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AMS Newsletter

**AMS Launches its Premier Alumni Association**

AMS held its premier Alumni Association Week from December 14–18, 2015. During that week, alumni engaged in a myriad of workshops and events to leverage their post secondary success.

December 14th: Professional Development Workshop (branding and resume building)

December 15th: College Panel Discussion

December 16th: Day of Mentoring

December 17th: “Dessert Social” networking event

December 18th: Bowling (Chelsea Piers)



As a result of Alumni Week, 1 AMS graduate is participating in a paid internship at New York Life Insurance and 5 more internship opportunities are available in the fields of branding, public relations, marketing and media.



As we grow our alumni association with each graduating class, our main goal is to provide alumni with a host of opportunities and tools to help them reconnect with each other and maintain close ties with AMS.

Alumni Services*Career Planning and Development*

Provides comprehensive career development services and resources to both students and alumni.

- AMS Paid Internship Program
- Mock interview program to help them prepare for your job interviews
- Career fairs and other career-related events

Stay tuned for our next Alumni Week which will take place in the Spring and be sure to “like” our Facebook Alumni Page by visiting www.Facebook.com/AMSAlumniassociation.



Community Engagement Video Launch

During the 1st week of March 2016, AMS will be launching a series of videos to update, involve and engage our families.

Now you can stay connected to your child's school community even while you're at home or in the office.

Here's a glimpse of the March topics:

- Community Engagement

and Alumni Relations

- FSO Leadership Cabinet and Parent Leadership Training Institute
- Meeting Graduation Requirements (9th grade)
- Reading and Understanding a H.S. Transcript
- The 4th Quarter: Making the Year Count (11th

grade)

- Financial Aid (12th grade)
- Mental Health and How it Impacts School Performance (all grades)
- Recruitment and Enrollment

Videos will be posted on the AMS website and YouTube.

Macy's and Bloomingdales Sponsors AMS Paid Internship

The Office of Community Engagement and Alumni Relations continues its partnership with Macy's and Bloomingdale's for the 2nd year!

This year, AMS created "Workforce and Education" a paid internship program for families, students and alumni.

This partnership will make an undeniable difference in the lives of everyone involved. Interns will participate in a training program and activities to enhance their experience including career exploration, peer to peer sharing, trainings,

and workshops.

The goals of the internship program is to:

- Develop job readiness and professional skills
- Increase career awareness and exploration
- Enhance communication and team building skills
- Improve leadership skills

Interns will work in the following offices:

- Community Engagement and Alumni Relations
- Recruitment and Enrollment
- College and Career Readiness

ness

AMS is appreciative of our partnership with Macy's and Bloomingdale's and look forward to its support as we continue cultivating college and career readiness by providing tangible workforce to education experiences.

The AMS, Macy's and Bloomingdale's partnership will greatly benefit our scholars, families, and staff by fostering an environment that sparks curiosity and an eagerness to learn.



Riverdale Neighborhood House Awards 18 Internships

AMS has entered into its 3rd year partnership with Riverdale Neighborhood House. This year, our partnership has grown to accept 18 students into their Fall paid internship program.

The Office of Community Engagement extends a thunderous round of applause to its AMS families for assisting in encouraging their child(ren) to

apply and interview for this competitive internship opportunity.

This year, students had a range of internship possibilities. AMS students are currently interning in the following fields:

- ◆ Education
- ◆ Health

◆ Entrepreneurship

We are very proud of our students and will continue to support them as we prepare them for post-secondary success.

Spring internship applications will be available in The Office of Community Engagement by the first week of February.



ACCES-VR

In November 2015, the Office of Community Engagement continued collaborating with the Special Education Department to prepare our SpEd population with additional resources.

What is ACCES-VR?

Formerly known as VESID (Vocational and Educational Services for Individuals with Disabilities) assists individuals with IEP's or a disability to obtain

and maintain employment. This program also provides college financial assistance.

For more information, contact Ms. Hudson.



