

## ARHS Community Happenings Newsletter, October 20, 2023

This was a week full of breaks from the normal routine, with a few of the highlights including:

- We dismissed school early on Monday due to a power outage, and although we lost the ability to communicate with the community briefly during the outage, I was impressed both by the professionalism of our faculty and staff throughout the day and by how well our students conducted themselves. It is easy to be your best when things are going well, but how you handle the unexpected says a lot about your resilience and character, and our school community and those who helped throughout the day were tremendous. Thank you all!
- Once power was restored on Monday, we were able to celebrate academic excellence on Monday evening both with the National Honor Society induction ceremony in the Brady Center and shortly afterward with Board of Education recognition of our National Merit Scholarship Semi-Finalists and Commended Scholars. We inducted 43 new NHS members, and we celebrated 7 Semi-Finalists and another 16 Commended Scholars. Congratulations to all of our outstanding Scholars!
- And on Thursday we took a pause from our regular schedule on Thursday so that our 11<sup>th</sup> grade students could take the PSAT test during school. While our Juniors were taking the PSAT, the 9<sup>th</sup> and 10<sup>th</sup> graders were involved in a variety of activities, including a powerful presentation from the “For Cameron” drug-prevention organization, a grade-wide team-building activity, and information sessions on the Portrait of the Graduate portfolio and academic integrity. Our 12<sup>th</sup> graders had the opportunity to spend the day off-campus working on their post-secondary plans. Since November college application deadlines are fast approaching, most chose to use the time to work on college applications and based on feedback we received from students and parents, this time has proven invaluable for them.

***Go Spartans!***

**Andre Hauser**

**Principal**

### Amity Happenings and Information

- **Donations Needed for Birthday Kits:** The Amity Transition Academy on the UNH Orange Campus and the High School SAILS students are collecting items to make Birthday Kits to be delivered to local food banks for families in need. They are looking to collect boxed cake mix, containers of frosting, packs of birthday candles and 8x10 disposable aluminum baking tins. Please drop donations off in the bin outside room 155 in the High School beginning Monday, October 23rd.
- **“Last Chance” Senior Portrait: Attention seniors! If you did not take your senior photo – last chance!!** Report to room 502 (conference room through guidance) on **MONDAY , October 23**

**during your appointment time** to have your senior portrait taken. Please make sure to keep this appointment if you want to be included in the yearbook!! You must dress appropriately.

- This means either a collared shirt, tie, and suit jacket or an appropriate long-sleeved shirt. The photographer will have a small selection of ties and suit jackets for you to choose from if you do not have your own. The single sitting to be in the yearbook is **FREE**, but if you would like to purchase your portraits, please contact Robert Taylor Photography at (203) 377-0739. See Ms. Yancey (room 109) with any questions or write to them at [embers@amityschools.org](mailto:embers@amityschools.org).
- Amity Intramurals are back!! Starting on Thursday, October 26<sup>th</sup>, in the middle gym from 2:30 - 3:30 with Soccer Shot. There will be other sporting events during the year where students and faculty compete to earn points and become the school-wide intramural champion. The events will take only 1 minute to complete, so stop by and show off your skills. See Mr. Cofrancesco or Mr. Poulimas with questions.
- Schedule Change Deadline Approaching: The marking period is ending on 11/3. The deadline for students to move to a different level course without it appearing on the transcript as a "W" is also 11/3. If you are concerned about your child's performance and are considering a move to a different level, please reach out to the teacher and your child's school counselor before the deadline.
- **Amity High School Music Department Presents:** The Amity High School Music Department is currently in production for its fall production of *Music In Motion "On Air"*. This will be a one night performance only on **October 26<sup>th</sup> at 7:00pm** in the Brady Center for the Performing Arts! Come join us for a fun night of music and movement with the Amity High School Band, Choir, Jazz Band & Percussion ensemble! Some of your favorite radio hits will be performed and we will bring it all to life for a fun evening for the whole family! Come experience a music theater production unlike anything you have seen before! Tickets are \$10 and all Amity Region 5 Students are **FREE!**

### College and Career of the Week

The [University of Tennessee](#) is located in [Knoxville](#), Tennessee, approximately 800 miles from the BOWA area. Founded [in 1794](#), UTenn's slogan is "[Bear the Torch](#)", which encourages students to "improve the world around us through leadership and service". Nearly 29,000 undergraduate students are enrolled and choose from over 360 [majors/programs](#) within its 14 colleges and schools. [Campus life](#) is never dull with an abundance of activities, clubs, volunteer opportunities and events. The "Volunteers" sponsor 15 NCAA-D1 [athletic teams](#) who compete in the [Southeastern Conference](#). Estimated annual tuition, room and board for [out-of-state students is approximately \\$52,000](#) (2023-2024). For more information, check out UTenn's [admissions website](#), view their [quick facts](#), watch this [brief admissions video](#) or take a [virtual tour here](#).

