



# The Charger Times

## From the Principal's Desk...

We've experienced a great first quarter at AHS with many exciting academic and extra-curricular events and activities! Some of the highlights include:

- Our new Freshmen Orientation during the evening was an over-whelming success;
- This year's Open House drew even greater participation than last;
- Athletically, our teams continue to shine;
- Members of the Junior class and their guests received kudos at the Junior Ring Dance for outstanding behavior (everyone looked great and had a wonderful time!);
- The revised schedule has contributed to a decrease in tardy arrivals in the morning and most students are making a concerted effort to be in class on time;
- The Life Skills Center Open House drew a record crowd, providing a wonderful opportunity for the students to share the program and their activities;
- Advanced Placement (AP), Early College Experience (UConn ECE) and Housatonic Community College (HCC) classes are providing challenging learning opportunities for many students while encouraging them to work cooperatively to excel. Of particular note is the level of commitment, evident when we see numerous students sitting in tutorials at 6:30 AM!
- World language students participated in the second annual Poetry Night where more than thirty students recited poetry in six different languages. A professional poet enriched the evening as he read poetry from his own collection;
- Students involved in the Medina Project participated in a workshop at Yale University where they were introduced to Middle Eastern languages, culture and cuisine;
- A group of AHS students are competing in a Web design project. Working in tandem with a partner school (Branford High School), each student is writing a web page to contribute to an entire web site. Their topic: How are they going to define their generation—Generation What???

And the listing of excellence can go on....

We are proud of our many successes and improved academic achievement continues to be our primary focus. It is our goal to "*raise the bar*" to ensure success for every student at AHS. Although we showed gains on the Connecticut Academic Performance Test (CAPT) – with great improvement in Writing, we remain in the "needs improvement" category as measured under NCLB's Adequate Yearly Progress (AYP). To this end, we are reviewing curriculum and alignment to state standards, participating in professional development through the Connecticut Accountability for Learning Initiative (CALI) and implementing research based instructional strategies.

In mid-November, representatives from Cambridge LLC will be visiting the high school for two days to assess what we do well and areas where we can grow. They will observe classes and meet with faculty, students, and parents to gain an overview of teaching and learning at AHS. We are looking forward to working with them to further our goal of meeting the needs of each and every student.

(continued on page 7)

## Book of the Month



### *Chibi Vampire* by Yuna Kagesaki

If you like “manga,” the romantic comedy genre with a twist (vampires!), then you might want to highly consider reading *Chibi Vampire* by Yuna Kagesaki. *Chibi Vampire* is a manga about a girl named Karin Maaka. She comes from a long line of vampire families that moved to Japan nearly 200 years ago. But Karin is not an ordinary vampire. No!!! She is in fact a vampire in reverse. She does not need to suck blood but instead gives blood! Every time Karin bites someone, they get really energetic for a short time and their lives are temporarily improved. Her family and friends try to help Karin with her “blood” problems which often creates a crazier situation. Read this comedic manga and be amazed at the pure comedy of the manga series!

*Book Review by AHS Senior Tom Sinnorai*

## From the Guidance Office

We have arranged Financial Aid Night for senior parents on December 3rd at 6:30 PM with SCSU's Mr. Lewis DeLuca, Associate Director, Office of Financial Aid and Scholarships, as our guest presenter. We are planning to send a mailing to all of our seniors' parents/guardians.

In addition, the ASVAB Test will be administered on Nov 7th with a follow-up score review scheduled for Nov 21st. Both will take place at AHS and be conducted by the ASVAB representative.

## Human Relations Club News

On Thursday morning, September 25, 2008, more than 55 community and state leaders joined AHS students for a special breakfast meeting. Organized by the Human Relations Club, the students did an outstanding job as they presented their mission, goals, accomplishments, and future plans to leaders of Ansonia and the greater community. Due to their continuing and outstanding efforts to reduce prejudice and intolerance, the HR Club was presented \$5,000.00 from the Valley Community Foundation, \$1,000.00 from the State Legislature through the gracious efforts of Senator Crisco, and more than \$300.00 in personal donations from individuals at the meeting. These monies will be used for upcoming events.

Our sincere congratulations to the members of the HR Club and particularly to the following student organizers for a highly successful event! **Ewa Januszkiewicz, Maritza Montanez, Olivia Coseo, and Joe Kraynak.**

Best Wishes to Mr. John Boni (AHS History Teacher)  
with his new career!!  
He will be missed by the entire AHS Community!!!!

