



AHS Parent Newsletter: Friday, Dec. 2

Principal's Message

I hope that you all had a restful and pleasant Thanksgiving break. There are only two weeks left until we enter our semester finals for the first semester. Please conference with your child and review if they have any assignments outstanding or any assessments to make-up. I remind you that the grades earned at semester are the grades that will be recorded on the student's official transcript. These transcripts are the permanent records used by colleges and employers when assessing candidates for positions or admittance.

Hate Speech Lesson – See video link below

Today all teachers processed a lesson with students to address recent incidences of hate speech here at AHS. As a part of the discussion, students viewed a short video and then responded to the video by addressing some questions. The video and the questions are below for your review. We hope that this activity continues work that AHS has been revisiting over the past few years. Please process with your child. Your thoughts on these matters are important to your child's individual development. Below is a link to the video and the questions that teachers were asked to process with students.

Link to video: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=QO15S3WC9pg>

- In what ways does this video relate to things at Alameda High?
- What impact does hate speech have on you and others?
- What can we do as students and staff to interrupt this cycle of racist and Anti-Semitic behavior when we see it, hear it, or someone tells us about it?
- What can we do to remove these elements from the culture at school? As a community, individual, student, teacher, or adult?
- What can we all do to change school culture in the long term?

We hope that this work, along with increased security measures here at school, will work to make AHS a safe space for all members of the community. Everyone deserves to feel safe and know that they belong here.

Finals

The week prior to Winter Break has a different class schedule for students. Monday, December 19 through Wednesday, December 21, students will all have half days for our semester finals. This means that students will attend classes from 8:30 am – 12:45 pm. Monday will be 1st and 2nd periods. Tuesday will be 3rd and 4th periods; and Wednesday will be 5th and 6th periods. Zero periods will meet only Monday and Tuesday that week.

Winter Concert/Assembly

The period of time between the Thanksgiving and Winter breaks always provides us with so many wonderful opportunities to see our students share their gifts and talents. Next Friday, I'm looking forward to attending our annual winter concert where all the bands, orchestra, and guitar classes will perform for the community at 7:00 pm. We are excited to be holding this concert in Kofman Auditorium again. We generally have about 300 – 400 audience members at concerts and with more than 1,100 seats available, we are confident that we can offer safe distancing for families if that is a concern for you. It goes without saying that you are welcome to wear a mask, but it is not mandatory. I am looking forward to a fantastic show and the doors open at 6:30 pm.

A similar concert will be performed for our students at the Winter Assembly that will take place earlier that day. Along with the music performances, there will be videos created by students from our leadership and film production classes that will be shared at the assembly.

Resources

It is not uncommon that students face additional stressors at this time of year, for some it may be applications to college, for others it might just be the expectations of the holidays, and for all of us the shorter days cheat us of the benefits of vitamin D and the sun. It might be a good time to check in with your child and see how they are feeling and if they may benefit from any assistance. Below is a site that could be helpful for you. Also, I encourage you to call the School Based Health Center or your child's counselor if you have any concerns regarding their emotional wellbeing. Next week, we will be asking students to take a wellness survey during their SMART period and will be trying to follow-up as needed.

Please contact the school office or your student's counselor if you feel your child is in need of assistance (510-337-7022), or you and your child can access Care Solace @ <https://www.caresolace.org/> to seek answers or assistance, or, if necessary, you can take your child to the nearest crisis center or emergency room should you feel that is what is needed.

Counselor Info

Counselors have now completed their visits to the 10th grade English classes to talk to students about their academic plans. A power point presentation was shared and students were provided with instructions on how to enter these plans in Aeries. Students should refer to the course catalog online, the worksheet and written instructions provided to them while creating their plans. **Students will have until December 5 to enter their plans in Aeries.** Once the window closes, students will be unable to add any information. Students will then have an opportunity to make changes to their plans during course selection in late January. Parents will be able to view their student's plans in Aeries by going to 'Classes' and selecting 'Academic Plan.'