"[Dental assistants](#) provide patient care, take x-rays, keep records, and schedule appointments" (Bureau of Labor Statistics, 2022). While training to become a [dental assistant](#) varies by state, most require training from an accredited program and certification from a [governing agency](#). The median salary is \$44,80 (national average) per year and the profession is expected to have **faster than average growth at 7% through 2032** (BLS, 2022). Note that the [average salary in Connecticut](#) for dental assistants is higher at \$48,260 per year (BLS,2022). For more information, please visit the [American Dental Assistants Association](#), the [National Dental Assistant Association](#) or the [DALE Foundation](#) websites.

*Some schools with programs in dental assisting include:*

CT State - Tunxis CC

CT State - Manchester CC

or check out Naviance for more options

### Senior College Application and Scholarship Information

- There are a few scholarships open for students who are applying to UConn. Please be aware that the Nutmeg Scholarship and Day of Pride Scholarship deadlines are Nov. 1<sup>st</sup>. For more information, please visit UConn's website: <https://admissions.uconn.edu/cost-aid/scholarship/>
- Connecticut Automatic Admissions Program (CAAP): Graduating CT high school seniors who are in the top 30% of their class with their CAAP GPA are eligible to be automatically admitted to the colleges and universities listed below. Admission to some programs within these colleges and universities may require additional student information or demonstrated student success in the first semesters of attendance. There are no application fees for CAAP. Students who have met the requirement will be receiving an email by the end of the day on Friday. If you have questions, please contact your child's school counselor.
  - Central Connecticut State University • Eastern Connecticut State University • Southern Connecticut State University • Western Connecticut State University • Mitchell College • University of Bridgeport • University of New Haven • University of Saint Joseph

### Notes from the Counseling Department

- **Upcoming College visits!** Seniors and Juniors can meet with college representatives by signing into NAVIANCE and clicking on the "COLLEGES" tab, then "COLLEGE VISITS". REGISTER for those colleges you are interested in meeting. Request a pass to the Career Center in "e-hall pass." See a list of [upcoming week's visit listing HERE](#). *This year we will limit each student to no more than 8 visits.* For questions, please email Paula Vallie at [paula.vallie@amityregion5.org](mailto:paula.vallie@amityregion5.org).
- **Applying to CT Colleges?** UConn, CCSC, ECSU, SCSU and WCSU are waving their application fees on Wednesday, Nov. 1<sup>st</sup>. In addition, WCSU applications are free for the entire month of November. SCSU will offer free applications using their own app from Nov. 2-15. For questions, stop in the Career Center.
- **Seniors - do you have questions on the UCONN application?** If so, our UCONN representative will be here in person on THURSDAY, OCTOBER 26<sup>th</sup> during ALL the lunch waves to answer your questions. You can make an appointment to see him in the Career Center. Please stop by to register as space is limited for this event. See [more info HERE](#).
- **ARHS's "MEDICAL CAREERS FAIR" EVENT will be held on Wednesday, November 8<sup>th</sup> AND Thursday, November 9<sup>th</sup>!** Our first ever "Medical Careers Fair" will be an engaging, two-day event, designed to foster, promote, and teach students about careers in the medical field that require 2 years or less of education. **All students** will have the opportunity to meet with 12 different medical workers, who will share their pathways and experiences in their fields. [Click HERE to see a list](#) of our scheduled visitors.
- **TUITION SAVINGS** - Check out the [Regional Student Program](#) (sponsored by the New England Board of Higher Education) that *"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.

