

AMHERST - PELHAM *Regional* SCHOOL DISTRICT
AMHERST, MASSACHUSETTS

Amherst Regional High School
21 Mattoon Street, Amherst, MA 01002
Phone: (413) 362-1701 Fax: (413) 549-9704
<http://www.arhs.arps.org>

Mark Jackson, Principal
Miki Lee Gromacki, Assistant Principal
Ericka Alschuler, Interim Assistant Principal
Rich Ferro, Athletic Director

August 2015

Dear ARHS Parents & Guardians,

On behalf of the faculty and staff of ARHS, I would like to welcome all of our students and families to SY 2015-2016.

Regarding the opening of school, ARHS will communicate **twice** with all its families over the next two weeks. The first communication is the email you are reading now and it contains the basic information all families will need for the upcoming school year. This email should include one attachments with the following items:

- School and district calendars;
- Bell and Early Release Day schedules;
- Map of traffic patterns for the front parking lot;
- Information regarding double mailings;
- Summer College Collage
- Ordering information for *The Graphic* and the yearbook;
- Information from the ARHS Parent Guardian Organization

If, for some reason, the attachment did not come through, it is available on our web site or you can call our main office at 362-1700 to request another copy.

The second communication is a first class mailing, which will be sent on **Friday, August 28**. This will include student class schedules and Emergency and Health Information forms..

The **first day of school** for all students is **Wednesday, September 2**. The day's schedule is below:

1. **9th grade students** will report directly to their **advisories** at 7:45 am.
2. **New students**(grades 10 – 12) will report to the **library** at 7:45 am.
3. **10th, 11th and 12th grade students** will arrive to school by 10:00(buses will make a 2nd morning run) and report directly to their **advisories**.

The Daily Hampshire Gazette will publish information about **bus routes** the week before school opens. The routes are also currently available on the ARHS web site. On the first

day of school, all five class periods will meet thought for a shortened period of time.

Dismissal is at the regular time, 2:20 p.m.

For the remainder of August, the main office is open from 8:00 am to 3:00 pm. I encourage you to call if you have questions. I look forward to seeing everyone shortly.

Sincerely,

Mark Jackson
Principal

Important August – October Dates

1. Thursday, August 27 from 9:00 – 1:00, ARHS will hold a one-day Open House for **all new students and 9th graders**. The day is organized on a drop-in basis – whenever they arrive, students should plan on staying for approximately an hour. Parents and guardians are welcome to attend. The goal of the day is for students to receive their schedules, become familiar with the layout of the building and meet some people who will play a key role in their lives over the next four years.
2. Monday, September 7 is Labor Day and all district schools are closed.
3. Thursday, September 10 is the last day of the **Drop/Add period**. Any course change requests for all three trimesters must be made by the end of the day.
4. Thursday, September 10: 9th Grade/New Student Family Night is a one hour meeting designed to provide parents and guardians of all students new to the high school with an overview of ARHS's policies and procedures. The meeting begins at 7 pm in the ARHS auditorium,
5. Wednesday, September 16 is the first **Early Release Day**. Students dismissed are dismissed at 12 pm[see the 'What's New?' section for district's new professional development calendar].
6. Thursday, September 17 is **Picture Day**. All student will have their picture taken.
7. Friday, September 18 is the **Clubs and Activities Fair**. This is held during all lunch periods and provides students with the opportunity to learn about all the ARHS clubs and activities. Please encourage your child to attend and think about the activities in which they want to become involved.
8. September 21 - 25 is **Spirit Week** which will culminate with **Homecoming** on Saturday, September 26. A full complement of athletic events are scheduled throughout the day and evening. Please see the Athletic Department for details.

9. Thursday, October 8: **Open House @ 7 pm:** Parents and guardians will follow their child/children's schedule, meet teachers and learn about the expectations for each course.

'What's New?'

