



Amherst Middle School Weekly Email

April 17, 2020

School-Home Partnership: Communication

As we continue to move forward with remote learning, we recognize that there are challenges we all face in navigating this learning platform and our overall health and well being. Please know that the entire AMS community is here to support students and families. Our primary goal is to maintain positive connections with our students through this time and then to provide meaningful learning experiences. If your student is struggling or feeling overwhelmed, please reach out. If the concern is primarily in a single class, please reach out first to that teacher or team. If the concern is more holistic, please connect with your child's guidance counselor so that we can coordinate support.

We are better together, please don't feel that you are in this alone!

Counselors:

Grade 8: Deb Dionne: ddionne@sprise.com

Grade 7 and Grade 5 teams of McCarthy/Shaw & Menning/Terhune-Maggie Kim: mkim@sprise.com

Grade 6 and Grade 5 team of LaRoche/Downing-Dan Farina: dfarina@sprise.com

Grading Update

During this disruption to our normal school year, AMS has had two main goals for our community of learners: 1) maintain connections and relationships with students to provide a sense of community, 2) provide meaningful instruction and learning opportunities for students. We thank you for your patience and support as we navigate these uncharted waters with your students!

Teachers are continuing to create and assign meaningful learning opportunities for students to help keep their skills sharp, have them experience new ideas, and help prepare them for their next step in our schools. Teachers will continue to report student's progress in Empower (including missing work), but there will be fewer scores as we are focusing on essential learning. While we are continuing to score students throughout our remote instruction, teachers will be carefully evaluating student progress at the end of the school year to ensure students weren't negatively impacted by our remote environment. In addition, if your student began a special (Art, PE, Health, Computer, FACS, or Innovation & Design) in Quarter 4 (4/6) or Trimester 3 (3/16), these will be scored as Pass/No Pass. As a reminder, there will not be a Q3 progress report sent home to families because of our transition to remote learning. However, parents will receive an end of year report card similar in format to the progress reports sent home earlier this year.

If your child is feeling overwhelmed or struggling please reach out to us so that we can offer support and develop a personalized plan for them to be successful. Our goal is to keep connected with every student and to support them to successfully engage with meaningful learning opportunities.

Google Classroom-Guardian Access

Guardians should have received an email, inviting you to access your child's Google classrooms as a guardian. This will allow you to receive email summaries of the activity in the classroom including information about missing work, upcoming work, and class activity. The guardian email summaries will help you to support your student with managing their time and assignments. You can control the frequency of the email summaries after you accept the invitation from the teacher.

If you did not receive this e-mail, please reach out to your child's homeroom teacher and ask to be re-invited.

We have the courage to care!



Amherst Middle School - Weekly Email

8th Grade Parents: Order Now: 8th Grade Yearbook

Calling all 8th grade parents!

It's time to order your 8th grader's yearbook!
Yearbooks are \$20 and can be ordered online:

<https://commpe.pictavo.com/PictavoSchool/FindSchool>

Our school number 87716.

All Yearbook orders are **due by April 24, 2020!**

Virtual Parent Meeting for Grades 5-8

Join us remotely on April 20, 2020 at 5 p.m. to learn about the grading and reporting system used at Souhegan High School and provide feedback on our new draft transcript for the class of 2024 and beyond. Registration for the meeting is required- link provided below.

[Click here to register!](#)

Christine Landwehrle
Assistant Superintendent, SAU39

8th Grade Parents: SHS Swag Bag for Freshman

Welcome your student to the High School by getting them a swag bag full of items from the school store. The bag will be available on school registration day or will be delivered to your student on the first day of school by the Souhegan PTSA.

For details on what's included and how to order, see our [website!](#)

Student Leadership and Service: Virtual Meeting

The first virtual Student Leadership and Service meeting will be held on Tuesday, April 21, from 1:30 – 2:30. Come help us find ways to support each other and stay connected while we're away from AMS. All grade levels are welcome to attend.

If you would like to meet with us, e-mail one of the advisors to get the Zoom meeting link: [Mrs. Dionne](#), [Mrs. Robinson](#); or [Ms. Kim](#)

National Junior Honor Society

Thank you for your patience as we have transitioned to remote learning. We are moving forward in the selection process, including the NJHS Faculty Council reviewing all Candidate Forms and Faculty Input. By mid-May, Candidates who receive a majority vote of the faculty council will be invited to be inducted into the Amherst Eagles NJHS Chapter. We are still working on details for when, where, and how the Induction Ceremony will take place.

Deb Dionne and Bryan Dine, Co-Chapter Advisers

Social/Emotional Web Page

We would like to invite you to join our Parent Social/Emotional Resource page! This page ([linked here](#)) will be dedicated to providing resources and supports to parents as we navigate these unsure times and remote learning. We will be adding to it each week and hope it offers some helpful tools to use with your student and family. Given the abrupt change all of our lives have encountered, it is normal to feel a mix of emotions. Please reach out if you need anything – we are all in this together!

Kim Wyborney, AMS Social Worker
Carolyn Silva, AMS School Psychology Intern

Remote Technology Support:

Please send your remote learning technology assistance requests to: remotesupport@sau39.org