

Amherst Middle School



AMS Weekly Email (10/5/2018)

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

Calendar:

October 8: **NO SCHOOL**, Columbus Day

October 9: **LATE START**, School begins at 9:25am

October 9: Theater Club Audition prep, 2:30pm

October 9: Open House, grades 5 and 6, 6-8pm

October 10: PTA Meeting, 9am AMS Café

October 10-11: Theater Club Auditions (by appointment)

October 12: Theater Club Audition call-backs (possible)

October 12: Fall Festival, 2:30-4pm, grades 5 & 6

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 22-26: 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 and 2: Parent Conferences (sign up during Open House)

November 2: Veterans Walk-a-thon

November 2: **Early Release**, School dismisses at 11am for conferences

November 5: **NO School**, Teacher In-Service Day

November 6: **NO School**, Election Day

From the Principal:

October 5, 2018

Dear Families,

October is bringing with it a flurry of activity at the Middle School! We are looking forward to all of the upcoming opportunities for us to come together as a community. On Tuesday, October 9th we welcome 5th and 6th grade parents to AMS Open House, followed by 7th and 8th grade parents on October 17th. We hope many of you will be able to join us to learn more about the great learning opportunities we have in store for your students throughout the year. From 6:00-6:30pm on both evenings, please join Christine Landwehrle, Assistant Superintendent, and I, to learn more about our Assessment, Grading, and Reporting work and what types of increased communication you can expect to see over the course of the year. Our work always has students at its heart and our goal is to strengthen the teacher-student-parent partnership as we work together to help all students take the next step in their

educational journey. Thank you to all of you who have volunteered on committees, asked thoughtful questions, and participated in focus groups. We are without a doubt, better together.

We hope that you will also join us on October 15th at 6:00pm in the Souhegan Theater for 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!

On a final note regarding safety. Many students are walking to and through the parking lot at the end of the day for pickup. We would appreciate it if you could have your students meet you in the pick-up line in front of the school building rather than the parking lot. With so many students exiting for the day and so many cars, it creates a potentially unsafe situation. Thank you for your help in this matter!

I hope that you all enjoy this first beautiful weekend of fall!

Regards,

Regards,

Dr. Bernasconi

Fall Festival, Friday Oct. 12

The Fall Festival Social for 5th and 6th graders will be Friday, October 12, from 2:30 to 4:00. Admission is \$5.00. Refreshments will be available for purchase. Activities include musical chairs, limbo, freeze dance, mummy wrap, pin the nose on the pumpkin, cake walk, pumpkin ring toss, mask decorating, and more!

Student Leadership and Service Food Drive for Share

Starting next week and running through the end 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.

STEAM Club

Are you looking for a club where you can build and create? STEAM Club with Ms. Oltman is where you need to be! Join us on Tuesdays and/or Thursdays. Come when you can! Questions? contact Ms. Oltman at joltman@sprise.com

Amherst PTA sponsors screening of "Angst"

On Monday, Oct. 15 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. Audience guidelines: families, educators, students over 11 (viewer discretion advised under age 11), community members will benefit from this film.

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. 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. More will be available about this event in the weeks to come.

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.