

Amherst Middle School



AMS Weekly Email (10/12/2018)

Next Amherst School Board meeting: Tuesday, October 16 at 6pm in the SHS Learning Commons.

Calendar:

October 15: Screening of film "Angst", sponsored by Amherst PTA
October 17: Open House, grades 7 and 8, 6-8pm
October 18: Theater Club, First All Cast Rehearsal
October 22: Theater Club Parent Kick Off Meeting, 6pm
October 22: Girls basketball meeting, afterschool
October 22: Intro to wrestling, 2:30-4:30pm
October 23: Boys basketball meeting, afterschool
October 22-26: Red Ribbon Week
October 24: School picture re-takes, 7:30am
October 24: Cross County and Volleyball Team Banquets, 6pm
October 26: School Dance, grades 7 and 8, 7-9:30pm
October 30: Field Hockey and Soccer Team Banquets, 6pm
November 1: Cheer/spirit meeting afterschool
November 1 and 2: Parent Conferences
November 2: Veterans Walk-a-thon, 8:30am
November 2: **Early Release**, School dismisses at 11am for conferences
November 5: **NO School**, Teacher In-Service Day
November 6: **NO School**, Election Day
November 5-9: Basketball tryouts
November 12: **NO School**, Veteran's Day
November 13: **Late Start** Day, school begins at 9:25am
November 14: PTA Meeting, 6pm at Wilkins
November 16: School Dance, grades 6, 7, 8, 7-9:30pm
November 21-23: **NO School**, Thanksgiving Recess

From the Principal:

Dear Families,

It was so wonderful to have the chance to meet and speak with many of you during our 5th and 6th grade Open House this week! The hallways were definitely humming with excited families as our evening got underway. We hope that Open House marks only the beginning of a strong school-home partnership. Thank you to those who were also able to attend our presentation at the beginning of Open House to share out the next steps in the SAU39 Mastery Grading System. We are excited that the past several years we've spent focusing on our curriculum, instruction, and assessment practices will now be clearly

communicated with both parents and students. More information on our Mastery Learning System can be found on www.oneschoolstreet.org. For those families with 7th and 8th grade students, we hope you will be able to join us next week!

As a reminder, on October 15th at 6:00pm in the Souhegan Theater we will be showing a screening of the movie Angst. The documentary has relevant information about how anxiety affects our students and will be followed by a panel discussion. Thank you to the PTA for sponsoring this screening for our community! We hope to see you there!

As always, thank you for your commitment to our community of learners and to entrusting us to guide your children's journeys.

Regards,

Dr. Bethany Bernasconi

Monday, Oct. 15: Amherst PTA sponsors screening of "Angst"

On Monday, Oct. 15, at 6pm in the SHS auditorium, the Amherst PTA is sponsoring "[Angst](#)" a film that explores anxiety, its causes, effects and what we can do about it. The film includes discussions with mental health experts about the causes of anxiety and its sociological effects, as well as help, resources and tools. A panel discussion to follow; the evening should wrap up by about 8pm. Audience guidelines: families, educators, students over 11 (viewer discretion advised under age 11), community members will benefit from this film.

Winter Sports

Winter sports at Amherst Middle School include Girls Basketball, Boys Basketball, Spirit/Cheerleading and Wrestling. Basketball and Cheer are open to grades 6, 7 and 8. Wrestling is open to all grades.

- Girls Basketball will have an informational meeting afterschool for about 15-20 minutes on Monday, October 22 with Coach Rodon (brodon@sau39.org).
- Boys Basketball will have a brief informational meeting on Tuesday, October 23 with Coach Bly (gbly@sprise.com)
- Spirit/Cheer will have a brief informational meeting on Thursday, November 1 afterschool with Coach Mo Greene (mgreene@sprise.com)
- Wrestling will have an "Intro to Wrestling" on Monday, October 22 from 2:30pm-4:30pm, contact AD Jeff Wing (jwing@sprise.com) with questions.

All students must have an up-to-date physical and a signed Athletic Contract & Emergency Form (contained in the Athletics Handbook) in order to tryout/practice for sports. (Physicals are good for two years from the date of the physical.)

Food Drive for Share

For the month of October, Student Leadership and Service will have a raffle to benefit SHARE. For every two non-perishable food items donated, you will receive one raffle ticket entered into our weekly "Pumpkin Pick" for prizes.

Clubs, Activities, Intramurals

A number of clubs and activities are running in October and November; see the school calendar for specific dates and times:

- Chess Club is open to all students of every ability level, drop in when you can, contact Mrs. Epstein at mepstein@sprise.com in the library with your questions
- STEAM Club is open to all who like to build and create, STEAM meets most Tuesdays and Thursdays, drop in when you can, contact Ms. Oltman (joltman@sprise.com) with questions
- Young Chef's Club is open to grades 6-8, with preference given to 8th graders, sign up necessary with Mrs. Vordenberg in the FACS room, contact hvordenberg@sprise.com with questions
- Student Leadership and Service is open to all who want to improve our school, contact Ms. Kim or Mrs. Robinson with questions
- Intramural, co-ed basketball is open for students in grades 6-8 with Coach Bly and Coach Wing, beginning Monday, Oct. 15 afterschool on the outdoor courts, contact jwing@sprise.com with questions, see dates on the school calendar

Annual Walk-a-thon for Veterans, Nov. 2

The annual AMS Walk-a-Thon for local veterans will be held the morning of November 2, our early release day. The entire Amherst Middle School community will be walking to honor our local veterans. Each grade will wear a different color shirt and carries a service flag on the day of the Walk-A-Thon. The color and flag assignments for each grade are:

5th Grade: Air Force Flag & American Flag- **Red**

6th Grade: Army Flag & Coast Guard Flag-**Blue**

7th Grade: Marine Corps Flag & American Flag- **White**

8th Grade: Navy Flag & POW Flag- **Black**

Many of our veterans struggle to meet their own basic needs; in recent years, our generous AMS community has supported the Manchester VA Hospital Outreach Program through the purchase of gift cards for groceries and gasoline. We will have collection jars each day at lunch for donations.

Souhegan Scholarship Foundation Trivia Night

A Team Trivia Night will be held on Wednesday November 14 to benefit the Souhegan Scholarship Foundation. See [our flyer](#) for more details.

8th Grade Yearbook Purchase

Order your 8th Grade Yearbook: <https://commpe.pictavo.com/PictavoSchool/FindSchool> Parents should click on the link, type in our school code of 77801 and click LETS GO.

Community News

Boy Scouts: Halloween and Dinner in the Village

Halloween will be celebrated in Amherst Village on Wednesday, October 31. No need to cook before heading out!! Courtesy of Amherst Boy Scout Troop 613, dinner will be available from 5 to 8 pm on the village green across from Moulton's Market. The Boy Scouts will be serving steaming bowls of chili, hotdogs, chips, apple cider, hot chocolate, soft drinks and water at our Annual Hotdog Fundraiser. Come join us for great food and drink on Halloween!

Pat's Peak: Pat's Peak 2019 Learn to Ski & Ride Program has begun registrations for their annual 5-week program beginning in January. Please see the [flyer](#) for all the details.