

## ARHS HAPPENINGS NEWSLETTER



During our Spartan Seminar advisory session this week, we discussed the importance of goal setting, taking risks and working hard even in the face of setbacks. Students revisited the goal-setting sheets they completed in the beginning of the year and were asked to take stock of those goals as we head in to the end of the 2<sup>nd</sup> quarter, midterm exams and the beginning of the second half of the year. We also watched [this video](#) of actor Denzel Washington's 2017 commencement speech at the University of Pennsylvania. In it, he discusses the importance of experiencing failure and how resilience leads to success. We strive for success individually and as a community, and to achieve that success it is important to reflect on our failures, the responses to those failures and what we have learned as a result. Next week will be the final week of this academic quarter and a wonderful time for students to gather their materials to prepare for midterm exams and also an opportunity to gather their thoughts about how they have grown throughout this school year. It is also an opportunity for parents to ask questions to prompt this reflection. By working together--parents, students, faculty and the entire school community—we will continue to learn and grow and truly be the change. Have a great weekend!

Sincerely,

*Anna N. Mahon*

Principal

**College and Career of the Week:** This week's college is **Union College**, and the career of the week is **Mechanical Engineer**. Founded in 1795, [Union College](#) is a top-ranked liberal arts college. The college offers over 50 majors and graduate school/joint programs in medicine, business, education and law with other area institutions. Union is test-score optional and there is NO FEE to apply! [Mechanical Engineers](#) design, develop, build and test mechanical and thermal sensors and devices, including tools, engines and machines (Bureau of Labor Statistics,

May 2017). The median annual salary is \$ 85,880. For more information, students can view the bulletin boards in the main hallway and in the Career Center and/or speak with the Career Center staff.

## **Happenings and Information**

**Extending thanks:** Thank you to all of the parents, students and community members who came out to our various nights of special programming this week. On Tuesday we hosted an informational session for parents and their senior students on Senior Service Learning Program (SSLP) and Senior Interest Project (SIP). On Wednesday, many junior students and their parents attended the "Junior Post-Secondary Planning" night, hosted by the counseling department. The January PTSO meeting was held on Thursday night and included two special presentations-one about the ARHS Learning Expectations and the forthcoming pilot of the "blended" report card, and the other about the dangers of vaping given by the Yale School of Medicine. Your attendance and support is greatly appreciated!

**End of 2<sup>nd</sup> Marking Period/Midterm Exam Period:** The official end of 2<sup>nd</sup> quarter for the high school is January 18<sup>th</sup> and the midterm exam period will run from January 22<sup>nd</sup> through January 25<sup>th</sup>. Third marking period/second semester will begin on Monday, January 28<sup>th</sup>.

**Link Crew Cocoa and Cram:** Wednesday, January 16<sup>th</sup> from 6-7:30 is our annual Link Crew Cocoa and Cram event for ninth graders. This is a great opportunity for freshmen to work with link leaders and each other to prepare for midterm exams. The event is free, and refreshments will be served. Students should bring their review sheets and study materials. They will leave feeling confident and prepared for their first midterm exams!

## **Senior Happenings**

**Senior SSLP/SIP:** The [SSLP/SIP Web page](#) is up and running! Please visit and get up to date information regarding the 2019 SSLP/SIP. The deadline to register for the 2019 Senior Service Learning Program (SSLP) and the Senior Interest Project (SIP) is quickly approaching. **ANY SENIOR WHO WANTS TO**

**PARTICIPATE IN SSLP or SIP, MUST register to do so by January 18<sup>th</sup>, 2019. Please register [here](#).** If you missed the SSLP/SIP information session on January 8<sup>th</sup>, please view the power point presentation [here](#). Once you've registered for the SSLP or SIP, PLEASE STAY INFORMED by signing up for important information and updates using remind.com. **Simply text @SSLP2019 to 81010.**

**Yearbook Grad Ads:** The deadline for grad ad purchases has been extended to Friday, March 1st or until all available ad space has been filled (whichever comes first). Don't miss out on your chance to honor and encourage your graduating senior in a book that he or she will keep for years to come! We have several size options for your special message and photograph(s)—see our website information and pricing. Need some inspiration? Visit our website at [amityembers.com](http://amityembers.com) to see examples of past grad ads. Questions? Contact the yearbook advisors, Ken Clark and Vicki Hulse, at [embers@amityschools.org](mailto:embers@amityschools.org).