## Guidance Department News

The Guidance Department would like to welcome back our Administration, Staff, Parents, and Students. To all new staff: Welcome to the AHS Family! The seniors deserve an extra special welcome; this year is truly yours and the class of '09 is truly "one of a kind."

Seniors, your counselor will be calling you down to distribute and explain vital information that will guide your organization and fulfillment of important responsibilities, including SAT registration, a senior activity sheet, college visit schedule, and college search process information. You know that you can see your individual counselor at any time to continue the process.

The Housatonic Community College BRIDGES Program has begun! Forty-two AHS students visited HCC for Workshop #1-Orientation to College, which was a very positive experience. HCC visited AHS on 10/23 to present Workshop #2- Career Planning and Major Selection. In addition, college representatives have been visiting our office all month. We encourage you to stop by the guidance office this month to sign up and meet with a representative from Adelphi, Central, Southern, UMASS, University of Bridgeport, and many others!

CAPT scores have been distributed to each current junior and senior who tested last school year (2007-2008). Congratulations to the CAPT Scholars!

The "Making High School Count" program presented to our freshman class was a success. It encouraged students to think about making their high school career meaningful and choosing positive influences.

The guidance department will be working closely with the Class of 2012 to help ease the transition into high school and to ensure that students are connected and successful within our school community.

Lastly, The Big Brothers/Big Sisters Program has kicked off and will be meeting once a week. The students at Prendergast are looking forward to meeting with our students every Wednesday.

## FROM THE ART DEPARTMENT:

### Ansonia Harvest Festival Pumpkin Carving Contest Winner

On Saturday October 4<sup>th</sup>, several students at Ansonia High participated in the pumpkin carving contest at the Ansonia Harvest Festival. The theme of this year's contest at the high school was "Teachers.". Students respectfully asked a teacher of their choice if they could take a photo of them for inspiration, and then brought their pumpkin home to make their creations.

**Senior Tara Wilczynski** enthusiastically portrayed **Mr. Carl LaRovera Jr.** and won first place for "Most Creative."

Thanks to all the teachers who were good sports and to Mr. LaRovera for proudly displaying "himself" on his desk for all to see. The Art Department would also like to thank Sal Gianotti with the cafeteria services for procuring the pumpkins.

Pictured from left to right; Artist Tara Wilczynski, the award -winning pumpkin, and Mr. LaRovera, its inspiration.

#### Yearbook Recognition Ads

**Family & Friends of the Class of 2009 can personalize the Yearbook in a special way! Ads may be purchased and can include photos and/or text. Forms and further information are available in the Media Center.**

#### 2009 Yearbooks on Sale!!

**Order your copy online at [yearbooksonsale.com](http://yearbooksonsale.com) or through Ms. Mudry.**

**Order before December 1st and pay \$55, a 35% savings!**

**GET YOUR YEARBOOK NOW!!**

## Welcome New AHS Faculty and Staff...

**Joseph Ungrady**, history teacher, was born and raised in Shelton, CT. He graduated from Shelton High School in 1985 and obtained his undergraduate degree from Western New England College, a Master's Degree from Villanova University and his teaching certification from Widener University. He is also pursuing his doctorate in International Relations. Mr. Ungrady was employed as a high school social studies teacher in PA for twelve years before relocating to Connecticut. He is an avid archer and is currently ranked in 1<sup>st</sup> in PA and 2<sup>nd</sup> in CT. In addition, he volunteers his time as a coach and umpire for the Union City Little League organization. He currently resides in Naugatuck with his wife and three children.

**Sarah LoGiudice** is a new addition to the science department this year, teaching general science and biology. She recently graduated from Southern Connecticut State University from the teacher preparation program and is currently working towards her Master's Degree in Biology. Sarah is excited to be involved with the Interact Club and Student Government and enjoys working with students outside of the classroom. In her spare time, she likes to travel and especially enjoys visiting Boston to catch a game or do some window shopping. Sarah is eager to begin her career as an educator and hopes to serve as a role model for young women interested in the sciences.

**Amy Boccamazzo** (Miss B) graduated from, and was former student body president of, Stratford High School. She attended Hofstra University, where she received her B.S. in Psychology and her M.S. Ed in Counselor Education. Before joining the AHS family, Miss B worked in several of Hofstra's Student Affairs offices, including Academic Advisement, Residential Life, and Student Leadership & Activities. She also volunteered at the campus' Career Center. Miss B worked for the Princeton Review and in the Mineola High School guidance office in Long Island, NY. She is thrilled to be a part of the Ansonia High School community. Her favorite parts of the job are talking to students about their post-high school academic or career goals and being the Interact Club Advisor. She offers guidance, enthusiasm and free candy to all of her students!

