



# Amherst Middle School

## Weekly Email

January 22, 2021

### Calendar

January 27: Quarter 2 Ends  
Weeks of Feb. 1 and 8: NWEA Testing, Details TBA  
February 19: 2 Hour Early Release Day  
February 22-26: No School, February Vacation  
March 1: Segment 8 Begins

### Dismissal Procedure Reminder

We want to remind our families about car pick up. Each afternoon we will have two waves of traffic come through the front of the school. The first wave should arrive for:

- 2:25pm pick up of students with last names A - G
- 2:40pm pick up of students with last names H - Z

If you are in the second wave of pick up and arrive prior to 2:40 we ask you to line up on CROSS ROAD just past the school entrance. Office Knox will meet you there and send you to the front of the school when our first wave of students have left campus.

Thank you for your cooperation and assistance in making our dismissal process efficient and safe.

### Daily Backpack Check

Please help your student be prepared to participate in a day of learning with:

- Fully charged laptop and charging cord
- [Earbuds with mic](#)
- Water bottle
- School supplies for the day's classes

### SOAR Awards

Wondering how to recognize our staff for their outstanding work? Parents and students may use this link [AMS Staff SOAR Award](#) to nominate staff for their SOARing behavior, whether making a student's day, having an exciting lesson, or for their caring actions, show our staff the difference they make and your appreciation for all they do!

Remember, SOAR stands for Success, Ownership, Acceptance, and Respect. It is what all of our Eagles strive for.

### AMS Spirit Wear

Thank you to all our students and staff, yes, both remote and in-person, who voted for our new AMS logo. We present our new logo on a variety of clothing items for purchase. Check out the web site and purchase some new gear.

<https://www.brandingmine.com/>

### AMS Theater Club

Are you interested in theater club for Spring 2021? We are considering doing a Broadway style show this spring, where students can sing Broadway songs and dance. We are not able to do a full show this year but we can do an outdoor song and dance presentation on the weekend of May 21st. (You must have that weekend free to participate since the performance will be weather dependent). Rehearsals will be on zoom until the week of the show.

If you want to participate, send an email to: [broadwayatams@gmail.com](mailto:broadwayatams@gmail.com). Include your name, grade and whether you would want to sing or dance (or both). Based on the number responses, we will determine if we can move forward.

*We have the courage to care!*



## Reminder Daily COVID Screening

Please remember to complete the COVID Screener ("Student Assessment") in the Powerschool parent portal before your student leaves for school every day. <https://sau39.powerschool.com/public>

If your student is having no symptoms and exposure/travel situations do not apply, please check the box for "NONE OF THE ABOVE APPLY" before submitting.

We are aware of performance issues with the parent portal, particularly prior to 6 am, and are working with PowerSchool support to figure out the cause and find a solution. If you can wait until 6 am or later to submit your assessment, that may help.

Also, we have learned that Internet Explorer is not a supported browser for PowerSchool, so please use a different browser. If you are unable to submit the screener, please contact us directly ([ams@sau39.org](mailto:ams@sau39.org)) to state that you have screened your child.

## AMS Winter Reading Challenge

January 10-March 30

Are you up for the challenge? Every student who completes this challenge wins a prize and will be named AMS Reading Champions. Then, they will be entered into a raffle for a \$20 gift card from the Toadstool Bookshop! The raffle will be held on Monday April 5th.

### Ten points each to...

- Read about a new hobby
- Read a graphic novel
- Read a biography
- Read a mystery
- Read a non-fiction book
- Read a book about art or music
- Read an historical fiction book
- Read about a different country or world
- Read a book about resilience
- Read a book that has won an award

**100 Total Points...**take a photo of you with your books, with a caption, and send it to Mrs. Hargreaves ([shargreaves@sau39.org](mailto:shargreaves@sau39.org)) or Mrs. Epstein ([mepstein@sau39.org](mailto:mepstein@sau39.org)) in the library...happy reading!

## AMS Weekly STEAM Challenge

### Make Fun Fluffy Snow Slime

In a large mixing bowl, pour Elmer's glue, add shaving cream. Gently mix in the cornstarch. Then add in the saline/contact solution. Knead the fluffy slime in your hands. Have fun!

**Materials needed:**

- 1/2 cup Elmer's White glue
- 2 cups of shaving cream
- 2 tbs.p. of corn starch
- 1/2 tsp. saline solution or contact solution (with boric acid)

We would love to see your creation. Take a photo, and send it to Mrs. Hargreaves at [Shargreaves@sau39.org](mailto:Shargreaves@sau39.org)