



ARHS Parent Center Newsletter



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Update From the ARHS Parent Center

The Amherst Regional High School Parent Center held its most recent meeting in the library on March 12, 2008. The entire meeting was devoted to a presentation by Cindy Boyle, Director of Community Education and Outreach for the Northwestern District Attorney's Office, on Internet safety. She provided a wide-ranging and informative description of the many ways in which use of the Internet has an impact on a number of Amherst students and their families.

Topics covered included: social networking sites, online gaming, and instant messaging. Online safety tips and family contracts regarding internet use was also be discussed as a way of offering important tools for keeping our young people safe while online.

Nearly 55 people attended--the largest school group with which Cindy Boyle had ever met--and a lively question and answer process kept the program going until nearly 9 p.m. Ms. Boyle presented her workshop to Amherst students later in March, with a focus on student centered issues and needs.

RaDAR

At the invitation of Principal Mark Jackson, RaDAR representatives Sheri Schmidt and Rick Hood met with the Faculty Senate in February and March to discuss the "discipline gap" involving students of color. This concern, which was the underlying reason for the creation of RaDAR, is now being reviewed collaboratively by this Parent Center sub-committee, faculty, and ARHS school administrators. Parents are encouraged to attend the monthly RaDAR meetings for a fuller discussion and report on these initiatives.

Next Parent Center Meeting May 14, 2008

The next meeting of the Amherst Regional High School Parent Center will be on Wednesday, May 14, 2008 at 7:00pm in Room 13 at ARHS.

www.arhsparentcenter.org/Meeting-May-2008

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The RaDAR group will next meet on Wednesday, April 23, 2008 in the Parent Center Room 13, from 7-8:30.

www.arhsparentcenter.org/RaDAR-April-2008

Study Circles

Debbie Roth Howe, Kathleen Anderson, co-founders of Amherst Study Circles, have started to move forward in organizing the next community Study Circle dialogue series titled "Walking the Talk: Equity and Excellence in Amherst Schools." This topic is intended to be a follow through on conversations/presentation begun with Superintendent Jere Hochman's sessions in January. At least 35 students indicated their interest in participating. Updated information will be provided as the new Study Circles get organized.

The mission of the Parent Center is primarily to be a helpful link between parents and ARHS.

Please contact us with your questions or concerns:

www.arhsparentcenter.org/contact