**Corri Davies**, math teacher, was born and raised in Derby, CT. She graduated from Derby High School at the top of the class. She obtained a Bachelor of Science Degree in Mathematics and a Masters Degree in Teaching from Sacred Heart University. Two years ago, she was a permanent substitute at Ansonia High School and she is excited to return this year as a full-time Mathematics teacher for Pre Algebra, Algebra 1, and Algebra 2 Honors. Outside the classroom, she advises the Freshmen Experience Program and the Mr. AHS competition. Her free time is spent with her 5-year-old daughter, Jessica. Ms. Davies enjoys skiing in Vermont, swimming, and camping. Together with Jessica, she dedicates much of her time to finding a cure for Type I diabetes!

**Thomas Pepe**, teaches AP Environmental Science, Integrated Science and General Science. He worked for the DEP fisheries division for 6 years and served as a Graduate Research Fellow at SCSU studying coyote populations before becoming a teacher in 2003. He taught in Meriden for 5 years before coming to Ansonia this year and plans to conduct a lot of outdoor studies with his students.

**Cathy Adamczyk** resides in Ansonia with her husband Andrew, and their five children. She has four daughters, Lisa, Karen, Chrissy and Linda. Her son Michael has autism. Cathy is a graduate of the University of Bridgeport. She has been appointed by the Governor to both the Children's Behavioral Advisory Council, and the CT Council on Developmental Disabilities, which she chairs. She is involved in various committees and councils locally and throughout the state and at the national level that address issues concerning children with special needs. She is on the board of directors for the Autism Spectrum Resource Center. For the past seven years, Cathy has been running North Star, a support and resource organization for over 300 families who have children with disabilities.

**Miss Alyssa Yeomans** is the new full year intern at Ansonia High School. She is currently a graduate student at the University of Bridgeport. She received her undergraduate degree in history from the University of Connecticut in May 2008. This is her first experience in a high school. Miss Yeomans is enjoying her time at Ansonia High and she hopes to get to know every student before she leaves at the end of the year!

**Mr. Kennedy** laughingly says that he "was born inauspiciously" in Alexandria, Virginia. He went to Ridgefield High School and graduated in 1978. Mr. Kennedy served in the Marine Corps and was stationed in Asia and Africa. While spending his entire enlistment living overseas, he served most of the time as a deep Reconnaissance Marine and as an Embassy Guard. Mr. Kennedy holds a Bachelors Degree in mathematics and English, and a Masters Degree in Education. Mr. Kennedy is highly proficient using computer technology and brings a wealth of experience to the Math department.

**LaMar Kennedy** is a 2002 graduate of Sacred Heart University, where he majored in Media Studies. After graduation Mr. Kennedy went to work for the Bridgeport Board of Education. He started out as a regular education substitute teacher in several elementary schools and two high schools before being hired as a long term Special Education Teacher. He held this position for three years, and enjoyed it so much that he decided to return to school for his masters in Special Ed, he will be graduating in May of 2009. Mr. Kennedy enjoys coaching youth basketball at the Cardinal Sheehan Center in Bridgeport which he has done since 2003.

**Miss Leslie Perez** is originally from Peru. Miss Perez graduated from Southern Connecticut State University (SCSU) in 2006 and is now working on her Masters degree at Fairfield University. She worked as a teacher aide for the TESOL department in Brien McMahon High School in Norwalk, CT. for almost two years, then was employed at Ponus Ridge Middle School in Norwalk as a long term substitute for Spanish. She teaches Spanish and ESOL here at Ansonia High School. Ms. Perez is also an advisor for the Spanish Club and the Spanish Honor Society. She loves to teach her students about the cultures of the different Spanish speaking countries and that of the United States as well. She is very happy to be part of the Ansonia High School family.

## 2008 CAPT Scholars

Ansonia High School is proud to announce the 2008 Connecticut Academic Performance Test (CAPT) Scholars. These students scored a level 4 or 5 on all parts of the CAPT and were honored on Wednesday, November 5<sup>th</sup> at the Board of Education meeting.