1. Late Arrival Days no longer exist. This is true for the entire district. Instead, to support faculty professional development, **Early Release Days**[student dismissal is at 12:00 pm] are scheduled for each month of the school year with June the only exception.
2. The entire district has switched over to **Google** for both email and calendars. The new calendar menu can be found [here](#).
3. This year, the **ARHS class size**, on average, shows a modest increase. This is primarily the result of the budget deficit the Regional schools faced this year. The overwhelming majority of ARHS classes still fall within the 23-25 average range that has been the norm for at least the last 10 years. But the number of courses that do not has increased. We have worked to maintain the following scheduling principles: the younger the student, the smaller the class size; and, the higher the level of challenge, the larger the class size. Ninth and tenth grade classes are typically smaller than 11th and 12 grade classes and AP courses are typically larger than college prep classes. There may be exceptions, but, generally, these principles have held.
4. One implication of the increase to class size is that **course change requests** for the upcoming school year will be more difficult to fill than in the past. We will still accept change requests during the drop/add period, which ends on Thursday, September 10th. But all students should expect to take the courses they signed up for in the spring. The course change form will arrive home in the first class mailing.
5. The installation of **security cameras** at the high school was completed toward the end of last school year. Outside, the perimeter of the school along with all parking lots are covered by security cameras. Inside, all hallways and stairwells along with the cafeteria are covered. Access to footage remains under the control of the Superintendent.
6. **Gender neutral bathrooms** are now available to all students on the first and third floors. These bathrooms are single-stall facilities.
7. This year, the College Board calendar requires that schools administer the **PSAT's** during the school day. This is scheduled for Wednesday, October 14. More information regarding registration for the test and how we will organize ourselves to administer the test will be forthcoming.

8. Lastly, please find [here](#) the letter from Superintendent Geryk regarding the district's consideration of consolidation of the middle school and high school. The letter includes a link to a survey that asks for community input on the question.

What's Worth Reviewing?

1. **After School Availability of Teachers:** On Monday, Tuesday, Thursday and Friday, all faculty are available in their classrooms to work with students from 2:20 to 3:00 pm. On Wednesdays, teachers will have other professional development obligations and, therefore, will not be available to students. There are no late buses on Wednesdays or Fridays.
2. **Cafeteria: Breakfast** is available to all students every morning. The cost of breakfast is \$1.25 full price and \$0.30 reduced price. Students need to finish with breakfast before 7:40 in order to be on time for first period. The **cost of lunch** is \$2.75. The cost of a reduced lunch will remain at \$0.40. Keeping the lunch lines moving maximizes the time students have to actually eat. To help in this effort, the Food Service Department maintains '**cafeteria accounts**' for students. We instituted an on-line payment system for the convenience of parents and students. Please go to ***MySchoolBucks.com*** to set up an account. Students may also deposit with the cafeteria cashiers an amount of money by either cash or check that is automatically debited when they swipe their ID cards. Please make checks payable to: **Amherst School Food Service Department**.
3. **Athletics Website:** The MIAA's (Massachusetts Interscholastic Athletic Association) site is our athletic scheduling web site. The link is:
<http://miaa.net/schools/public/AmhPelA2>
4. **Late Buses:** Late buses will run according to the schedule below. Students should be ready to board the late buses by no later than 3:45. Late bus service will begin on Tuesday, September 8th.

M	T	W	Th	F
Amherst, Leverett, Shutesbury and Pelham	Amherst, Leverett, Shutesbury and Pelham	No late buses	Amherst, Leverett, Shutesbury and Pelham	No late buses

Amherst Regional High School

2015 - 2016 Academic Timeline

Wednesday, September 02, 2015		First Day of School
Monday, September 07, 2015		Labor Day
Wednesday, September 09, 2015		Advisory
Thursday, September 10, 2015		9th New Family Parent's Night; end add/drop
Wednesday, September 16, 2015		Early Release (12:00)
Thursday, September 17, 2015		Photo Day
Friday, September 18, 2015		Club/Activities Fair
SATURDAY, September 26th		HOMECOMING
Wednesday, September 30, 2015		Advisory
Wednesday, October 07, 2015		Advisory
Thursday, October 08, 2015		Open House
Friday, October 09, 2015		end P1
Monday, October 12, 2015		Columbus Day/Dia de la Raza
Wednesday, October 14, 2015	PSATs	PSATs
Friday, October 16, 2015		Progress reports distributed
Wednesday, October 21, 2015		Early Release (12:00)
Wednesday, October 28, 2015		Advisory
Thursday, October 29, 2015		Make-up Photo Day
Wednesday, November 04, 2015	MCAS RETAKES	Early Release (12:00)
Thursday, November 05, 2015		
Friday, November 06, 2015		
Monday, November 09, 2015		
Tuesday, November 10, 2015		
Wednesday, November 11, 2015		Veteran's Day
Wednesday, November 18, 2015		Advisory
Friday, November 20, 2015		exams
Monday, November 23, 2015		exams
Tuesday, November 24, 2015		exams / half day
11/25 - 11/30		Thanksgiving Recess and Teacher Work Day
Tuesday, December 01, 2015		Begin T2, schedules distributed
Wednesday, December 09, 2015		Advisory
Wednesday, December 16, 2015		Early Release (12:00)
Friday, December 18, 2015		T1 grades distributed
Wednesday, December 23, 2015		Advisory
12/24 /15 - 1/1/16		Holiday Recess
Monday, January 04, 2016		School resumes
Wednesday, January 13, 2016		Early Release (12:00)
Monday, January 18, 2016		MLK, Jr Day (observed)
Wednesday, January 20, 2016		Advisory
Monday, January 25, 2016		end P2
Friday, January 29, 2016		P2 grade reports distributed
Monday, February 01, 2016	MCAS BIO	
Tuesday, February 02, 2016	Retake	
Wednesday, February 03, 2016		Advisory
Wednesday, February 10, 2016		Early Release (12:00)

