



OLD COLONY

REGIONAL VOCATIONAL TECHNICAL HIGH SCHOOL DISTRICT

476 North Avenue, Rochester, Massachusetts 02770-1899

Telephone: (508) 763-8011

Fax: (508) 763-9821

www.oldcolony.us

Aaron L. Polansky
Superintendent

Karen J. Guenette
Principal

Jackie Machamer
Assistant Principal/CVTE Coordinator

Krystla Fay
Special Services Coordinator

Linda Deady
Academic Coordinator/Data Analyst

Sarah Griffith
Business Manager

Principal Guenette's December 2017 News

The holiday season is upon us, and we have successfully completed the first trimester of this school year. **Report cards** will be mailed home during the **second week of December**.

I am happy to report that our **new "Online Application"** registration link is **available on our website** for the **2018-19 incoming OC students**. Also, for anyone **interested in purchasing any "OC wear," or a gift certificate for holiday gift giving**, contact the **Cougar's Corner School Store** run by the **Business Technology Dept.** at email: cougarscorner@oldcolony.us. Types of Payment: **Cash or Check** (made out to: Old Colony RVTHS).

The **Rochester Lions' Club** will be offering **Christmas food baskets** to any Old Colony family who is in need this year. Please **contact** my secretary, **Donna Abaray**, at **x-148** or email her at dabaray@oldcolony.us by **Friday, December 15th** if you would like to be put on this year's list. She will collect your contact information and arrange to have you come to Old Colony to **pick up your Christmas food basket**. **Thank you to the Rochester Lions' Club** for their **generosity to our OC families!**

I'm sure your children include many new mobile devices on their wish lists for this holiday season. Did you know that you can **create a "Family Media Plan?"** Media and mobile devices can be great tools when used properly and **within your family's values**. When they are not used properly, the outcome can result in less time spent on important activities such as face-to-face interaction, family-time outdoor-play, exercise, unplugged downtime, and even sleep. To create "your" family's Media Use Plan and **develop consistent routines** that everyone can agree to, go to www.healthychildren.org/mediauseplan.

A **special thanks** to our **Health Career Seniors** who organized a **November food drive** for the **Veteran's Association of Bristol County**, located at 755 Pine Street, Fall River. To boost collections, a **competition was created** to see which shop could collect the most food. The **Carpentry shop** claimed victor and **won the prize!** They were treated to trays of **cookies prepared by our cafeteria staff**. The **veterans were very appreciative** of the **efforts of our school and students!**

I would also like to **recognize** and offer another **special thanks to Walmart Store #1906** (Fairhaven, MA) for presenting **Old Colony with a \$500 check**, which supported supplying our **school safety buckets** with **emergency blankets, bottled water, and appropriate snacks** for each of our **classrooms**. We **appreciate** this **generous donation and community partnership!**

The Old Colony RVTHS **2017 School Accountability Report from the MA Dept. of Education** is available for review. It includes **assessment and other data** about Old Colony RVTHS, which we publish

annually. It is posted on our **school's website** at www.oldcolony.us. Click the About Link: District Profile Link: and click the Accountability tab.

The **Computer Science senior and sophomore students**, along with Mr. Ryan Robidoux, will be **visiting Ford Middle, FreeLake Middle, and ORR JHS** during the **first week of December** for **Computer Science Week**. The students will be **running an Hour of Code**, to **show middle school students** that anyone can **learn the basics** and to **broaden participation in the field of computer science**. It has since become a **worldwide effort** to celebrate computer science, starting with **1-hour coding activities** and has expanded to **include community engagement**. **Thanks to Mr. Robidoux** for organizing this middle school **educational experience and partnership!**

The **Student Council and Gridiron Club** are partnering to offer a fun and active fundraiser! It will be an **Indoor Mini-Golf Event on Friday, Dec. 8th from 5 – 9 p.m. and again on Saturday, Dec., 9th from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m.** The cost for admission will be **\$20 per family** and **\$5 per student**. There are no reservations or tee times required. **Hot cocoa will be served** and **some of the proceeds will support libraries across the United States**, too!

Mrs. Humphrey, OC School Nurse, along with some of her **UMass-Dartmouth interns** will be presenting at our **Monday, December 11th all-school assembly** a presentation on **Life-Threatening Allergies** to increase awareness and understanding **among our school community**. Also, the **Literacy Across the Curriculum Committee** will be presenting our new all-school **Stop, Drop, and Write composition notebooks** and **weekly schedule** to **increase our fluency and frequency in writing** across our school.

The **"We Care Kits" project** that the **National Honor Society (NHS)** sponsors has students filling up **13"x10"x5" gift bags** full of children toys and essentials such as toothpaste and toothbrushes. Our **goal** for this year is to fill **300 bags** to give to local underprivileged children. At the end of the month, the NHS students will deliver the bags **to children and families in need**. The students are **asking for donations** for this project's success. Items can be sent to OC with your child. Any items are **greatly appreciated**. Items that are **needed for boys/girls (ages 3-5)** include: toothbrush & toothpaste, hat, gloves/mittens, scarves, socks, t-shirts, small toys, crayons, stuffed animals, head bands, coloring books, combs/brushes, playing cards, games, hair elastics/clips, books, puzzles, jump rope. Feel free to use your imagination and get your family involved. Donations are accepted **until Monday, December 11th**.