Seniors include **Sean Goggins, Jason Goncalo, Ewa Januskiewicz, Ikechukwu Umeugo, and Tara Wilczynski.** Junior class CAPT Scholars include **Christine Adamczyk\*, Javier Arguello\*, Bianca Bancroft, Taylor Barone, Jodi Cegelka, Noel Cielo, Megan Dumas, Steven Fabrizi, Marissa Harris, Angela Khan, Anna Konopka, Tomasz Korytkowski, Alexis LaRowe, Nabia Mouli, James Norris, Nicholas O'Connor, Christopher Pedevillano, Mark Plavnicky, Teresa Russo, Paul Stumpo, Timothy Troy, Brandon Urzua, Jeanne Whalen and Matthew Williams.**

(\*) indicates a level 5 on all parts of the CAPT.

### September Student of the Month - Nick O'Connor

The votes are in and Nick O'Connor has clinched the first Student of the Month spot of the 2008-2009 school year. Nick's teachers have described him as a helpful and hardworking student in the classroom. His ability to manage his time wisely extends to his involvement in sports here at AHS. It was also said of Nick that he is an exemplary student athlete. Please congratulate Nick for this significant achievement!

### October Student of the Month - Kristin Rizzio

In a close race, Kristin Rizzio has been named Student of the Month for the month of October! According to Kristin's teachers, she gets along well with all of her peers and treats everyone with respect. Kristin volunteers her study hall time to be a classroom math tutor and was chosen as a student helper in the Freshman Experience Program. Kristin is also a Life Coach Assistant, working with ID students (see her article in this issue). Please congratulate Kristin this month for her noteworthy achievements!

## Notes from the Athletic Director

The fall sports update includes both successes and some heartbreak for our Charger teams. With one third of the season remaining, the football team continues to be undefeated. Both the boys' and girls' soccer teams have completed their seasons. The girls' team improved its record from the previous season and the girls' volleyball team is in the second round of state tournament play. Lauren Shortell will represent AHS in the state swimming tournament. Basketball season will begin the last week of November. And an important reminder... Sports physicals for students participating in winter and spring sports will be completed on November 20<sup>th</sup> at the Charger Health Clinic.

**BEST OF LUCK TO OUR CHARGER TEAMS!!!**

### Yale Book Award

**Congratulations to Jamie Hitchcock for receiving the October 2008 Yale Book Award!!**

## From the Principal's Desk.....

*(Continued from page 1)*

Finally, it is important to remember that academic success is strongly related to the degree of home/school collaboration. We hope to see you for parent-teacher conferences and ask that you encourage your child to:

- Complete all homework nightly; if no homework was assigned, students can read, review new and previous content, and begin to study for their mid-term exams;
- Come to school everyday, on time;
- Come to class prepared to learn with all materials.

We appreciate your continued support and, as always, encourage you to contact me or any of the faculty with questions or concerns. With every best wish for a very Happy Thanksgiving!!!

Mrs. S. McKernan

Tardy Arrival to school...

The 2008-09 schedule has eliminated the twenty minute homeroom at the start of each day in an effort to increase class time. As a result, students begin the day at 7:25 AM in a regular class period. A warning bell signals the start of class five minutes prior to its beginning to ensure students arrive to class on time. Unfortunately, many students see tardy arrival to school as "acceptable practice."

In an effort to reinforce the importance of being in school on time, please note the following consequences for tardy arrival to school:

- ✦ A student arriving to school after 7:25 a.m. (or who is not in class by this time - unexcused) and before 8:00 a.m. must report to the main office for a late pass. Between 8:00 and 9:00 a.m., a parent must accompany the student to the main office.
- ✦ After the fourth tardiness of each term/half year, the student will be marked absent for one day.
  - Every fourth tardy, the student will be marked absent for another day.
  - Late admittance after 9:00 a.m. will not be considered as a full day of attendance.
  - On early dismissal days, delayed openings, or early dismissals, a student who arrives late or leaves early will be considered absent for the entire day.

In addition, beginning with the second quarter, the following disciplinary action will be taken if a student is persistently tardy to school or to first period class (unexcused):

- ✦ First Offense: Warning and written reminder of consequences
- ✦ Second Offense: Warning, written reminder of consequences, and parent contact
- ✦ Third Offense: After-school detention, parent contact
- ✦ Fourth Offense: ISS, parent contact
- ✦ Fifth+ Offense: ISS, parent conference required

## Becoming a Life Coach

By: Kristin Rizzio  
AHS Senior

At the beginning of my senior year, I was able to become a Life Coach Assistant (LCA), working in the Life Skills Room, formerly the Health Room. A Life Coach Assistant is a junior or senior who works with intellectually disabled (ID) students who need some assistance in basic, every day functions. This class can be taken for half a year and students will receive one-half credit upon completion of the course requirements.

