

Amherst Middle School



AMS Weekly Email (2/1/2019)

Amherst School Board: ASD Deliberative Session on February 5 at 7pm, SHS Theater

Calendar:

Jan. 28-Feb. 8: NWEA testing
February 4: Student Leadership and Service Meeting, 2:30pm in room 102
February 5-7: Field Trips, Gr. 5
February 6: Grade 8 NAEP Testing
February 8: Winter Carnival, grades 5/6, 2:20-4pm
February 11: Winter Sports Banquet, 6pm
February 12: **Late Start** Day, school begins at 9:25am
February 13: PTA General Meeting, 9am
February 15: Semi-Formal (optional) Dance, grades 7 and 8, 7pm
February 20: Staff v. Students Basketball Game, 3:15pm
February 25-March 1: Winter Recess, NO School
March 6: 8th Grade Transition Evening at SHS for AMS 8th grade parents
March 11: PTA General Meeting, 9am
March 12: **Late Start** Day, school begins at 9:25am
March 14-17: AMS Theater Club Presents, *Shrek Jr!*
March 19: 7th Grade Hunger Banquet
March 19: Early College Planning Meeting, 6:30-7:30pm
March 28-29: 7th Grade Battleship Cove
March 29: School Dance, 7pm for grades 6,7,8

Dear Families,

Between NWEA testing, progress reports, and a week dedicated to kindness, the Amherst Middle school has been a busy place! Your students were issued progress reports for English, Mathematics, Social Studies, Science, and World Language classes this week. We recognize that we are sending home an abundance of information with our progress reports this year. Our system is optimized for an online interface for parents and students that we are working to customize and plan to open next year. I am working on a video to give you some insight into this online platform and how we hope it will further support communication and collaboration between parents, students, and school. In the meantime, we want to ensure that we are transparent with student progress and learning. This is why we are sending home the comprehensive report that includes all the standards where students are building evidence. If you have questions about your students' progress and learning, please don't hesitate to reach out to teachers. These collaborative conversations are critical to helping all of our students strive for excellence.





AMS participated in the Great Kindness Challenge this week and the positive energy throughout the building was tangible! Students delivered signs, committed to spreading acts of kindness throughout the building, were greeted each morning with music and the Eddie (the AMS mascot), and created cards with encouraging messages to be sent to both Mont Vernon Village School and Clark-Wilkins. While this was just one week out of many, our goal is to create a culture of kindness that permeates the school each and every day!

Regards,
Dr. Bernasconi



Activities and Intramurals:

NEW: Art Club with Mrs. Pettus: Art Club with Mrs. Pettus will be starting on Thursday, February 7th. All are welcome! Meeting dates and details are [posted!](#)

NEW: Engineering with Ms. Olman: Looking for some fun, creative and challenging hands-on projects? Come to Engineering Club with Ms. O! Meeting dates and details are [posted](#).

Intramural Basketball for Grades 5 & 6 See dates and details on our [website](#)...

Chess Club meets on Wednesdays afterschool. All grades and all levels are welcome! Meeting dates/details on the [website](#).

Zentangle Club: Do you like to doodle? Then Zantangle is for you! Meet Mrs. Bowler on Tuesdays afterschool from 2:30-3:45pm...see all the details and dates on our [website](#).

Empty Bowl Art Club: Come after school on Tuesdays and Thursdays to the Empty Bowls Art Club with Ms. Plank. We will make clay bowls that will be donated to Share to help feed the hungry...details and dates are on our [website](#).

Important AMS Reminders:

Check out our [website](#) to see some friendly reminders about procedures for absences, tardy arrivals, bus passes, afterschool plans, signing up for **SNOW** day cancellations, etc.

Theater Club

SAVE THE DATE: The AMS Theater Club cast and crew have been working hard since October to prepare and to share the story of everyone's favorite Ogre. The cast has been busy learning songs, dances and blocking for the March performances while the crew are working tirelessly on production aspects including costumes, sets, props, photojournalism and brand ambassadors. Tickets can be found starting February 12th at Amherst Middle School, Moulton's, The Homestead and The Black Forest Cafe in Amherst NH and Toadstool in Milford NH. Join AMS Theater Club in the swamp on March 14th, 15th, and 16th at 7pm and March 16th and 17th at 2pm!

Early College Planning Presentation

AMS Café, March 19, 6:30-7:30pm: It is never too early to begin preparing (academically or financially) for a college education. Parents will get a head start by attending this evening program that provides them with the college planning and savings basics necessary to support their children's goals for education beyond high school. Attendees will receive an Early College Planning Guide. Presented by New Hampshire Higher Education Assistance Foundation.

8th Grade Yearbook

- **Order Information** 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.

Amherst PTA

- The Staff Appreciation committee has planned a day to treat our staff with snacks next week! Please sign up on MySchoolAnywhere, under "Sign Ups."
- Now is the time! We're looking for parents interested in taking on a role as committee members, committee chairs, and executive board members. Email for more information or attend the next General Meeting on 2/13.
- A lot of great things are planned to benefit our schools and student experience! Here are some ways to get involved and be part of the good in Amherst:

2/1: Fire & Ice Chili Cook-off Sponsored by Amherst Lions Club and other local organizations at AMS from 5-7PM. Donations accepted at the door. Chili contest entries can email Amherstlionsclub@gmail.com. MC Porter Dodge, AMS Jazz Band, AMS Theater Club, Amherst PTA Mulan Jr., and FIRST Robotics- along with balloon animals- will be there to entertain.

2/8: Bertucci's Dine & Donate Nights have raised over \$300 this year in just 2 events! Help us raise another \$500 by having lunch, dinner, takeout, or dine in fun with family and friends. Simply show the event from the Amherst PTA Facebook page or website to your server. Make it a monthly outing! 2/8, 3/29, 4/26.

2/11: PTA Adults Only Night at Board and Brush. Preregistration required. Sign up here: <https://boardandbrush.com/amherst/6617>

2/13: Next General Meeting. 9-10AM Coffee Chat with CW and AMS Administration at AMS cafeteria.

2/18-3/8: Read-A-Thon at CW and AMS. Last year's event raised over \$8,000!

3/9: PTA Adults Only Night at Merrimack Ten Pin. Sign ups online in MySchoolAnywhere store.

3/11: General Meeting. 9-10AM Coffee Chat with CW and AMS Administration at AMS cafeteria.

3/15: Star Wars Math and Science Night at Wilkins from 6:30-8:30PM.

Amherstptanh@gmail.com

www.amherstnhpta.org

SHS PTSA

SHS PTSA 80's Night is quickly approaching! This **Saturday February 2 from 8 pm to midnight** at the Amherst Country Club. Come support your PTSA and raise some money for scholarships! Tickets are on sale at Moulton's, The Homestead, and SHS. \$20 pp, cash bar, music, and fantastic raffle items!

Questions? souheganptsa@gmail.com

Community News

Amherst Town Library Programs: The Amherst Town Library has lots of children and family programming for our community members. Check out our [community page](#) or the [Library website](#) for details. Some February programming includes:

SPECIAL COMMUNITY ACTIVITY : “CARDS & COFFEE FOR OUR VETERANS” Come down to the Children’s Room anytime between **Feb. 1 and Feb. 10th** to create your own special Valentine to tell our veterans how much we appreciate their service!

Book Clubs: We have book clubs for all ages— If you’re interested, please contact Miss Sarah (shydorn@amherstlibrary.org or 673-2288). **“The Great Stone Face Reviewer’s Club”** (for 5th and 6th graders) and **“Let’s Get Graphic Club”** (for 7th - 9th graders)