Amherst Regional High School

2015 - 2016 Academic Timeline

2/15 - 2/19		Winter Recess
Monday, February 22, 2016		Advisory
Monday, February 29, 2016	MCAS RETAKES	
Tuesday, March 01, 2016		
Wednesday, March 02, 2016		
Thursday, March 03, 2016		
Friday, March 04, 2016		
Wednesday, March 09, 2016		Advisory
Tuesday, March 15, 2016		exams
Wednesday, March 16, 2016		exams
Thursday, March 17, 2016		exams (half day)
Friday, March 18, 2016		Teacher Work Day
Monday, March 21, 2016		First Day of T3--schedules distributed
Tuesday, March 22, 2016	MCAS ELA	
Wednesday, March 23, 2016		
Thursday, March 24, 2016		
Wednesday, March 30, 2016		Early Release (12:00)
Friday, April 01, 2016		T2 grades distributed
Wednesday, April 06, 2016		Advisory
Wednesday, April 13, 2016		Early Release (12:00)
4/18 - 4/22		Spring Recess
Wednesday, April 27, 2016		Advisory
Monday, May 02, 2016	AP EXAMS 5/2 - 5/13	
Friday, May 06, 2016		end P3
Wednesday, May 11, 2016		Early Release (12:00)
Thursday, May 12, 2016		P3 grade reports distributed
Friday, May 13, 2016		
Tuesday, May 17, 2016	MCAS MATH	
Wednesday, May 18, 2016		
Wednesday, May 25, 2016		Advisory
Monday, May 30, 2016		Memorial Day
Wednesday, June 01, 2016	MCAS SCIENCE	Senior Exams
Thursday, June 02, 2016		Senior Exams
Friday, June 03, 2016		Senior Exams--last day for Seniors
Wednesday, June 08, 2016		Senior Awards
Thursday, June 09, 2016		Advisory; Dialogue Day (tentative)
Friday, June 10, 2016		Graduation
Wednesday, June 15, 2016		Underclass Awards
Thursday, June 16, 2016		Last Day with NO SNOW
Monday, June 20, 2016		Exams
Tuesday, June 21, 2016		Exams
Wednesday, June 22, 2016		Exams
Thursday, June 23, 2016		Make Up Exams--Last Day with 5 Snow Days

Amherst, Pelham and Amherst-Pelham Regional School District

2015-2016 School Calendar

Aug 2015						
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30	31					

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31						

August
27 and 28 New Teachers Orientation
31 All Teachers Curriculum/PD Day

September
1 All Staff Orientation (Paraeducators report to work per contract)
2 First Day of School (Kindergarten Orientation 2 and 3)
4 Pre-K and Kindergarten Students' First Day of School
7 Labor Day (No School)
16 PreK-12 Early Release Day (12:00 secondary; 1:20 elementary)

October
12 Columbus Day (No School)
21 PreK-12 Early Release Day (12:00 secondary; 1:20 elementary)
23 Elementary Early Dismissal for Parent Conferences (12:00 p.m.)
26 Elementary Early Dismissal for Parent Conferences (12:00 p.m.)