Teaching life skills is helping with any skills that one would need to live as independently as possible. Cooking is one skill that we have helped with, along with cleaning and using public transportation. We are supporting students in remembering names and using the telephone in case of an emergency. While working with these students, we have also focused on following both oral and written directions. We are also teaching basic banking skills and how to work with money.

The program's first Open House was held on October 2<sup>nd</sup>. The students and the LCAs made a variety of delicious baked goods and painted over 40 handmade cedar birdhouses to be sold at the Open House. We will be using the money raised to start a small bread business for the holidays.

The special education and regular education students all benefit greatly from this program. LCAs are able to model and coach basic life skills; at the same time, we really enjoy working with each other. As an LCA, I am learning about multiple disabilities. I also enjoy being a role model. I have learned great ways to explain tasks in an easier way than how they are written so the students can learn them more easily. Ms. Hanbury, the Life Skills teacher, is now looking for two or more boys to serve as LCAs in set 5 and set 6. This program requires that you have a study during sets 5 or 6, fill out an application and have an interview with Ms. Hanbury. Once accepted, your guidance counselor, your teacher and you must sign a contract agreeing to the other requirements listed in the contract.

If you are interested in becoming a Life Coach Assistant, see Ms. Hanbury in the Life Skills Room (next to the Foods room). I know that you will enjoy your time working with the students in the Life Skills program and making a difference in the lives of others.

FUN FACTS: Did you know ...  
... that only 31% of plastic beverage containers are recycled?

You can have a positive effect on the environment when you: (1) Reduce the amount of plastic that is discarded by recycling, (2) Reuse plastic containers by refilling just once to cut your use in half, and (3) Recycle all plastic food containers!

Source: US Environmental Protection Agency

## The BEST News

WE ARE 5 FOR 5  
WITH THE BEST IN *BEST*

JOHN BONI  
DAN BUZI  
FLAVIA CRUZ  
PAULA ERARDI  
ELAINE NADAL

ALL PASSED THEIR *BEST*  
*PORTFOLIO!!!*

## French Club Meetings

First Tuesday of each month.  
For more information,  
contact Mrs. McRae (112).

## AHS New Arrivals

Best Wishes to:

Karen & Tim Phipps & Family on the  
birth of their daughter Maeve!!!

Sara & Joe DelMastro on the birth of  
their daughter Jillian!!!

AHS is proud to announce that  
AHS English Teacher  
Frederick Hashemian  
has been selected  
District Teacher of the Year  
CONGRATULATIONS!!!

Best Wishes to  
Elaine Nadal & Frederick Hashemian  
Married on October 11, 2008!!!

## Freshman Experience

Coordinator – Fred Borne de Araujo

Teachers – Karen Rzasa  
Corri Davies

The Freshmen Experience Program (FXP) is up and running for its second year. FXP involves 30 freshmen, 3 junior/senior mentors, 2 teachers, and the coordinator. The group meets every Tuesday and Thursday after school. Activities have focused on team building, study skills, community service, and developing positive attitudes towards school. Some activities that have taken place include getting to know you games, building structures from newspapers, designing team logos and shirt designs, and creating a business. In October FXP took a trip to the Ropes Course in New Haven. Two rangers worked with the group on team building activities. It was an afternoon filled with fun and working together. In November, FXP will be visiting Channel 8 News and watching a live news broadcast. Only into its second month this year, FXP is proving to be a positive experience for all involved.

## CONTRIBUTORS

Many thanks to the contributors to this issue of the *Charger Times*:

Susan McKernan	Principal	Luba Soldra	Teacher
Pamela Mudry	Media Specialist	Sara Baldino	Teacher
Michael Kennedy	Teacher	Joseph Ungrady	Teacher
Amy Boccamazzo	Guidance Counselor	Sara LoGuidice	Teacher
Ken Firmender	Guidance Counselor	Thomas Pepe	Teacher
Kristin Rizzio	Student	Cathy Adamczyk	Staff
Thomas Sinnorai	Student	Corri Davies	Teacher
Nancy Bennett-Morgenstern	Teacher	Melissa Gejac	Student
Andrea McRae	Teacher		
Karen Rzasa	Teacher		
Fred Borne de Araujo	Teacher		

## Join the AHS INTERACT CLUB

Interact is an international service club for young people ages 14 to 18. Interact clubs are sponsored by individual Rotary clubs, which provide support and guidance. They are self-governing and self-supporting which makes it possible to choose and carry out service projects that YOU care about! Each year, Interact clubs complete at least two community service projects, one of which furthers international understanding and goodwill.

