

# The Amphitheater

Amphitheater High School

January 10, 2020

A Tradition of Excellence

Amphi Families –

Welcome back to a new year, decade, and semester! This semester there are a range of new goals and events that our school will be taking on. Please help us reach these goals by discussing them with your student, helping them plan their success, and help them purposefully attend school each day!

**School Letter Grade** – Our final school letter grade issued from the AZ Department of Education was a C and our final rating left us only 1.2 points short of a B. We were disappointed to be so close to a B, but are focused on making this a reality for the next school year. Our largest area of growth is in our passing rate on the AzMERIT test. This year there will be a new test called AZM2. It will also impact a large portion of our school rating, but will only be given to our 10<sup>th</sup> grade students. Our goal is to make sure that each student is prepared with the skills to pass this test and understand how their effort on this test directly impacts our school rating.

**College & Career Readiness** – Our school's college advisor, Mr. Parham ([jparham@amphi.com](mailto:jparham@amphi.com), 520-696-5437) coordinates many different programs and resources for our students. His services include: college application, applying for FAFSA, scholarships, educational DACA issues, ASVAB / ACT / SAT assessments and anything related to post high school programs and career employment. Additional information about his services can be found here - <https://sites.google.com/student.amphi.com/amphicounseling/the-plan-after-graduation>

**11<sup>th</sup> grade ACT** – The ACT test is one of the key assessments that colleges use for admissions, scholarships, and recruitment for prospective students. For example, a high school student with a 3.5 GPA and a good ACT score can easily earn \$5,000 - \$10,000 in scholarships (<https://financialaid.arizona.edu/types-of-aid/scholarships/freshman-transfer>). To maximize our students' access to this test and to begin their planning for college, **Amphi High School will be providing this test for free to all of our 11<sup>th</sup> grade students, during the school day on March 24, 2020.** More information about the ACT test can be found at <http://www.act.org/content/act/en/students-and-parents.html>.

**Vaping** – One of the current challenges facing teenagers nationwide is the easy access to e-cigarettes and vaping devices. Last year, nationally, 1 out of 5 high school students reported using an e-cigarette in the last month. Students vape by using an electronic cigarette (e- cig) or other vaping device (e.g., Juul ). There are now hundreds of different devices for vaping. Some common styles look like a thick pen or a flash drive. These devices have the ability to hold a variety of substances including nicotine, marijuana, THC wax, and other drugs. Information for families can be found at this site - <https://e-cigarettes.surgeongeneral.gov>.

Due to the increased access to these devices, it is necessary for me to remind all families that vaping devices and substances are defined in our Student Code of Conduct as a drug (*Inhalants, including any substance inhaled through an e-cigarette or similar device used for vaping*). The minimum consequence for having a vaping device at school is suspension and a recommendation for expulsion from school.

Jon Lansa, Principal



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<https://www.amphi.com/AmphiHigh>

# NEWS for Amphi Families

## Online Information & Social Media

School website (calendars, schedules, updates) - <https://www.amphi.com/AmphiHigh>



Like us at Amphi High



@AmphiPanthers

## AZM2 State Test

This year the Arizona Department of Education has changed our state assessment test to AZM2. This test will measure student progress through the 10<sup>th</sup> grade in math, reading, and writing. All 10<sup>th</sup> graders are required to take this test and the results will be a large factor in our school letter grade. The following website provides more information about this test : <https://www.azed.gov/assessment/azm2/>.

We will **not** have an all-day or adjusted testing block for this test. 10<sup>th</sup> grade students will take this test in smaller sections during their Math and English class period, **between March 30<sup>th</sup> – April 24<sup>th</sup>**.

## Counseling and College-Career Readiness - What is your plan for the Day After Graduation?

This is something that we ask all of our students at Amphi. One of our main goals is not only preparing students for graduation, but preparing them with guaranteed plans for life after graduation day and the financial options to make their plans a reality. Please see the attached Amphi Counseling newsletters for tips and strategies for preparing your child.

**From the Nurse's Office** - Amphi High School will be performing annual hearing and vision screening on February 6, 2020. The students that will be screened include: 9<sup>th</sup> grade and SPED students from all grades. **Students that are prescribed glasses or contacts should bring/wear them to school for the screening.** Please note: any parent that wishes to waive this screening must do so in writing. Waiver forms are available through the Health Office. – Tonya Murray, RN. 520-696-5387

# CLASS OF 2020

**Class of 2020**      **Join us to Celebrate!**

Graduation will take place on Thursday, May 21<sup>st</sup>, 7pm

Information can be found on our school website:

<https://www.amphi.com/AmphiHigh>

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## EVENTS at Amphi High School

**The most current calendar of school events can always be found on our school webpage.**

\*Spring Sports Schedules have not yet been finalized and are not included on this list\*