November
4 Grades 7-12 Early Release
11 Veterans Day (No School)
24 MS/HS Early Dismissal (HSE Exams)
25 through 27 Thanksgiving Recess
30 All Teachers Curriculum/Work Day (No school PreK-12)

December
16 PreK-12 Early Release Day (12:00 secondary; 1:20 elementary)
24 through January 1 Holiday Recess

January
13 Grades 7-12 Early Release
18 Martin Luther King, Jr. Day (No School)
29 Elementary Teachers Workday (No School Grades Pre-K-6)

February
10 PreK-12 Early Release Day (12:00 secondary; 1:20 elementary)
15 through 19 Winter Recess

March
17 MS/HS Early Dismissal (HSE Exams)

18 Regional Teachers Curriculum/Workday (No school at MS/HS)

30 PreK-12 Early Release Day (12:00 secondary; 1:20 elementary)

April
13 Grades 7-12 Early Release
18 through 22 Spring Recess

May
11 PreK-12 Early Release Day (12:00 secondary; 1:20 elementary)
30 Memorial Day (No School)

June
23 Last Day of School (half-day), Including 5 Snow Days (Earliest last day of school is June 16 depending on number of snow days used)

Feb 2016						
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Jul 2016						
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31						

SUMMER COLLEGE COLLAGE

FROM MYRA ROSS, ARHS COLLEGE ADVISOR

For best college preparation, all students are advised to take coursework seriously, to do assignments carefully and on time, and to meet with teachers for help as soon as they begin to feel uncertain of course content and expectations. The rigor of a student's program and academic performance are the most important factors in college admission. This is particularly true for juniors and seniors. Senior year is not a time to lighten academics.

- All ARHS students are invited to attend the 2015 Hampshire County College Fair at South Hadley High School on Tuesday, September 29 from 6:00-8:00 p.m. Representatives from approximately 150 colleges will be there. There will also be a large college fair at Western New England University on Sunday afternoon, September 20.
- Juniors and seniors are reminded that there is a free SAT/PSAT/ACT preparation program called "Method Test Prep," accessible from a student's home page in Naviance. Preparation is available for the ACT and both the current SAT (terminating after January) and new SAT, (beginning in March) and for the new PSAT. Students who need help accessing their Naviance account should see a Guidance secretary after August 18 for help. Look for more information about test-prep options later in this newsletter

RE SENIORS:

- Early in the first trimester, seniors will receive a large handbook about the college admissions process. Seniors and parents/guardians should read it carefully and keep it for reference. Note the extensive calendar of special admissions events and deadlines on the back cover.
- By now, seniors should be actively thinking about what they will do after high school. They do not need to decide until almost the end of the school year, but good decisions usually emerge from good research and planning, including pre-application campus visits to 2yr and 4yr colleges. Students should own this self-discovery process, but parents can provide valuable assistance.
- **IMPORTANT:** Seniors should schedule a fall post-secondary planning meeting with me (preferably including parents/guardians). First they must complete our online Senior Questionnaire for College Conference, accessible after August 24 under "About Me" in Naviance (www.connection.naviance.com/amherst). Guidance counselors will use information from the questionnaire to write recommendations, required by most colleges and many scholarship donors. Parents/guardians may wish to complete the optional Naviance Parent Questionnaire for College Conference, available in parent Naviance accounts.
- The September 12 ACT (actstudent.org) will be offered at Deerfield Academy, Northfield Mount Hermon School, and Brattleboro HS in VT. Register by Aug. 21 (with late fee).
- Register for the Oct. 3 SAT or the Oct. 24 ACT ASAP. The SAT registration deadline with fee waiver is Sept. 3 (Sept 18 with late fee), and for the ACT, Sept. 18 with fee waiver (Oct. 2 with late fee). Other SAT dates will be November 7 and December 5. The ACT will also be offered on December 12. All fall SATs are offered at ARHS. The ACT is never at ARHS.
- Students registered for free/reduced lunch can get fee waivers from the Guidance Office beginning on August 18.
- Representatives from at least 100 colleges will visit ARHS this fall. Parents and students are welcome. The schedule will be posted in the Guidance Office and in Naviance as it evolves. Seniors should sign up in Naviance and get a pink pass from Guidance. Three total visits will not count toward the ARHS attendance policy.
- UMass will hold an open house for seniors on a weekend date in late October (TBA) at the Mullins Center. It's a good idea to attend.
- The 2015-16 Common Application is now available at commonapp.org. Seniors might want to begin filling it out. They should be working on their essays, in particular.

