



OLD COLONY

REGIONAL VOCATIONAL TECHNICAL HIGH SCHOOL DISTRICT

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Principal Guenette's November 2017 News

It's **hard to believe** that at the end of this month, grades will close for the first trimester, and we will already be **one-third through the 2017-18 school year**. Every parent can **check your child's grades** through the Old Colony website at www.oldcolony.us and clicking on the Schoolbrains link. If you have **any questions**, please **call the guidance office** at x-126 or email Mrs. Sherman at ls Sherman@oldcolony.us. Please **encourage your child to finish this 1st trimester with a strong outcome** in both academic and shop courses.

Many thanks to the folks who contributed to make the [linked promotional video](#) possible. We look forward to sharing with our sending communities in an effort to **promote the wonderful teaching and learning that takes place at Old Colony RVTHS** each and every day! We are truly changing lives. Please feel free to **share the link via social media** with those you know to further **promote our school**.

Congratulations to all of our fall sports teams as they represented Old Colony with great **sportsmanship, commitment, and pride**. The following teams were awarded the **Mayflower Athletic Conference Championships: Football, Boys Soccer, and Volleyball**. These teams will **also compete** in the **Vocational Tournament** as well at the **MIAA State Tournament**. Best wishes moving forward.

OC Carpentry's junior class attended the **2nd annual NARI** (National Association of the Remodeling Industry) **Remodeling Expo at the Bolton Fairgrounds**. Students participated in **hands-on demonstrations, mock interviews, and networked** with potential employers. Students then had the opportunity to **meet Kevin O'Conner from This Old House!** This Old House was on location filming for their current season, #TOHGenNext. **TOH teamed up with Mike Rowe** (from Dirty Job's) to highlight the growing #SkillsGap in the construction field. What a **great educational experience!**

We are in the beginning of our **8th grade Career Awareness Days** (see dates below), and any 8th grade student can now **begin their application for admission to OC for the 2018-19 school year online!** Visit www.oldcolony.us, click on the **"Apply Now"** link, and complete the online registration application with your child. When the registration is complete, you will be **contacted by email for the next steps**. We will keep you updated on your application status!

The state accountability results are based on statewide test scores over time, student growth percentiles, annual dropout rates, graduation rates, and participation rates to classify schools into Levels 1-5. I report that **Old Colony RVTHS has achieved a Level 2 rating**, which **means we are slightly deficient in meeting gap narrowing goals**, overall. This year, the percent of students scoring **Proficient**

or higher on the 10th grade MCAS was 96% in English Language Arts. The percent of students scoring Proficient or higher on the 10th grade MCAS was 83% in Mathematics, and 84% of students scored Proficient or higher on the 9th grade MCAS for Science Technology/Engineering.

Again this year, the **Rochester Lions' Club** has contacted me about **offering Thanksgiving food baskets** for any **family in need** of a complete holiday meal, who **lives within our sending districts**. They are able to supply a limited amount of food baskets that can be **picked up from Old Colony on Tuesday, Nov. 21st between 11:30 a.m. – 2:30 p.m.** Please **call the front office at x-111** if you would like to be **placed on the list for this year**. I am always **very thankful** for this **community partnership** and their **generous donations**.

Senior News! Order your yearbooks at jostens.com, and submit your baby photos to Mrs. Murray at emurray@oldcolony.us by **November 30th**! Please contact her if you have any questions or concerns.

The **Guidance Department** will be sponsoring, for **seniors**, a **second application day on November 7th**. Help will be available to **fill out college applications** and answer any **questions** that students may have **regarding the process**. **UMASS Dartmouth** may offer the **on-site admissions** also if there is **enough interest** and if the students have their **applications fully completed by November 15th**. All **applications must be completed before** seniors can **sign-up** for any upcoming **admissions appointments**.

