



# ABINGTON HIGH SCHOOL



## MONDAY MESSAGE

### Week of December 3rd

Dear Parents/Guardians:

We were recently made aware of a student event that took place on the afternoon of Wednesday, November 21st at Arnold Park. Approximately 60 students attended what has been dubbed the “non-school sanctioned powder puff game”. Historically this event included significant alcohol consumption and resulted in numerous injuries to female students who are egged by male students and alumni who bring frozen eggs to throw at the girls playing football. Occasionally, arguments between students escalate and erupt into physical fights. It has also often resulted in numerous injuries as a result of ‘dirty play’ and a poor feeling of long term grudges over the injuries sustained. In my experience students have suffered broken collar bones, noses, fingers and vision impairment. Cars have been keyed, houses egged, and several student athletes have had injuries impacting their ability to participate in the opening weeks of their winter season.

As a result, several years ago, AHS staff volunteered to run a Powder Puff event under the lights, pay referees, buy the girls game shirts, and purchase and present a trophy to the winning team at the Pep Rally. This was done as a deliberate effort to keep students safe and yet respect the concept of a junior/senior female football game - absent the dangerous behavior and contemptuous culture surrounding the event. Unfortunately, despite this effort and the numerous adult volunteers who give up their evening two days before Thanksgiving, the Arnold Park event continues.

This year several fights broke out at Arnold Park and one continued into the street. The girls were encouraged to fight by a large crowd, videos were taken and widely shared. Several students jumped in to punch and pull hair and several also jumped in to break it up. Numerous injuries were incurred and the trauma associated with participating in this behavior has also negatively impacted our school culture.

Please, speak to your children about this event and support our efforts to maintain a healthy school climate where all students are respected and make good decisions.

Sincerely,

*Teresa Sullivan*

Teresa Sullivan, Ph.D., Principal

### “FUN RUN”

Calling all runners in grades 7-12 and Abington High School and Middle School faculty. The AHS Global trip to Japan is sponsoring a fun run to raise money for the trip. The run (just under 3 miles) will be at 3:00 pm on Thursday, December 13<sup>th</sup>. Entrance fee is \$10. Please see Ms. Poirier or Ms. Daisy to register. (middle school students can sign up with Mr. DiRado) There will be a cash prize for the first male and first female to finish. Not a runner? Don't worry. You can walk the course. Come in last and still win a chance for a cash prize for the best holiday themed outfit. Please sign up by Monday, December 10<sup>th</sup>.

### YEARBOOK PICTURES

On Thursday, December 6th, Lifetouch will be here to take yearbook pictures of any seniors who have not had their pictures done yet. Please see Mrs. McHugh as soon as possible if you need your pictures done and she will set up an appointment for you during the school day. If you choose not to get your picture take on December 6<sup>th</sup>, your yearbook picture will be the one used for your school ID.

### “PINK WEEK”

The Student Athlete Advisory Council sold t-shirts to the faculty and students at Abington High School during October to raise funds for cancer awareness. T-shirts sold out in just a couple of days. The Girls' Volleyball also sponsored a “Pink Night” Bake Sale and donated the profits to the SSAC who delivered a check in the amount of \$1,700 to the American Cancer Society.



**“No Homework”**  
**Wednesday, December 5th**

**Abington High School**  
**P.T.O. Meeting**  
**Thursday, December 6th**  
**8:00 am in the Principal's**  
**Conference Room**

**Term 2 Progress Report**  
**Card Period Ends**  
**Friday, December 7th**

**In-Service/Early Release Day**  
**Tuesday, December 11th**  
**(10:45 am dismissal)**

**The School Council Meeting**  
**scheduled for**  
**Wednesday, December 12th**  
**has been cancelled.**

**Cap & Gown Measurements**  
**Class of 2019**  
**December 13th during lunch**  
**\$20.00**



**AHS student-athletes at a**  
**community food packaging**  
**event to help feed**  
**families in need.**