Old Colony **NHS** also received a **special "thank you"** for a recent, **generous donation to the 21 frienDS** made on behalf of the **donations received from the Trunk-or-Treat event**. This **donation helps** 21frienDS continue its **work for area families** that have been **blessed with children born with Down syndrome**. **Congratulations, OC NHS members and advisors!**

Do you like to travel? **Ms. Guy**, through **Education First (EF) Tours** will be leading a group of people through **Portugal and Spain during April vacation 2019**. Join us as we trace history of the Iberian Peninsula. Portugal played a key role during the Age of Exploration, and in Lisbon you can see a spot where sailors set off on their daring adventures. In Seville, the cathedral and Alcazar show the city's multi-layered past, while Madrid's historic Plaza Mayor has been the site of bullfights royal weddings and public executions. Attend the **parent/student informational meeting** to find out more and sign up on **Thursday, December 14th at 6 p.m. in the library**.

The **Nontraditional Career Club** is hosting a Freshmen guest speaker event scheduled on **Wednesday, Dec 20th from 1 - 2:15 p.m.** in the **Cafeteria**. Students will hear from people who have chosen to work in a field that is not traditional for their gender. **An occupation is considered nontraditional if 25% or less of the field has that gender in the workforce**. If **you or someone you know** would like to be

considered as a **speaker about your nontraditional career**, which meets this criteria, please **contact the advisor, Samantha Clarke at sclarke@oldcolony.us**.

The **Senior Class is having two major fundraisers** this month to help the students offset the cost of their senior events. The first is an **Ultimate Stocking Raffle - \$5 tickets sold until Dec. 20th** and the prizes are: **Amazon Kindle Fire HD 8 (\$150 value), Amazon \$25 gift Card, Tech accessories** (ear buds, Bluetooth speaker, screen cleaners, case for Kindle), and **OC Gear** (sweatshirt and winter hat).

The second **Senior Class fundraiser is a Chipotle Mexican Night**, 421 New State Hwy, Raynham, MA, and the phone number is (774) 226-7765, on **Wednesday, December 27, 2017, from 4-8 p.m.** A **flyer** is posted on the **school's website** to print and bring to the restaurant, or you can just **tell the cashier** that you are **supporting Old Colony**. This fundraiser turns **50% of the proceeds** back to the Senior Class, so **please mark your calendar and join us!** This offer **also includes takeout** orders during this allotted time.

. We're beginning to gear up for the **2018 Frosty Runner Road Race** (which benefits the OC Cross Country Team and the National Honor Society). It will be held this year on **Saturday, January 27th at 10 a.m.** (inclement weather date is **February 3rd**). Registration is open and we already have a few people signed up! We're **hoping for 200 participants** this year ---so **PLEASE spread the word!!** Here are the **links to all of the information:** <http://www.oldcolony.us/community/frosty-runner-road-race/> or <https://www.runreg.com/frostyrunner>. **Post-race food and refreshments** will be served to all registered participants, and **awards** will be given **for top and divisional finishers**. Although we encourage you to participate in the event (either walking or running!), we are **always in need of volunteers**. If you are available to help out that day (from **7:30 a.m. – 1 p.m.**), please **contact Beth Botelho at bbotelho@oldcolony.us**.

OC College-bound Seniors – Johnson & Wales will be conducting **onsite admissions at OC**, during the school day, on **December 7th**; **Bristol Community College** on **December 12th**, and **UMass-Dartmouth** on **December 15th**. Students should **see their guidance counselor** for an application and on-site admission information. All **completed applications must be returned** to the **guidance office before the onsite admission appointment**.

Also on **December 7th**, **Johnson & Wales** will also be speaking to the **Junior class** regarding their **Early Enrollment Program (EEP)**, which **gives high school seniors** an opportunity to **enroll full time in college courses at JWU during their senior year** of high school. The Early Enrollment Program was designed to help students investigate the **variety of college and career options** available to them. In the Early Enrollment Program **students earn college credits while completing high school graduation requirements**. Students should **apply for admission** to the Early Enrollment Program during their junior year of high school. **Appointments may be made for parents to meet with our admission representative on that day**. Please **call Ms. Spirlet @ X 128** or email her at aspirlet@oldcolony.us if you are interested.

It's hard to believe that the **Freshman Exploratory** process will be concluding at the end of the month. During Exploratory 7, freshmen will be individually **meeting with their guidance counselor** to talk about the shop selection process. All freshmen **students will receive a Shop Selection Packet by Friday, December 22nd** and are being asked to **return the completed packet to the guidance office by Tuesday, January 2nd**. We ask that parents review the packet and assist their child in this important decision-making process. **Please be sure to sign your child's packet** to prevent delays. **Students will be informed of their shop assignment on Friday, January 12th**.