PowerSchool

PowerSchool is a web-based student information system that provides a full range of features families are able to access. Use PowerSchool to review your child's grades, attendance, and as a means to foster communication with your child's teachers.

PowerSchool has been updated to provide families with a "single sign-on" for your children.

To create your account, you will need a school-issued web ID and password (contact Ms. Hudson).

Go to <https://nvcharter.powerschool.com/public> for the PowerSchool log-in screen. Click on the "create account" button to start the process and insert the school issued web ID and password.

After that is done, you will be asked to create your own web and ID and password for future log-ins.

Once your account is created, be sure to sign up to receive PowerSchool notifications.

You can also download the PowerSchool app on your phone. The district code is KNTR





Family and Friends Enjoy Nights at The Metropolitan Opera House

The AMS Lincoln Center / Family Linc partnership returns for its 2nd year!

AMS families and staff received unlimited complimentary tickets to 8 performances over the holiday season.

Dressed in evening attire, everyone's experience was magical. For some, it was their 1st time at the opera. Our AMS

community received tickets to the following opera performances:

- Rossini's *The Barber of Seville*
- Johann Strauss's *Die Fledermaus*
- Rossini's *La Donna del Lago*
- Puccini's *La Boheme*

As a last minute bonus due to everyone's participation, our families were also provided with unlimited tickets to see the New York Philharmonic.

The Office of Community Engagement would like to thank everyone who requested tickets and attended the shows. We look forward to continuing this partnership and providing you with more opportunities to explore The Arts.

Important Senior Information

1. Visit colleges together. If you haven't already, make plans to check out the campuses of colleges your child is interested in.
2. Offer to look over your senior's college applications. However, remember that this is your child's work so remain in the role of advisor and proofreader and respect his or her voice.
3. Help your child find and apply for scholarships. He or she can find out about scholarship opportunities from the college counselor and/or research scholarships to review with the counselor.
4. Encourage your scholar to be proactive during the process. Reach out to colleges to ensure that they have all of the required documentation.
5. Work together to apply for financial aid. Have your child contact the financial aid offices at the colleges he or she is interested in to find out what forms students must submit to apply for aid. Make sure he or she applies for aid by or before any stated deadlines. Funds are limited, so the earlier you apply, the better.
6. Fill out the FAFSA to apply for aid. The government and many colleges use the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) to award aid.
7. Now it's easier than ever to fill out this form because you can automatically transfer your tax information online from the IRS to the FAFSA.





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We're on the Web!

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Family School Organization (FSO) Leadership Cabinet

Parent leaders have volunteered their time to serving on the FSO Leadership Cabinet. As thought partners they have agreed to represent you! Dedicated to making sure families have a voice, they are instrumental in assisting with the work around family engagement.

2016–2017 FSO Leadership Cabinet

- Taushia Dibert (12th grade parent and PLTI Graduate)
- Rhea Farrell (11th and 12th grade parent and PLTI Graduate)
- Amy Hernandez (alumni parent and PLTI Graduate)
- Marian Howell (alumni parent and PLTI Graduate)
- Christine Ogutu (11th grade parent and PLTI Participant)
- Brenda Sutton (10th grade parent, PLTI Graduate and 2016 Facilitator)
- Brandy Williams (12th grade parent, PLTI Graduate and 2016 AMS Intern)

From the Office of Family and Community Engagement



The Office of Family and Community Engagement looks forward to working with our families. As thought-partners, your voice matters and will always be appreciated and welcomed.

The mission of the Family School Organization (FSO) is to “*update, involve and engage*” families by organizing and executing meetings, events and workshops so

they are up-to-date with their child’s academic and social/emotional performance as well as connected to the community.

I am very excited to launch our Community Engagement Videos (CEV) which will make it more convenient for families to receive information. Now you will be able to view workshops no matter where you are!

Should you have any questions, please contact, Ms. Hudson, Associate Dir. of Community Engagement and Alumni Relations at 781-817-7683 extension 1403 or at shudson31@charter.newvisions.org.