Lockheed Martin's Marion location is hosting the **UMass Dartmouth PRIMES** (Pre-Introduction to Math, Engineering & Science) Program **through UMass Dartmouth**. This program is designed for students who display a **firm background in math**, and they will receive support in math and language skills, as well as study habits, college and career counseling. **Two-hour classes** will be held at **Lockheed Martin on Mondays from November – May**. Students can pick up the **application in the guidance office** and any interested person may contact **Melissa A. Barretta** at melissa.barretta@lmco.com directly at and as soon as possible as the **kick-off is Monday, Nov, 6th**.

Old Colony is happy to announce that, through working with the Commonwealth Dual Enrollment Partnership (CDEP), Mass Maritime Academy will, once again, be offering a dual enrollment opportunity for our students this spring semester.

The **Guidance Office** is once again promoting a **Mass Maritime Academy (MMA)** dual enrollment opportunity for our **OC students to take FREE college-level courses** and earn credit toward high school completion and their future college degrees. All **courses will be held on Mondays, from 4-7 p.m., March 12- June 18, 2018**. This opportunity is available to **current sophomores, juniors, and seniors**. Transportation to MMA **will be provided** by a chartered school bus that will also stop at GNBRVTHS. Although the **courses and transportation are free of charge**, students are responsible for the **cost of the textbook** which varies by class. **SPACE IS LIMITED and on a first-come, first-serve basis**. For additional information or for an application, students should see Mrs. Abaray in the **Guidance Office**.

UMass Dartmouth is also offering our students the opportunity to participate in Spring Dual Enrollment coursework. If selected as part of the Dual Enrollment program, the **tuition and fees are waived**. However, the student is still responsible for a **\$10.00 transcript fee, a parking pass of \$25.00 if parking on campus, a \$30.00 fee for a student ID, and the cost of textbooks, which varies by class**. There will also be a **mandatory orientation for all new students to attend prior to**

the start of the semester. For a student to qualify for consideration for Dual Enrollment Program they **must have at least a 3.0, a strong B average. For additional information or for an application, students should see Mrs. Abaray in the Guidance Office.**

College Open House Information:

- **UMass Dartmouth Fall Open House:**

Sunday, November 5th 9am - Check in; 10am - Program begins

Fall Open House events are a great opportunity for our students to learn more about UMass Dartmouth's 5 colleges and 80+ academic programs, meet faculty, and students, talk with Housing and Financial Aid staff and tour residence halls. Register at <http://www.umassd.edu>

- **Massasoit Community College Annual Fall Open House:**

Meet students, faculty, and staff, tour the Brockton campus, apply on-the-spot, and learn how to transfer to a bachelor's degree program through MassTransfer and the Commonwealth Commitment. Meet at the Upper Student Lounge, Student Center, Brockton Campus. Event Parking is available in lots 1 and 2. Can't make the Open House? Call 508-588-9100, x1411 to schedule a visit.

- **Bridgewater State University Fall Preview Days:**

The fall open house series occurs at the end of October and the beginning of November. Open houses are an excellent opportunity to discover what it's like to be a Bridgewater State University Bear! You'll have the chance to meet their faculty, staff and students, tour the campus, learn about their wide offering of majors, the admission and financial aid process, study abroad program, honors program, residential life, student involvement and leadership and more! Register on line at: <https://www.bridgew.edu/campus-tour>

The **OC National Honor Society** will again be collecting holiday gifts **from Nov. 6 to Dec. 6, 2017**, to be **given to children** attending the **HeadStart/PACE program** in New Bedford. This year, NHS is specifically looking for **toys suitable for children ages 3-5**. However, donations of children's **hats and gloves/mitten sets**, children's **toothpaste and toothbrushes**, and **warm socks** are also accepted. Donations can be **dropped off in the main office**. **Thank you**, in advance, **for your generosity** in supporting this **annual project**.

Once again, our OC students have shown a great desire to have an **OC Drama Club!** Students interested in acting, but also producing, creating/designing props, lighting, sound, hair/makeup, etc. **can sign up with Ms. Guy** in the **Library/Media Center**. More information about a spring **production in March** will be forthcoming. Ms. Guy can be reached at x-120 or cguy@oldcolony.us.