January 6th	Beginning of 3rd Quarter/ 2nd Semester
January 10th	Last Day to Change Classes (without penalty)
January 13th-17th	Spirit Week
January 17th	Pep Assembly
January 20th	Martin Luther King day- No School
February 11th	Honors Reception (by invitation)
February 5th	Amphi Awaits (middle school students visit AHS)
February 7th	3rd Quarter Progress Reports (4 1/2 week)
February 12th	Future Freshman Night (middle school families visit AHS)
February 20th -21st	Rodeo Break- No School
February 24th -28th	Student registration and class selection for next year
March 13th	End of 3rd Quarter Progress Reports (9 week)
March 16th -20th	Spring Break- No School
March 23rd	AIMS Science Window (9th graders & untested 10th graders)
March 23rd	Beginning of 4th Quarter
March 24th	District Choir Festival
March 24th-27th	ACT Testing (all 11th graders)
March 27th	Amphi Unites Event
April 6th-10th	Spirit Week
April 10th	Pep Assembly
April 17th	Blood Drive
April 23rd & 24th	All School Play
May 1st	College Decision Day Celebration (12th graders)
May 9th	Prom @ Site 17 Events Center
May 11th	Senior Honors Convocation (by invitation)
May 14th and 15th	Senior Final Exams (regular school day schedule)
May 19th-21st	Final Exams (modified school day schedule)
May 21st	End of 4th Quarter/ 2nd Semester - Last Day of School
May 21st	Graduation (7pm, Freidli Field)



# AMPHI COUNSELING

the College and Career Newsletter



## GETTING SERIOUS ABOUT LIFE AFTER GRADUATION

January 2020- Amphi seniors begin their last semester of high school. Realities about what life is going to be like after high school become more prevalent in seniors' minds. Many seniors have completed basic steps towards planning like completing the FAFSA, completing college applications, speaking to military recruiters or lining up employment through family or other contacts. One role of a counselor is to be sure that each student has a real plan. **For students that need or want more help planning for life after graduation, it is vital that they reach out and ask for help from their counselor, their most-trusted teacher or the college and career adviser.** Sometimes just sharing their thoughts, worries and plans can help make paths clearer and easier. Seniors can also help each other by talking about their plans. Discussing the future can lead to questions that a counselor can help with. Knowing that most seniors are sharing similar stresses can make the process of post-graduation planning more manageable. **This semester the future starts to feel "real". That can feel both exciting and scary.** A good way to react to that feeling is to do everything that you can to prepare. Consider talking to your counselor and/or the college and career adviser.

- JAN. 10TH - PIMA COMMUNITY COLLEGE FIELD TRIP
- JAN. 24TH - ASU FIELD TRIP
- JAN. 15TH - PCC PRESENTATION DURING 3RD HOUR
- JAN. 20TH - NAVY RECRUITER DURING LUNCH IN BREEZEWAY
- JAN. 23RD - NAU SENIOR PRESENTATION DURING 6TH
- JAN. 16TH - UARIZONA PRESENTATION DURING 6TH HOUR
- JAN. 21ST - NEW MEXICO STATE LUNCH VISIT IN BREEZEWAY
- JAN. 10TH - ACT REGISTRATION DEADLINE FOR NEXT AVAILABLE EXAM
- THURSDAY LUNCHES ALL MONTH - ARMY RECRUITERS IN BREEZEWAY
- WEDNESDAY LUNCHES ALL MONTH - MARINE RECRUITERS IN BREEZEWAY

### IMPORTANT JANUARY EVENTS:

(SIGN UP FOR THESE AND OTHER EVENTS IN THE OFFICE)

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<https://www.amphi.com/AmphiHigh>

# Amphi Counseling Newsletter

Amphitheater College and Career Official Newsletter



Mr. Lange's 2nd hour Economics Class.

## Your First Semester Checklist to Prepare for Life after Graduation

Winter Break is an excellent time to relax and spend time with friends and family. For seniors, it may be a very good opportunity to catch up on post high school planning. Listed below are items that seniors should have worked on during the first semester. Those students who did not complete the items should try to catch up. If they need help they should reach out to the college and career adviser or their counselor.

1. Create an FSA-ID (September)
2. Research different options after high school (ongoing).
3. Check out <https://www.mynextmove.org/explore/ip> to complete a personality interest survey.
3. Completed the FAFSA (October)
4. Apply to all of the schools listed in your FAFSA application.
5. Talk to your counselor about your graduation status ("grad check") in November or ASAP.
6. Work at a set time each week on scholarships.  
[scholarships.amphiC.com](https://scholarships.amphiC.com) or [scholarships360.org/discover-scholarships/](https://scholarships360.org/discover-scholarships/)
7. Update your resume with items from class and club projects, events and activities. (winter break)
8. Order your Cap and Gown (information at the bookstore)
9. Sign up for campus visits in the office (Pima on 1/10/20 ASU date to be determined)

## Inside this Holiday Issue:

- Stress and Self Care - p2
- Is Pima Community College the right move for me? - p2



# Stress is real. Take care of yourself.

What is "self-care"?

During finals, especially in your senior year, it is likely you will feel pressure. The academic, social and real-life post-high school thoughts can cause frustration, depression or even anger. These feelings are natural, and most students have them (even if they hide them well).

