

# Guidance Newsletter



Armstrong Junior-Senior High School

Fall 2017 – Senior High Edition

## Welcome Back!

There have been some changes in the guidance department this year. Rather than having junior high and senior high counselors, each counselor will be working with students in grades 7-12 based on the alphabet, as follows.

*Mrs. Giconi - Students with last name A-C*

*Ms. Deforno – Students with last name D-K*

*Dr. Linkes – Students with last name L-R*

*Mr. Zablocki – Students with last name S-Z*

*Please remember if you are having a problem and your counselor is not available when you stop in the guidance office, you may speak with any available counselor. We are all here to help ALL students.*

*We are looking forward to working with you and hope you have a great year!*

### PSAT Exams to be held on October 11th at AHS

The PSAT will be administered on Wednesday, October 11<sup>th</sup> beginning at 7:30 am. This exam will be mandatory for all juniors at no cost to the student.

Any sophomore interested in taking the PSAT will be able to do so for a fee of \$15. Interested sophomores should sign up in the guidance office. Checks should be made payable to Armstrong High School.

Students will be notified of their room assignments prior to the exam.

### Financial Aid Night

Wednesday, September 13,  
2017

6:30 pm - 7:30 pm

AHS Library





**Hey Guys!  
Have you registered with  
the selective service?**

Failure to register at age 18 will result in serious fines, as well as make you ineligible to receive financial aid. It is fast and easy to register on-line at [www.sss.gov](http://www.sss.gov).

**Save the Date!**

**"To Your Future and  
Beyond"**

**AHS 2<sup>nd</sup> Annual  
College and Career  
Fair**

**February 15, 2018**

**Seniors...**

**Interested in  
applying to Penn  
State?**

**Applications must be  
turned in to your  
guidance counselor  
PRIOR TO  
Thanksgiving Break.**

**College Bound Student Athletes...  
Don't forget...**

Senior high students should check with their guidance counselor to make sure they are meeting the core course requirements for NCAA. **This process begins as early as 9<sup>th</sup> grade.** Juniors and seniors can access the application process at [www.eligibilitycenter.org](http://www.eligibilitycenter.org).



For a quick overview of NCAA eligibility requirements visit <http://www.ncaa.org/static/2point3/>.

**Scholarships...**

As new scholarships are received throughout the year, information will be posted on the bulletin board outside of the guidance office, on the school's website and on remind.

**Find out what's happening in Guidance**

Students are encouraged to sign up for remind as a way of receiving updates about new scholarship opportunities and guidance activities. Also, students/parents who would like to be added to the guidance department's email list to receive important updates should email Dr. Linkes at [clinkes@asd.k12.pa.us](mailto:clinkes@asd.k12.pa.us).

**College Within the High School courses  
offered at AHS**

- Students enrolled in Mrs. Barnhart's Spanish 4 class can earn Spanish 1 college credits through Mount Aloysius.
- Students taking Calculus 2 with Dr. Snyder can earn college credits through University of Pitt.
- See your teacher for more information.

**Seniors, did you know...**

The CSS/Financial Aid Profile must be submitted to certain colleges? This is not a requirement of all colleges. Check the application requirements for your college of interest.



## Attention AP students!

Beginning with the Spring 2018 AP administration, AP exams will no longer be mandatory for students taking the corresponding AP class. *Since AP exams will now be optional, students who choose to take the exam will be responsible for paying the exam fee.*

Exam participation gives you an opportunity to earn college credit, so your participation is strongly encouraged. Make sure to mark your calendar with these important dates!

AP Spanish Language - Tues. May 8<sup>th</sup>

AP Physics 1 - Tues. May 8<sup>th</sup> (afternoon)

AP English Literature - Wed. May 9<sup>th</sup>

AP US History- Fri. May 11<sup>th</sup>

AP Biology - Mon. May 14<sup>th</sup>

AP Calculus AB and BC - Tues. May 15<sup>th</sup>

AP Computer Science - Tues. May 15<sup>th</sup> (afternoon)

AP English Language - Wed. May 16<sup>th</sup>

AP Statistics - Thurs. May 17<sup>th</sup> (afternoon)

AP Economics - Fri. May 18<sup>th</sup>

## Prudential Spirit of Community Awards

If you've made a difference through volunteering over the past year, you could win \$1,000 and a trip to Washington, D.C. next May, simply by applying for a Prudential Spirit of Community Award!

To be eligible, you must:

- be in grades 5-12 as of November 7
- be a legal resident of any U.S. state or Washington, D.C.
- have participated in a volunteer activity that occurred during the 12 months prior to the date of the application
- submit a completed application to your guidance counselor by November 7<sup>th</sup>

For more information and to apply on-line, visit:

<http://spirit.prudential.com>.

Application deadline is November 7<sup>th</sup>.

**9<sup>th</sup> grade Lenape Tech tours to be scheduled in November. Specific date to be announced.**

## Student of the Month

Applications for the Ford City Lions Club Student of the Month award are now available to all seniors. This year the Lions Club is offering a monetary prize to students who are named as student of the month.

Students must include a senior or recent picture with his/her name on the back with the application. Applications and photo must be returned to Dr. Linkes.

**14<sup>th</sup> Annual Career and Transition Fair to be held at Commonwealth Technical Institute at the Hiram G. Andrews Center in Johnstown**

**October 11<sup>th</sup> & 12<sup>th</sup>**

**9:00 am to 3:00 pm**

**October 13<sup>th</sup>**

**9:00 am to 1:00 pm**

- Learn about training programs and the Hiram G. Andrews Center's comprehensive rehabilitation programs including Student Services and Allied Health Services.
- Take a 45 minute tour of the campus including classroom, training, residential and recreational areas.
- A hot cafeteria lunch will be available at the cost of \$7.00 per person.