The School Store is Open!!! The **Cougar's Corner** has been **relocated to the Business Technology** Department where it is now **open Monday, Tuesday, Thursday and Friday 8:15 a.m. to 12:15 p.m. and Wednesdays 7:30 a.m. to noon**. The store is available for students, teachers, parents and the community wishing to **purchase "cougar" clothing**. We carry items such as, **beanies, shirts, hoodies, sweatpants, key chains** and more. If you are interested in placing an order please call the **Business Technology Dept. at ext. 123** or email: mdavenport@oldcolony.info for more information. Keep an eye out as **the school website as a link to the store and items will be coming soon**.

Please join Old Colony in **welcoming UMass Dartmouth nursing students** that are interning with Mrs. Humphrey in the **health** office for the **fall semester**. These interns **are registered nurses** taking a **community health** class that incorporates learning into a community health setting. Additionally,

November is Diabetes Awareness Month. Mrs. Humphrey will be hosting our first Diabetes Support Group on Tuesday, Nov. 14, 2017, at 4 p.m. in the library. All are welcome and encouraged to attend. We welcome the opportunity to learn more and how **we can best support our students** as a school community.

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

- Wed., Nov. 1 - Career Awareness Day for Acushnet and Carver 8th graders to Old Colony
- Thurs., Nov. 2 – Career Awareness Day for Freetown/Lakeville 8th graders to Old Colony
- Fri., Nov. 3 – Career Awareness Day for ORR 8th graders to OC
- Sun., Nov. 5 – Parent/Student Career Awareness Day for 8th graders from 10 a.m. – noon at Old Colony (open for all students and parents to tour the school and shop settings)
- Mon., Nov. 6 @ 9:45 a.m. - 2-hour late start for NEASC self-study professional development for staff; Yoga Club from 3 -4 p.m. with Ms. Abaray in the café (all are welcome to sign up)
- Tues., Nov. 7 @ 8:15 a.m. – Tour with Mr. Trahan; Southcoast Mobile Health Van at OC from 8 – 1 p.m.; Balfour Company for class rings taking orders through all lunch shifts; Wellness Committee meeting w/Mrs. Guenette @ 12:50 p.m. in the conference room; Gay-Straight Alliance (GSA) Club Meeting w/Mrs. Lacroix at 2:20 p.m. in café; & PTO monthly meeting at 7 – 8 p.m. in the café.
- Fri., Nov. 10 – Veterans’ Day observed – No School
- Tues., Nov. 14 @ 8:15 a.m. – Tour with Mr. Trahan; 4 p.m. – Diabetes Support Group with Mrs. Humphrey in the library
- Wed., Nov. 15 – MCAS Math retest – session 1; 7:30-8 a.m. – Student Advisory Council to the School Committee Meeting w/Mrs. Guenette in the front office conference room; 3 – 4 p.m. – School Council Meeting with Mrs. Guenette in the library, and 6 p.m. School Committee meeting in the OC cafeteria.
- Thurs., Nov. 16 – MCAS Math retest – session 2;
- Sun.-Tues., Nov. 19-21 – Skills USA Fall Conference
- Mon.-Tues., Nov. 20-21 - Mare Studios to take senior superlatives and club photos for yearbook
- Tues., Nov. 21 @ 8:15 a.m. – Tour with Mr. Trahan; Trimester 1 ends, report cards mailed shortly thereafter
- Wed., Nov. 22- Fri., Nov. 24 – Thanksgiving Recess – no school
- Mon., Nov. 27 – Trimester 2 begins; all-school assembly at 7:45 a.m. in the gym
- Wed., Nov. 29 - Early Release Day with student dismissal at 12:15 p.m. & Faculty meeting

As always, thanks in advance for your support! Please feel free to contact me with any questions or concerns, and I wish you and your families a wonderful Thanksgiving!

Karen Guenette, Principal

kguenette@oldcolony.us

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