So what should you do? First, recognize that stress is normal. You are not alone in feeling it. Consider talking to people you trust, friends, a counselor, or parents. Sometimes just expressing your feelings to someone who listens can help.

Second, purposefully *take time for yourself* everyday. Can you unplug for an hour? Can you give yourself time to do something that lowers your heart rate and that you enjoy?

Focus on the following five areas to practice self care:

- Manage Stress
- Exercise
- Focus on Nutrition
- Sleep
- Goal Setting

**WANT MORE DETAILS?**

check out the **WEB SITE**

<https://classroommentalhealth.org/self-care/student/>



**"Self-care is hard to incorporate into a high schooler's busy life. Even an hour purely to oneself can feel like a waste, and it's quite natural to feel that way. However, it's imperative for everyone to recognize the toxicity of that mentality... If self-care can bring anyone happiness and even a small degree of fulfillment, isn't that worth it?."**

**- Syeda Anjum, UpChieve**



Jazz Band seniors Joseph R. and Jose V. performed in

Amphi Counseling has planned a trip to take up to 45 seniors to Pima Community College, West Campus. Sign up to go in the office!

## Is Pima for me?

Pima Community College offers opportunities for all students to continue their education.

Some students use Pima to transfer to a University: (<https://www.pima.edu/programs-courses/planning-to-transfer.html>)

Some use Pima to earn a license or certificate and enter the workforce directly: (<https://www.pima.edu/programs-courses/career-training-programs/index.html>)

And many students go to Pima because they aren't sure what they want to do yet, and need a more affordable way to explore areas of interest. If you have thoughts or questions, talk to your counselor.





## AMPHITHEATER HIGH SCHOOL

Jon Lansa, Principal

Glenda Arffa, Assistant Principal

David Humphreys, Assistant Principal

Trechel Gindt, Instructional Support Assistant

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### GOVERNING BOARD MEMBERS

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January 10, 2020

Amphi Families –

This year we are able to provide a unique opportunity to our 11<sup>th</sup> grade students. We have received a grant that will allow us to pay for all 11<sup>th</sup> grade students to take the ACT test here at school for free. The ACT test is one of the key assessments that colleges use for admissions, scholarships, and the recruitment of prospective students. It is also a test that allows students to measure themselves academically to other students across the nation. We will give the ACT to all 11<sup>th</sup> grade students here at Amphi on Tuesday, March 24<sup>th</sup>. We will be on a regular school schedule during that day.

One benefit of taking this test during the school day is that it will be free. The ACT test costs approximately \$60 to take and is given nationally on Saturdays. Students can also take this test multiple times, so this first test will give our students a chance to see how they compare nationally, and decide if they should pay to take it again during their 12<sup>th</sup> grade year for a better score. Another benefit of taking this test is the potential scholarship money that can be earned from universities. For example, a high school student with a 3.5 GPA and a good ACT score can easily earn \$5,000 - \$10,000 in guaranteed scholarship money from the University of Arizona. This is a benefit that I want our students to have access to. On the back of this letter is a chart from the University of Arizona that will give you an idea of how ACT scores and GPA can determine scholarships - <https://financialaid.arizona.edu/types-of-aid/scholarships/freshman-transfer>.

Another long-term reason for giving this test, is that next year the Arizona Department of Education will allow schools to select a different school assessment to replace the AzMERIT state test. The ACT test (or another test) could potentially be used by us to measure the academic progress and growth of our students. I want to make sure that the testing option that we select has a benefit to our students and their goals. Giving the ACT this year will help us determine that.

If you have any questions about this opportunity or the ACT test please feel free to contact me by phone at 520-696-5372, or through email at [jlansa@amphi.com](mailto:jlansa@amphi.com).

Sincerely,

  
Jon Lansa, Principal



## Resident Wildcat Awards Based on GPA and Test Scores

Use the following Color Key to determine which Tuition Award you qualify for based on your ACT/SAT scores and your 6th semester core high school GPA.

### Color Key

Distinction Award (\$9,000-\$15,000)

Excellence Award (\$6,000-\$8,500)

Recognition Award (\$3,000-\$5,000)

Test Scores	ACT	32 - 36	30 - 31	28 - 29	26 - 27	24 - 25	22 - 23	No Test Score (or lower than 22 or 1100)
	SAT	1420 - 1600	1360 - 1410	1300 - 1350	1230 - 1290	1160 - 1220	1100 - 1150	
GPA	4.00	\$15,000	\$12,000	\$10,000	\$9,000	\$8,500	\$6,000	\$5,000
	3.75 - 3.99	\$13,000	\$11,000	\$9,000	\$8,000	\$6,000	\$5,000	\$4,000
	3.5 - 3.749	\$11,000	\$10,000	\$8,500	\$6,000	\$6,000	\$5,000	\$3,000
	3.25 - 3.49	\$9,000	\$9,000	\$8,000	\$6,000	\$4,000	\$4,000	
	3.0 - 3.249	\$8,000	\$7,000	\$6,000	\$4,000	\$3,000	\$3,000	