RE JUNIORS:

- Juniors should take the new PSAT during the school day on Wednesday, October 14. There will be no Saturday PSAT administration anywhere this year. The PSAT is a shorter, practice version of the SAT, which most juniors should take sometime next spring. The PSAT is also the qualifying test for the National Merit Scholarship competition, for which only juniors are eligible. The College Board provides free access to online SAT preparation through Khan Academy (<https://www.khanacademy.org/psat>) and career/college search information to students who take the PSAT. Students will sign up in the Guidance Office. The cost will be approximately \$16, waived for juniors on free/reduced lunch,
- I will meet with juniors in classroom settings in January and individually with families beginning in February. Every junior should meet with me in the spring. College questions that come up before then should be directed to guidance counselors who will consult with me if there is a need. In the meantime juniors can begin to use the search and other research features of Naviance.
- Juniors should plan their standardized test-taking schedule early to avoid conflicts with athletic, family and performing arts events in the winter and spring. Recruited athletes should test early (December or January is recommended.). Most ARHS students take both the SAT and ACT, and many also take two SAT subject tests. SAT dates: January 23, March 5, May 7, and June 4. ACT dates: December 12, February 6, April 9 and June 11.

RE NINTH & TENTH GRADE STUDENTS:

- The best college preparation for younger high school students is to develop a strong academic work ethic resulting in broader knowledge and skills. We encourage students to read for pleasure and to find meaningful activities in and out of school. This includes service activities, artistic, musical, theatrical, entrepreneurial, athletic or academic pursuits, paid or volunteer work, or anything that fosters creativity, responsibility, leadership, knowledge, and self-confidence.
- For early practice, sophomores may want to take the new PSAT during the school day on Wednesday, October 14. The cost will be approximately \$16. Students will register in the Guidance Office. The College Board does not provide fee waivers for sophomores.
- Sophomores in honors biology or honors chemistry should consider taking that SAT Subject test next spring if they are earning a final grade of B+ or better. Students will need to cover some units on their own. Because our U.S. History curriculum does not align well with the SAT Subject test, only students with extensive independent knowledge of US history might want to take the test. All other subject tests are best taken in grades 11 and 12.

TEST PREPARATION OPTIONS

Preparing for standardized tests is important. Scores are almost always substantially higher when students know what to expect. There are several free test-preparation opportunities:

- Open a Method Test Prep account for free ACT and SAT preparation (for both the current and new test). Find a link to MTP on the Naviance home page. MTP includes audio and visuals and contains many short modules.
- Find official SAT study materials at collegeboard.org. These include: Free sample SAT questions, Free full SAT practice test, Official SAT Online Course, Official SAT Study Guide
- Find free official study materials at khanacademy.org/PSAT or /SAT.
- Find official ACT study materials on actstudent.org.
- Kaplan offers free On Demand Prep Courses online for PSAT, ACT, and SAT. Go to www.kaplanatschool.com/amherst.

THE AMHERST-REGIONAL PUBLIC SCHOOLS

Serving Amherst, Pelham and the Amherst-Pelham Region

EQUITY & EXCELLENCE DEPARTMENT
170 CHESTNUT STREET
AMHERST, MA 01002

413-362-1834 (PHONE)
413-549-1036(FAX)

August 2015

Dear Parent,

All parents, with some exceptions, have the right to access and receive copies of their child's/children's records. The District requests that divorced parents submit a copy of their custody agreement, parenting plan or custody order so that it is on file with their child's or children's respective school or schools.

However, a non-custodial parent, i.e., a parent who does not have physical custody of his/her child, cannot obtain access to the student record if:

1. The parent has been denied legal custody based on a threat to the safety of the student, or
2. The parent has been denied visitation or has been ordered to supervised visitation, or
3. The parent's access to the student or to the custodial parent has been restricted by a temporary or permanent protective order, unless the protective order (or any subsequent order modifying the protective order) specifically allows access to the information contained in the student record.
4. There is an order of a probate and family court judge which prohibits the distribution of student records to the parent.

If the school receives any documents indicating that the non-custodial parent's access to the student record is limited or restricted pursuant to 603 CMR 23.07 (5) (a), the school shall place this information in the student's records.