- **Hispanic Heritage Essay Contest is now live:** This contest is open to middle and high school students (grades 6-12) The theme this year is making connections to Hispanic culture, and prizes will include a \$3,000 cash scholarship and iPads. Details can be found at [www.Optimum.com/HHM](http://www.Optimum.com/HHM). Please find flyers in both [English](#) and [Spanish](#).
- **2024 Aspirations in Computing High School Award** sponsored by the National Center for Women and Information Technology (CCWIT) is now open. This award honors high school women for their computing-related achievements and interests and encourages them to pursue their passion. Grades 9 through 12 are selected based on their aptitude and interest in technology and computing, leadership ability, and plans for the future. [Applications](#) are due Nov. 6<sup>th</sup>.
- **Military visits this week!** \*United States Army-Tuesday, Oct. 24<sup>th</sup> \*Air National Guard-Monday, October 30<sup>th</sup>. All visits will take place during all lunch waves in the cafeteria hallway.
- **Do you want to volunteer in your community?** There are a ton of community events happening in all 3 towns during the month of October. These events need your help, so please check out these events [here](#).
- **Are you interested in mentoring disadvantaged youth in your community ?** Please consider helping New HYTEs (New Haven Youth Tennis & Education). New HYTEs is designed to enrich the lives and positively affect the future of New Haven’s economically disadvantaged youth through a program that incorporates life skills curriculum, academic support, and promotes both character building and health benefits through the participation in athletics through tennis. The mission is to provide a pathway to post-secondary success. Please click [here](#) to join this program.
- **Interested in Computer Science and STEM?** Check out the Congressional App Challenge Competition! The Office of Congresswoman Rosa DeLauro is inviting students to participate in District 03’s 2023 Congressional App Challenge. All middle and high school students residing in the Third District may participate. Students have until November 1, 2023, at 12:00pm ET to submit their Student App Application. Registration for the 2023 App Challenge is now [open](#)! To view past winners, information, official rules, guidelines, please visit [here](#). If you have any questions or require clarifications on any aspect of the challenge, please contact [Shreyoshi.Ghoshray@mail.house.gov](mailto:Shreyoshi.Ghoshray@mail.house.gov) or 203 997 9816.
- **Do you have a vision to transform your community-and the world-for the better?** Now through November 2, 2023, Prudential Emerging Visionaries, sponsored by Prudential in collaboration with Ashok, is looking to recognize students, ages 14-18 , for their inspiring commitment to change. Apply for Prudential Emerging Visionaries to tell about your bold initiative to address a financial or social challenge in your community. If selected, you may qualify to receive up to \$15,000-plus an all-expenses-paid trip with your parent or guardian to Prudential headquarters, along with coaching and skills development to take your solution to the next level. For more information, please visit their [website](#) for details and [application](#).

### **Amity HS Athletics Booster Club**

- JOIN THE BOOSTER CLUB! Join us in supporting and celebrating our athletes by becoming a member of the Athletics Booster Club. Membership is now open! Visit our updated website and join here: <https://sites.google.com/amityschools.org/amityathleticsboosterclub/home>
- Our next meeting will be held Thursday, November 2nd. We meet in AHS room 501 at 6:30pm. Join us and become a part of the fun!

- Membership Drive! JOIN through October 31 to receive a free gift from the Booster Club! Join and you will receive a small (3”w by 2”h) Amity “A” decal sticker. We thank you for joining and your support.
- We’re recruiting! Become a team liaison and help spread the Spartans Spirit with us! Our mission is to promote positive athletics and increase community support. If you’d like to help in this endeavor, please contact Carrie at [goamityspartans@gmail.com](mailto:goamityspartans@gmail.com). Your assistance in helping us stay connected to our teams is invaluable to the Booster Club. You are invited, but not required, to attend our monthly meetings. We will provide all the information needed to share with your team.
- Purchase your Amity A decal sticker and PROUD yard sign today! Decal stickers are \$3 (small, 3”w by 2”h) and \$5 (large, 4”w by 2.5”h). Yard signs are \$15, payment through PayPal or Venmo. Please email [goamityspartans@gmail.com](mailto:goamityspartans@gmail.com) to order yours today!

### **Parent-Teacher-Student Organization (PTSO) Information**

- **Support Us!** Please join the PTSO today to support your student(s) and school. To join the PTSO, please visit our website [amityptso.org](http://amityptso.org) and under membership click on Click here to join!
- If you would like to **volunteer**, please contact us at [arhsptso@gmail.com](mailto:arhsptso@gmail.com).
- **Join our Facebook Group by** Be a part of our virtual community by visiting [this page](#) and answering the security questions required to gain access

### **Community Happenings**

- **National Drug Take-Back Day:** Mark your calendars! National Drug Take Back Day will be held on Saturday, October 28<sup>th</sup> from 10:00am-2:00pm at High Plains Community Center and from 10:30am-1:30pm at the Woodbridge Police Department. All unwanted/expired medications will be taken (including liquids and sharps). Volunteers from the National Pharmacy Association will be on site in Orange to answer any questions. This event is sponsored by BOWDAAC, the Orange Police Department, Orange CERT, and the Woodbridge Police Department. If you have any questions, please contact: [info.bowdaac@gmail.com](mailto:info.bowdaac@gmail.com)

