at some of the data from last spring; and discuss the 2023-24 school year to date. The council members include: Montserrat Arellanes, Nelly Baranyi, Rebecca Baumgartner, Meihuan Fang, Stephanie Higgs, Christine Huddleson, Soni Johnson, Tabitha Kim, Debra Mehra, Alice Myerhoff, Rebecca Shoshan, and myself. Thank you to everyone who has volunteered their time to provide perspective and suggestions to help make AHS a better place. The meeting is open to all and if you'd like to join us, the link is: [Click here to join the meeting](#) Passcode: fDvG8U

Meaningful Monday Reminder – 3rd period starts at 8:30 am

As a reminder – Monday, October 16, is a Meaningful Monday and we will have an altered bell schedule. At 8:30 am students should report to their 3rd period class for our Meaningful Monday seminar.

Before signing off, I just want to acknowledge that a lot is happening in the world right now that is weighing heavily on the minds of many of the AHS student and adult community. I encourage that you check in with your child about how matters of the world's geo/political, environmental, and cultural clashes are impacting them. On Monday, we will be embarking on a discussion regarding empathy, and we hope that AHS can provide support and a space where all students can feel safe. As Americans some of us are here as indigenous people, some were forced here against their will, and some came here in the hopes of finding a better existence. The tenets, although not always historically followed, were that this place is for everyone who wishes to come here to contribute to a blended society. I hope that the actions occurring in other parts of the world and in other pockets of this country will not manifest here at AHS. Let's embrace empathy and support one another.

If you have any questions or concerns, you may email me at rithurnburn@alamedaunified.org or you can call the school at (510) 337 – 7022 and I will try to address them.

Sincerely,
Robert Ithurnburn
Hornet Pride!



ALAMEDA HIGH SCHOOL

Monday, October 16

8:00am Girls Golf-All Levels WACC Championship
8:30-9:12am *Meaningful Monday*
3:30pm Women's Tennis Varsity vs Encinal
4:00pm Men's Water Polo JV vs Berkeley
5:00pm Men's Water Polo Varsity vs Berkeley
6:00pm Women's Water Polo Varsity vs Berkeley
7:00pm Women's Water Polo JV vs Berkeley
7:00pm *English Learner Advisory Committee Mtg*

Periods 0-6

TBA
3rd period classes
AHS Tennis Courts
EHS Swim Center
EHS Swim Center
EHS Swim Center
EHS Swim Center
Virtual

Tuesday, October 17

SMART *US Air Force Academy*
4:00pm Men's Water Polo JV vs Encinal
4:30pm Women's Volleyball Frosh vs San Leandro
4:45pm Men's Water Polo Varsity vs Encinal
5:30pm Women's Volleyball JV vs San Leandro
5:45pm Men's Water Polo Varsity vs Encinal
6:30pm Women's Volleyball Var VS San Leandro
6:30pm Women's Water Polo JV vs Encinal

Periods 0,1,2,5,smart,6

College Career Center
EHS Swim Center
San Leandro HS Gym
EHS Swim Center
San Leandro HS Gym
Mills College
San Leandro HS Gym
EHS Swim Center

Wednesday, October 18

2:35pm *University of Southern California*
3:30pm Women's Tennis All Levels vs Berkeley
3:30pm Women's Tennis JV vs Berkeley
3:30pm Cross Country All Levels

Periods 0,1,3,4,6

College Career Center
AHS Tennis Courts
Berkeley HS
Oyster Bay

Thursday, October 19

8:30a-1:30pm Make Up Picture Day
SMART *Wesleyan University*
4:30pm Women's Flag Football vs Mt Eden
4:30pm Women's Volleyball Frosh vs O'Dowd
5:30pm Women's Volleyball JV vs Castro Valley
6:45pm Women's Volleyball Var vs Castro Valley

Periods 0,2,3,4,smart,5

C208
College Career Center
Mt. Eden HS
AHS New Gym
AHS New Gym
AHS New Gym

Friday, October 20

7:00am Cross Country-AHS Varsity Only
3:30pm Women's Tennis All Levels vs Piedmont
3:30pm Women's Tennis JV vs Piedmont
4:30pm Football JV vs Newark Memorial
7:00pm Football Varsity vs Newark Memorial

Periods 0-6

Mt Sac Invitational
Piedmont Rec Courts
AHS Tennis Courts
Newark Mem HS
Newark Mem HS