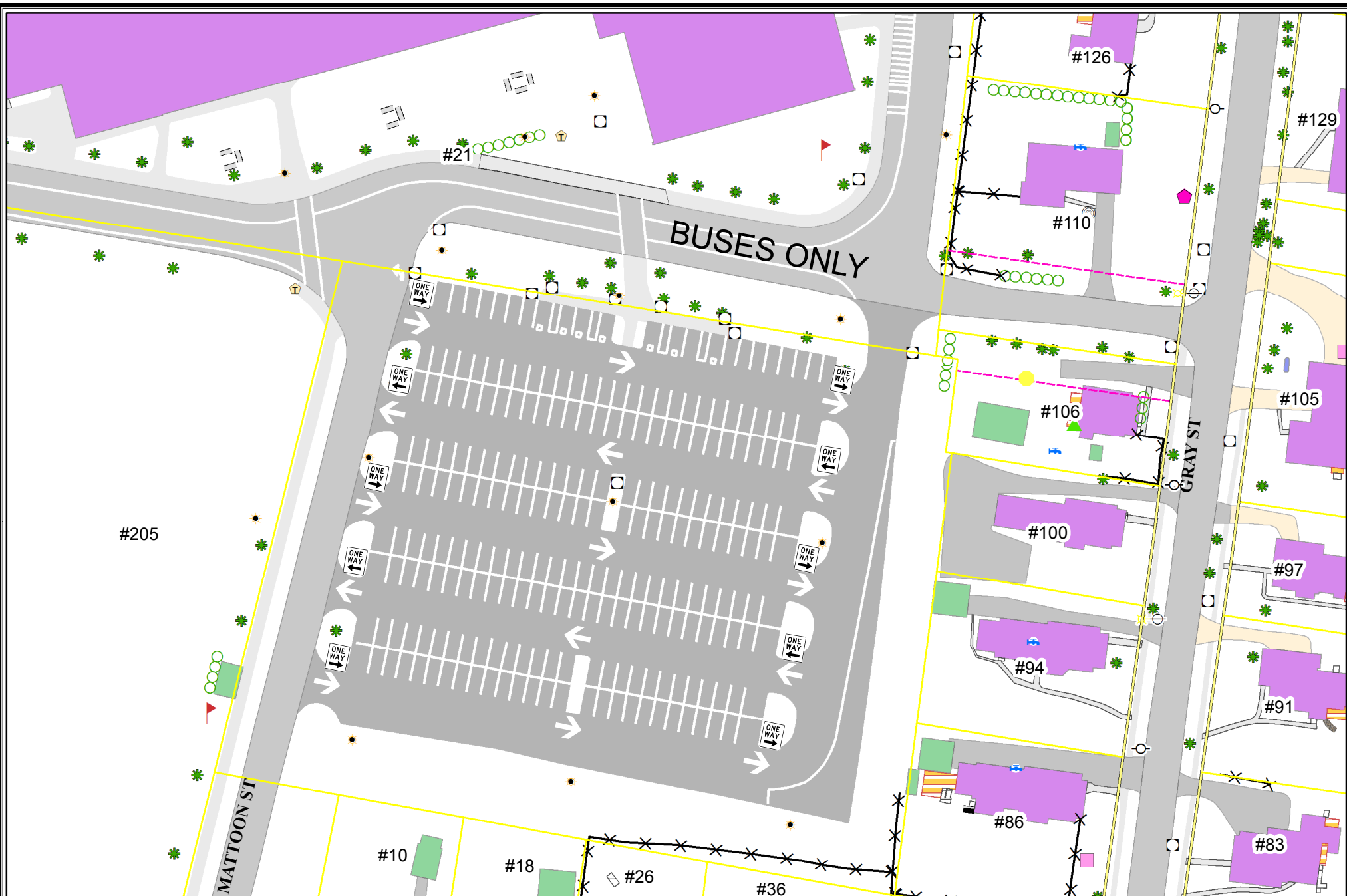
A parent who does not fit into the categories listed in #1-4 above, but who does not have physical custody of the child, must submit a written request for access to the student record to the school principal in order to obtain access. Upon receipt of the request, the school will immediately notify the custodial parent by certified and first class mail, in English and the primary language of the custodial parent, that it will provide the non-custodial parent access after 21 days, unless the custodial parent provides the principal with documentation that the non-custodial parent is not eligible to obtain access to the student records. The school will delete the electronic and postal address and telephone number of the student and the custodial parent from the student records provided to the non-custodial parents. In addition, the school will mark such records to indicate that they shall not be used to enroll the student in another school or District. Lastly, upon the receipt of a court order which prohibits the distribution of information pursuant to G.L.c. 71, §34H, the school will notify the non-custodial parent that it will cease to provide him or her access to the student record.