AHS Multimedia Class Designs Snazzy Logos for Non-Profits & Businesses

Ms. Andrea Szeto, AHS Career Technical Education (CTE) Multimedia teacher, is pleased to report that her Advanced Multimedia Art students produced another crop of snazzy logos for their clients. Over the past six years, AHS student design teams have created professional logos, or "refreshed" existing logos, for local non-profits and Alameda-based businesses. Ms. Szeto expressed her appreciation to Nicole Kidd, AUSD's CTE Industry Advisory Chair, who assisted with client recruitment. This year's clients were delighted with the final results! Click on the hyperlink to see a slideshow featuring the [AHS Final Logo Designs](#).

AUSD's Franklin Elementary School principal, Lynnette Chirrick, was especially pleased with the falcon mascot that her design team members, *Gabriel Pagal, Christopher Dwa, and Isaac Ballerini*, produced. The newly designed falcon is proudly displayed on Franklin school's banner on their website. Franklin's design team took the time to incorporate the mascot into multiple variations that Principal Chirrick can use for annual school events. Congrats to Ms. Szeto and all the talented AHS graphic designers!

Logo Variations



Biotech CTE Pathway at Alameda High Awarded Grant to Integrate Data Science

Alameda High School launched the Biotech Career Technical Education pathway in 2019. Under the leadership of AHS science teacher Alissa Hoeft, the pathway expanded to offer a sequence of courses and is now one of the most popular science course offerings at AHS. Students can take Biotech courses as a “D” lab science and students who complete the pathway sequence receive five units of college credit from Laney College. Felicia Vargas, AUSD’s Career Technical Education coordinator, succeeded in securing two rounds of grant funding from the ***K12 Strong Workforce*** initiative to support AHS’s ***Biotech Talent Pipeline***. During the Fall 2022 semester, Ms. Vargas collaborated with Alissa Hoeft and Nancy Read, AHS’s CTE computer science teacher, on a third K12 Strong Workforce grant application. AUSD’s application was successful, and AHS will receive \$316,632 to incorporate data science into the courses. With partnership support from Santa Clara University’s computer science department, Mrs. Read will introduce Python programming to enable Biotech students to learn how to interpret large sets of scientific data from various experiments. The grant will also support professional development for Emella Canlas, a Special Education teacher at AHS, who co-teaches a section of Biotech, and Tam Vo, a Paraprofessional, who provides essential lab support. Congrats to the entire CTE Biotech pathway team!

If you have any questions or concerns, you may email me at rithurnburn@alamedaunified.org or you can call the school at 337 – 7022 and I will try to address them.

Robert Ithurnburn
Hornet Pride!!



ALAMEDA HIGH SCHOOL

Spirit Week December 5-9

Monday, December 5, 2022

Periods 0-6

All day
6:00pm

Spirit Week: PJ/Blanket Day
8th Grade Parent Information Night Kofman Auditorium

Tuesday, December 6, 2022

Periods 0,1,2,5, Smart,6

All day
4:30pm
5:30pm
6:30pm
7:00pm

Spirit Week: Winter Movie Character Day
Men's Soccer JV vs San Lorenzo Thompson Field
Women's Basketball JV vs Benicia Benicia HS
Men's Soccer Varsity vs San Lorenzo Thompson Field
Women's Basketball Varsity vs Benicia Benicia HS

Wednesday, December 7, 2022

Periods 0,1,3,4,6

All day
2:45pm
4:00pm
5:30pm
7:00pm

Spirit Week: Ugly Sweater Day
8th Grade Tours Media Center Pit
Men's Basketball F/S vs St. Mary's St. Mary's HS
Men's Basketball JV vs St. Mary's St. Mary's HS
Men's Basketball Varsity vs St. Mary's St. Mary's HS

Thursday, December 8, 2022

Periods 0,2,3,4, Smart,5

All day
4:00pm
5:30pm
6:00pm
7:00pm

Spirit Week: Winter Sport Gear Day
Men's Soccer JV vs Hayward Hayward HS
Women's Basketball JV vs Foothill Foothill HS
Men's Soccer Varsity vs Hayward Hayward HS
Women's Basketball Varsity vs Foothill Foothill HS

Friday, December 9, 2022

Periods 0-6

All day
6th Period/2:15pm
7:00pm

Spirit Week: AHS Black/Gold/White Day
Winter Assembly Kofman Auditorium
Winter Concert (Doors open @ 6:30pm) Kofman Auditorium