To register for the event, visit <http://www.dli.pa.gov/Individuals/Disability-Services/hgac/cti/Pages/default.aspx>.

Sign up for important updates from the Guidance Office

remind



Get information for Armstrong High School right on your phone – not on handouts.

**Smartphone users get push notifications.**

On your iPhone or Android phone, open your web browser and go to the following link:

**[rmd.at/ajsh](http://rmd.at/ajsh)**

Follow the instructions to sign up for Remind. You'll be prompted to download the mobile app.

**If you don't have a smartphone, get text notifications.**

Text the message **@ajsh** to the number **81010**.

If you have trouble with 81010, try texting **@ajsh** to **724-574-8397**.

\*Standard text messaging rates apply.

**2017-2018 Westinghouse Science Honors Institute to be held at Franklin Regional Middle School**

- Free program for juniors of high academic standing who are interested in science and engineering.
- 13 Saturday morning lectures will be held between October 2017 and March 2018 on select science and engineering topics.
- Continental breakfast provided at 8:30 am before each lecture. Lectures will run from 9:45 am until 11:30 a.m
- Good opportunity for students to network with professionals who may also make recommendations and/or write letters of reference.
- **Applications are available in the guidance office and need to be returned to Ms. Deforno by [Friday, September 15th](#).**



## College Rep Visits

- 9/11 - Geneva College
- 9/13 - Air Force Reserve
- 9/14 - Pitt Greensburg-
- 9/15 - Clarion University
- 9/19 - Gannon University
- 9/20 - Point Park University
- 9/21 - Air National Guard
- 9/22 - IUP North Pointe
- 9/27 - Penn State New Ken
- 10/1 - IUP Main Campus
- 10/12 - BC3
- 10/16 - Westminster College
- 10/19 - Carlow University
- 10/23- UPJ
- 10/26 - Cal U
- 10/31 - Bella Capelli Academy

Additional visits will be announced on morning announcements and posted on Remind.

## SAT -what you need to know for test day:

### Must bring:

- Admission ticket
- Acceptable photo ID
- Two #2 pencils
- Approved calculator

### May bring:

- Drink or snack for break
- Watch without audible alarm

### Cannot bring:

- *Highlighters, pens, colored pencils*
- *Electronic devices*
- *Books or papers*

Arrive at the test center by 7:45 am

## Seniors...Want to go to BC3 or CCAC for free?

The Job Corp College Sponsorship Program provides monetary incentives and tuition assistance for incoming BC3 and CCAC freshmen who are eligible for the PELL grant. Seniors who are applying to BC3 or CCAC for Fall 2018 may be eligible to go to one of these two schools for two years for free *and* get paid for attending!  
See Mrs. Giconi for more information.



## Watch out for scholarship scams!

If you are asked to pay a fee for an organization to help you with your scholarship search... Beware! Looking for scholarships shouldn't cost you a penny. One good site to help you with your search is [www.fastweb.com](http://www.fastweb.com). Many more are posted on the school's web page.

There is free money out there... all you need to do is apply. Good luck!



## Transcript request forms available in the guidance office

Seniors, you must complete a transcript request form and return it to your guidance counselor in order to have your transcripts sent to the college/ post-secondary school of your choice.

If you need a Letter of Recommendation, do not wait until the last minute to ask your teacher or counselor. You should give at least a week's notice for your request.

## Dual Enrollment Registration to Begin in October

Dual Enrollment courses provide an opportunity for eligible students to complete college classes at reduced tuition. IUP offers classes to eligible juniors and seniors, and BC3 offers classes to eligible sophomores, juniors and seniors. Interested students should see Mrs. Giconi for information on eligibility criteria.

Courses may be offered through a class at the high school, on-line, or on campus at the college or university.

Registration for IUP and BC3 Spring classes will begin in October. Announcements will be made when registration materials are available.



### IUP Northpointe to host Open House

Tuesday, September 26<sup>th</sup>

Tuesday, October 24<sup>th</sup>

Thursday, November 30<sup>th</sup>

9:00 am to 6:00 pm

- Personalized information and guidance
- Overview of academic options
- Review of tuition, fees and funding opportunities
- Campus tour

Individual appointments are available by reserving your spot at <http://www.iup.edu/northpointe/open-house/> or call 724-294-3300.



## What is an Apprenticeship?

An apprenticeship is a program that combines on-the-job training with classroom instruction. Once the program is completed, the apprentice becomes a skilled journey worker who is a certified worker in the field. A few examples of these programs include Steamfitters, Carpenters, Plumbers, Electrician, Heavy Equipment Operators, and Finishing Trades.

Applicants must meet certain requirements to qualify, and they will be required to take an aptitude test. Information on these opportunities is posted in the guidance office throughout the year.

### Post-Secondary Spotlight: Gettysburg College



Gettysburg, Pennsylvania

#### *Examples of Popular Majors include:*

Political Science, Organization & Management Studies, Economics (including Mathematical Economics), Psychology, Biology (including Biochemistry and Molecular Biology), Health Sciences, History, English, and Environmental Studies

#### **NCAA Division III Athletics:**

Gettysburg College sponsors 24 varsity sports - 12 for men and 12 for women - that compete at the NCAA Division III intercollegiate level.

For more information visit [www.gettysburg.edu](http://www.gettysburg.edu)

300 North Washington Street, Gettysburg, PA  
(717) 337-6300