If you have any questions or concerns about this matter or others, please do not hesitate in contacting me.

Sincerely,

Dr. Marta Guevara

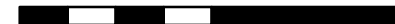
Student Services Administrator



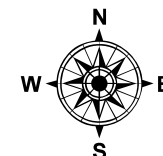
Town of Amherst
Department of Public Works
May 27, 2014
Jason O. Skeels, P.E.

ARHS Revised Parking Lot Circulation

80 40 0 80 Feet



1 inch = 80 feet



YEARBOOK

GOLDBUG 2016 NEWS

Deadlines

All Students

2016 YEARBOOKS

This year's book will once again be printed by Amherst Design & Copy (Formerly CopyCat). We are hoping to add more color pages than ever before. The price will be around \$65 (subject to change depending on the number of color pages). Discounts will be available for students who receive free/reduced lunch. Order forms will be mailed in early september and are due FRIDAY, OCTOBER 23.

ID AND YEARBOOK PORTRAITS

Photos for school IDs and the yearbook will be taken at ARHS on THURSDAY, September 17. Retake day is THURSDAY, OCTOBER 29.

SUMMER CANDIDS

We need photos of you on the Great Wall of China, water skiing on Martha's Vineyard or chilling in Groff Park for the summer section of the yearbook. Even if you didn't go anywhere, we could use silly selfies and crazy candids. Please email your photos by FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 25 to yearbook@arps.org. We cannot guarantee your photo will appear in the book.

SENIOR PORTRAITS

Prints or digital portraits are due FRIDAY, OCTOBER 23. Prints must be turned in to the yearbook drop box between the cafeteria and the library. They will be returned at graduation rehearsal. Digital portraits should be emailed to yearbook@arps.org. The printed dimensions will be roughly 1.5" x 1.25". You must be fully clothed in your portrait and the photo must be of you. The yearbook staff reserves the right to reject photos that are inappropriate or are of low quality. If a photo is not turned in by January 1, we will use your ID photo in the book. Due to declining interest, senior quotes will NO LONGER be included in the yearbook.

BABY PICTURES

The deadline for baby photos is FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 25. Please submit prints to the yearbook drop box between the cafeteria and library. Please make sure your name is on the back of the print. Please DO NOT turn in photos that cannot be replaced. Please do NOT submit ink-jet prints. Scanned or digital photos can be emailed to yearbook@arps.org. Photos will be returned at graduation rehearsal.

RECOGNITION ADS

Wish your special senior congratulations and good luck. Recognition ad order forms will be mailed out in September and will be due on October 23.

QUESTIONS?

Contact Lee Larcheveque at 362-1579 or yearbook@arps.org.

IMPORTANT DATES

Please mark your calendars

Senior & Underclass Portraits: September 17

Retake Day: October 29

Summer Candids due: September 25

Baby Pictures due: September 25

Senior Recognition Ads due: October 23

Senior Portraits due: October 23

Yearbook Order Forms due: October 23

PLEASE SUBMIT PHOTOS AND FORMS
TO THE YEARBOOK DROP BOX LOCATED BETWEEN THE
CAFETERIA AND THE LIBRARY OR TO THE MAIN OFFICE

Seniors

The Graphic

Amherst Regional High School

21 Mattoon Street, Amherst, MA 01002

Dear Parents and Guardians,

The 2015-2016 school year is nearly here, and the student staffers of ARHS's award-winning school newspaper, *The Graphic*, are preparing for the year ahead.

If you would like us to mail you copies of our magazine-style publication (published twice each trimester, for a total of six times per year), please consider a subscription for this year! Any donation over \$25 will automatically qualify for a subscription, and additional subscriptions may be purchased for \$10 each. You will have a chance to read in-depth news, opinion, features, and club and sports coverage, all produced by ARHS's Journalistic Writing courses. Friends and family or recent graduates might also like to keep up with our school news.