Bernard's Driving School at Old Colony – Bernard's will be holding a **winter session** for OC students beginning on **Tues., Dec. 26 through Friday, Dec. 29th** from **9 a.m. – 3 p.m.** with a ½ hour (bring your own)

lunch and **Tues., Jan. 3, Wed., Jan. 4, and Fri., Jan. 5 from 2:30 – 4:30 p.m.** for a 30-hour driver's education class. Please contact **Bernard's Driving School at 508-994-4375** for more information and cost. In addition, Mrs. Bernard will be at Old Colony, during all **lunch shifts**, on **Tuesday, Dec. 5, 2017**, for **students to sign-up** for the December class. She will also be holding a **Parent Class on Thursday, Dec. 28, 2017, from 6 – 8 p.m.** at her office on **345 Union St., New Bedford, MA**. You can also reach her through **email** at bernardsdriving@verizon.net.

The following are a list of dates and events for the month of December at Old Colony:

- Monday, Nov. 27 – Trimester 2 begins
- Wed., Nov. 29 – Early Release Day and dismissal at 12:15 p.m.
- Mon., Dec. 4 – Late Start for Students at 9:45 a.m.
- Tues., Dec. 5 – Culinary Arts to White's of Westport field trip; Bernard's Driving School sign-ups during all lunch shifts; OC Tour with Mr. Trahan at 8:15 a.m.; GSA Club meeting at 2:15 p.m. in the café with Mrs. Lacroix; PTO meeting in the café at 7 p.m.
- Wed., Dec. 6 – Southcoast Mobile Health Van on campus – Students can make an appointment with the school nurse, anytime from 8 a.m. – 1 p.m.
- Thurs., Dec. 7 – Trimester 1 Report Cards mailed home; Johnson & Wales University onsite admissions for seniors w/Guidance Dept. Students need to sign up in the guidance office for an appointment; Cheerleading & Football banquet in the cafeteria from 6 – 7:30 p.m.;
- Fri., Dec. 8 - Gridiron Club & Student Council Indoor Mini-Golf Tournament from 5 – 9 p.m.
- Sat., Dec. 9 – Gridiron Club & Student Council Indoor Mini-Golf Tournament from 10 a.m. – 4 p.m.
- Mon., Dec. 11 – All-school assembly at 7:45 a.m. in the gym
- Tues., Dec. 12 – BCC onsite admissions for seniors w/Guidance Dept. Students need to sign up in the guidance office to make an appointment; OC Tour with Mr. Trahan at 8:15 a.m.; Robotics Team meeting with Ford Middle School from 6 – 7:30 p.m.
- Thurs., Dec. 14 – Educational Tours 2019 meeting with Ms. Guy at 6 p.m. in the library
- Fri., Dec. 15 – Umass-Dartmouth onsite admissions for seniors w/Guidance Dept. Students need to sign up in the guidance office to make an appointment;
- Tues., Dec. 19 – OC Tour with Mr. Trahan at 8:15 a.m.
- Wed., Dec. 20 – Freshmen Nontraditional Career Club presentation from 1 – 2:15 p.m. in the café; Faculty meeting at 2:20 p.m. in the cafe
- Wed., Dec. 27 – Senior Class fundraiser at Chipotle in Raynham from 4 - 8 p.m.
- Mon. Dec. 25 - Mon, Jan. 1 – School vacation week – Happy Holidays! School resumes for all classes on Tues., Jan. 2nd with an all-school assembly at 7:45 a.m. in the gym; OC Tour with Mr. Trahan at 8:15 a.m.
- Tues., Dec. 26 – Fri., Dec. 29 – Bernard's Driving School's winter session begins during school vacation week from 9 a.m. – 3 p.m. with a ½ hour lunch and after-school sessions from 2:30 – 4:30 p.m. during the first week of January.

As always, thanks for your OC support! My best wishes for a happy, healthy holiday season with your families. Please feel free to contact me with any questions or concerns that you have.

Karen Guenette, Principal
kguenette@oldcolony.us

The MA Dept. of Education asked that we forward this announcement to our families:



Do you have a child under 5?

Are you pregnant or breastfeeding?

WIC OFFERS FAMILIES

- Personalized nutrition consultations
- Free healthy food
- Tips for eating well to improve health.
- Referrals for medical and dental care, health insurance, child care, housing and fuel assistance, and

other services that can benefit the whole family

call **1-800-WIC-1007**

or visit **mass.gov/wic**

TDD/TTY: 617-624-5992

This institution is an equal opportunity provider.

**Check these guidelines to see if WIC
might be right for your family.**

HOUSEHOLD SIZE	YEARLY	MONTHLY	WEEKLY
1	\$22,311	\$1,860	\$430
2	30,044	2,504	578
3	37,777	3,149	727
4	45,510	3,793	876
5	53,243	4,437	1,024
6	60,976	5,082	1,173
7	68,709	5,726	1,322
8	76,442	6,371	1,471

IF YOU ARE PREGNANT, YOU SHOULD COUNT YOURSELF AS TWO.

GOOD FOOD and A WHOLE LOT MORE!