## **Notes from Counseling Department**

**ASVAB Career Exploration Program:** The Armed Services Vocational Aptitude Battery (ASVAB) is a multiple-aptitude battery that measures developed abilities and helps predict future academic and occupational success in the military. The ASVAB will be administered at Amity High School on **Wednesday, February 4, 2019 beginning at 8:00AM** to interested sophomores, juniors and seniors. **We will ask the students to arrive at 7:34AM.** If your child takes the ASVAB, they do not have any obligation to the US Armed Services. It is a comprehensive battery that will look at ability, along with interests to explore possible career choices. For more information, please contact Lynn Cocco in the Career Center at [lynn.cocco@amityregion5.org](mailto:lynn.cocco@amityregion5.org) or you child's school counselor. It is recommended that students prepare for the test; student can access the free ASVAB [practice test](#).

## **Important Reminders**

**Midterm Exam schedule and information:** The midterm exam schedule can be found [here](#). Please note-exams are only approved for rescheduling for emergency absences which must be discussed with the administrator. If a student needs to reschedule an exam (due to sudden illness, emergency, etc), the student must

receive written permission from his/her associate principal before rescheduling with the teacher or for a makeup session. Please call the main office, 203-397-4830, if you have any questions.

**2019 AP Exam Registration:** Students taking AP exams at ARHS for courses taken during the 2018-19 school year must register through Total Registration. There will be a link posted on the school website under Links/Resources. The regular registration period will open on Friday, January 18 at 3:00pm and will close on Sunday, February 17 at 11:59 pm. For the 2019 AP Exams, the cost is \$97 per exam. The AP Capstone exams (Research and Seminar) will cost \$142. Please be sure to have a credit card or debit card available before beginning registration. An additional \$10 fee (per exam) will be charged for late registrations. Please contact Mrs. Ferguson at [Gerilyn.Ferguson@reg5.k12.ct.us](mailto:Gerilyn.Ferguson@reg5.k12.ct.us) if you have any questions regarding exams.

## **Athletics**

**Athletic Department Website:** For all information regarding practice and athletic schedules for winter sports, please refer to the athletic department's website [here](#).

For a copy of next week's schedule, please click [here](#).

For a copy of this past week's results, please click [here](#).

**Interested students:** Any student who is interested in joining the football team for the first-time next season is invited to meet with Coach Bruno this coming Monday, January 14<sup>th</sup>, in room 608 at 3:15pm. This meeting is for new players only.

**Boys Lacrosse Fundraiser:** There will be a lacrosse team fundraiser, Sunday, January 13<sup>th</sup> at Eli's in Orange. Breakfast will be served from 8:30 a.m. to 10:00 a.m. by your very own Amity Lacrosse Team student-athletes. Our new coach, AJ Raccio, will be there, as well. The cost is \$10.

## **Community Happenings**

**Student Government Clothing Drive:** The Amity student government will be running the annual clothing drive from January 2<sup>nd</sup> through February 14<sup>th</sup>. Over the years support has been second

to none. Please take a moment over winter break to clean out those closets and drawers. All clothing in good shape is accepted.

**Amity Adult & Continuing Education Program:** Amity Adult & Continuing Education will be running a limited winter session. There are a few courses online that are now available! Stay tuned to the website for our Spring Program catalog as well! Log on to this [site](#) and register today! Space is limited! Questions? No problem! Contact us: [philip.dolan@amityregion5.org](mailto:philip.dolan@amityregion5.org)

**Calling all instructors!** If you have a hobby or a topic that you are passionate about and would like to teach with Amity Adult & Continuing Education, fill out [this](#) form. The director will contact you if you are interested! Come teach with us and share your passion with the community!

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