Simply complete the form below and mail it to the above address (attention: Sara Barber-Just, our advisor) and you'll receive your first issue in October.

Lastly, we are looking for newspaper staff. We welcome interested ninth and tenth graders at our meetings and will train them in the process of running a school newspaper. If you know a student who would like to spend the next few years immersed in student journalism, have that student contact Ms. Barber-Just in room 175 or at barber-justs@arps.org.

Once again, we thank you for your generosity and wish you the best for the coming year!

Yasunari Watanabe and *Graphic* staff

I have enclosed the following amount:

_____ \$25 _____ \$50 _____ \$100 _____ Other

I have donated \$25 or more. Please send my subscription to:

Name:

Address:

TUESDAY
SEPT 1

Amherst Town Common

5:00pm -6:30pm

Rain Location ARHS Cafeteria 21 Mattoon St

FREE parking & BID Trolley shuttle from ARHS parking lot

Amherst, Pelham & Regional Public Schools

First Day Celebration!

Join friends & school staff at the community's
Welcome-Back-to-School Party

All are invited to attend this FREE event

ARMS 8th Grade Chorus

Marilyn Sylla Drummers

Fran the Magician

ARPS Cambodian Dancers

Hoop Joy!

Muddy Brook Farm Ponies

Donate new or gently used athletic equipment for ARPS student athletes.

Visit the UMASS

Kinesiology Dept community table with donations

ART &
MUSIC

GAMES
MAGIC &
MORE!

Special thanks to our Community Partners: Amherst Area Chamber of Commerce, Amherst Business Improvement District, Amherst College, Amherst Community Emergency Response Team (CERT) Amherst Fire Department, Amherst Lions Club, Amherst Media, Amherst Pelham Education Association, Amherst Police Department, Amherst Survival Center, Amherst Together, DeMaio Orthodontics, Explore Disc Golf, Family Outreach of Amherst, Head Games Beauty Supply, Hoop Joy! Jones Library, LSSE, Reader to Reader, State Rep. Ellen Story, Town of Amherst Select Board & Public Works Department, University of Massachusetts Athletics, Kinesiology & Police Departments

INFO

stenderk@arps.org 413-362-1825 www.arps.org

FREE vision exams by the Amherst Lions Club

Appearances by collegiate sports stars and mascots!

August 21, 2015

Dear ARHS Parents and Guardians,

The Amherst Regional High School Parent/Guardian Organization (ARHS PGO) welcomes you to the 2015-2016 Academic Year. We are a volunteer group of parents and guardians, and invite you to join us! *The mission of the ARHS PGO is to promote communication and understanding among families, staff and the Amherst area community; to foster a spirit of collaboration by providing a forum for participation and the exchange of information and ideas; and to provide financial assistance where needed to enrich the academic and overall experience of all students.* Our efforts include:

PGO Weekly Newsletter:

Our weekly email newsletter will keep you informed about upcoming events, deadlines, news and more. We welcome you to submit information that is helpful to the ARHS community. You can sign up to receive the newsletter via email at: arhspgonews@gmail.com. The newsletter can also be accessed from the front page of the ARHS website or at <http://arhsparentcenter.org/>.

PGO Grant Program:

Last year, the PGO Grant Program used funds raised through the Stop & Shop A+ Rewards Program to award over \$22, 000 to staff members in every department. We also offer a Student-Initiated Grant Program to generate additional creative and innovative ideas, such as Consent Week, that benefit the entire ARHS Community. **When you register your Stop & Shop card with us, Stop & Shop makes a contribution to ARHS every time you shop at absolutely no cost to you. This is the sole source of funding for our grant program.** Please provide your Stop & Shop card information by following the link in our newsletter even if you have registered in the past so we can assure that your participation is up to date.

Dialogs with Principal Mark Jackson and Others:

Each trimester the ARHS PGO invites the principal and other guest speakers to present on a wide variety of relevant topics. Half-hour moderated question-and-answer periods are scheduled as part of these sessions. Join us and stay connected!

We encourage you to donate to the ARHS PGO and register your Stop & Shop card so that we can continue to bolster our students' high school experience. As mentioned above, you can register your Stop & Shop card by following the link in our newsletter. You can also make a tax-deductible donation to the PGO by going to the website <http://arhsparentcenter.org/> and clicking on the donation tab at any time.

Thank you in advance for your help!

The ARHS PGO Board