### Interact is your chance to:

- « Make new friends
- « Improve your community
- « Develop leadership skills while helping others
- « Make a difference in the world

Ansonia High School's Interact Club has some GREAT ideas planned so far but we need YOUR help, creativity and support to make them happen and to come up with new ideas. Attend our first meeting and learn about joining any of our committees.

### **Anticipated Projects for the SERVICE COMMITTEE:**

Dodgeball Tournament – AHS student & teacher teams will raise money and compete to help their community.

Vocational Service Project – help Ansonia High School organize and hold a Career Fair for students.

### **Anticipated Projects for the INTERNATIONAL UNDERSTANDING COMMITTEE:**

Nothing But Nets Campaign- fundraise to purchase anti-malaria bed nets which help prevent malaria, a leading killer of children in Africa.

Care Package Project - provide care packages for new mothers in third world countries in an effort to reduce infant mortality.

### **Anticipated Projects for the CLUB COMMITTEE:**

High School Volunteer Council Program – Interact with students from neighboring schools in The Valley! Attend a meeting once a month to share event and fundraising ideas and join students from other schools in community service projects.

Council for New Student Outreach – Join forces with AHS Student Ambassadors to help students who are new to AHS transition into the school and community!

**IF YOU ARE INTERESTED IN JOINING OR WOULD LIKE MORE INFORMATION,  
PLEASE SEE MS. BOCCAMAZZO IN THE GUIDANCE OFFICE**

## **Congratulations!!!**

### **... to Sophomore Melissa Gecaj, the AHS Veterans' Day Essay Competition Winner!**

What does Veterans' Day mean to me? To some kids it's just, "Hey, sweet, another day out of school!" or "Sweet, another cool parade!" But it's more than a day off from school or a really cool parade – it's about our troops. When I think of this day, I think of freedom. I think of the people who gave so much for us to gain it, keep it, and honor it. It's a day to stop all of our activities and think about all of those who fought to protect our freedom, freedom that many of us take for granted. It's the day we take to remember the lost and take pride in the living soldiers. So many people are veterans and there are many families who lost their loved ones to a war; we take Veterans' Day to remember all those who served our country.

Veterans' Day is a time for reflection. It is a time to remember those who fought to save our lives. Thousands of men and women do this on a daily basis. I remember when I was in elementary school, all of the kids had a chance to bring in a family member that served in the war. It would usually be somebody's grandfather going up and talking about what he did in the Vietnam War. To me that is one of the best ways to show the veterans that we appreciate them. They have hundreds of little kids looking up to them, amazed by their stories. You can just see the pride in the veterans' faces when they are talking about their experiences. That's why I love Veterans' Day. It is not a bunch of people complaining that they had to go to war; it is a group of men and women smiling and being proud of serving their country.

Thousands of people voluntarily leave the comfort of their homes to go to war and protect our country. Since there is no more draft, these people do this out of their own free will. They leave their families and friends to protect and serve their country. They go through hardships and being homesick to fight for thousands of lives. Even these veterans' families deserve that day to celebrate their loved ones' sacrifice. All those who lost someone to the war can use that day to remember the people they lost, and those who have been torn away from their family or friends have that day to see that all of it is worth it in the end.

So no, Veterans' Day isn't just a day to get out from school or to go to a parade. It is a time to reflect on those who fought for our country. Veterans dodge bullets for us everyday. They face fires, bombs, and people trying to threaten their lives. They do that for you. They go through all of that so they can protect your freedom. They are fighting for our lives out there and I personally think taking one day to remember them isn't enough. If we can all come together for one day, putting away all of our previous drama to support the troops, then at least they can see how much pride we take in them. So what does Veterans' Day mean to me? It's giving thanks to those who risk and those who already risked their lives for my freedom.

# HAPPY THANKSGIVING To All Our AHS FAMILIES!!!!!!



## **AHS**

### **Mission Statement**

To prepare every learner to meet ever-changing personal and global challenges, the primary mission of Ansonia High School is to cultivate the emotional, physical, social, and intellectual growth of each student. The success of our mission requires the active participation of students, faculty, parents, and community in the learning process.