



OLD COLONY

REGIONAL VOCATIONAL TECHNICAL HIGH SCHOOL DISTRICT

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Principal Guenette's February 2018 News

It's hard to believe that we have completed half of the 2017-18 school year already, and our students are in the **middle of Trimester 2!** **All grades** have been **updated** into our Schoolbrains software program, and **reports** for students whose **grades are in jeopardy** for this trimester **were mailed home**. If you have any **questions** or concerns, please contact the guidance department at **x-126** to speak with **your child's guidance counselor**.

On behalf of the **Frosty Road Runner Team**, thank you for **participating, donating items, or volunteering** in this year's 2018 Frosty Runner Road Race! Again, this was a well-organized road race that **people would look forward to attending**. We attracted **215 participants!** We met our goal and then some! The **profits raised** from this year's event will **benefit** the Old Colony Chapter of the **National Honor Society** and the **Cross-Country Team**. We **greatly appreciate your support** of OC's students!

For those of you who watch your local cable access channel, **be on the lookout for OC-TV**. OC-TV is a **new club at Old Colony** that works in **partnership with the ORCTV and LakeCam community programming stations**. OC-TV is designed to **give students** the opportunity to **experience the skills needed to write, perform, record, edit and produce a television show**. Students **report happenings around school** throughout the school year. All students are **welcome and encouraged participate** and learn at their own pace and area of interest. For **more information**, please **contact Mrs. (Metivier) Davenport**, advisor at **x-123** or email her at mmetivier@oldcolony.us.

An **OC Hiking Club** has also been **added to our OC club list**. **Mr. Bill Trimble** is the **advisor** and will be forthcoming soon with having a **sign-up session for students** to be part of this new and exciting club. For **more information**, please **contact Mr. Trimble** at **x-185** or email at wtrimble@oldcolony.us.

In partnership with **Bristol Community College**, guidance counselor, **Mrs. Abaray**, will offer **ACCUPLACER Placement Testing** during the school day for **seniors on Tuesday, February 14th**. The ACCUPLACER Placement Test **assesses skill levels in reading, writing, and mathematics**. The **results** of the assessment are **used** by BCC academic advisors **to assist students with their course selections**. ACCUPLACER Testing is **required for all students who plan to attend BCC**. Students should take advantage of this early opportunity to test. Future BCC students who are interested in testing need to **register in the Guidance Department by February 1st**.

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.**

Old Colony has been fortunate to collaborate with **Junior Achievement** for a "**Job Shadowing Program.**" We will be planning for **all grade 10 students** to "shadow" at local businesses arranged by J.A. **during the week of February 5th. What is the JA Job Shadow?** The JA Job Shadow program provides students with the opportunity to **visit local businesses** where they can **observe a professional work environment,** learn about the careers that are available, and talk to employees about their jobs and experiences. Students also learn **what skills are needed for a career in a particular industry** and the importance of educational attainment in achieving their goals. In addition to visiting a local business, the JA Job Shadow program includes **three additional classroom sessions** (two before the field trip and one after) that reinforce important concepts such as career research and preparation, job-hunting skills, and professionalism and ethics in the workplace.

Balfour will be at **Old Colony RVTHS** for **class ring pickup on Thursday, Feb 8th** during all **lunch shifts.** Rings need to be **paid in full** by the pick-up date. Please **contact the main office (x-111)** for any questions.

The **Old Colony National Honor Society** is sponsoring a **Valentine's Day Fundraiser.** Students will be taking **pre-orders for flowers** during lunch shifts through this cycle that will be **delivered on Valentine's Day.** **Roses** are being sold for **\$3** each and **carnations** are **\$1** each. **Thanks** for your continued support!

There will be a **SkillsUSA information session** for all families on **Friday, Feb 16 from 6:30-7:30 p.m.** in the Old Colony **cafeteria.** This meeting is especially **important** for those **students** who are **competing** at the **Skills USA District level** that is scheduled for **Friday, March 2nd at Greater New Bedford Vocational Technical High School.** Please **RSVP to Heather Gifford,** Skills USA advisor, at hgifford@oldcolony.us if you are **able to attend** with your child. **Coffee and desserts** will be served at this meeting.

The **MCAS English Language Arts EPP (Educational Proficiency Plan) Test Dates** are set for **Wednesday – Friday, February 28, March 1, & March 2, 2018.** If your child is involved with this testing, and you have **additional questions,** please contact **Rebecca Mitchell, MCAS Coordinator,** at **x-198** or email her at rmitchell@oldcolony.us.

The **Old Colony PTO** has been very **active in fundraising** and planning **upcoming events.** Meetings are scheduled for **every first Tuesday** of each month **from 7 – 8 p.m.** and are held in the OC **cafeteria.** Currently, we are looking for parents to help us coordinate "**pizza & snack nights**" during our **boys' and girls' varsity basketball games.** Here's the link to sign up if you can volunteer and assist us for a few hours: <http://www.signupgenius.com/go/60b0e4caca2da0f58-basketball>. Please "**save-the-date**" for **Saturday, March 10th** for our **parent-teacher "spring fling" dinner/dance** to be held at **Loon Pond Lodge,** in Lakeville, MA. **Information** about the **event and ticket purchase** can be found online at <http://bit.ly/2DJjZLY>. This night will certainly be a **fun-filled fundraising event for OC!**

Donations and financial support is vital to any PTO, but especially in the **first year** like the **Old Colony PTO** is. We **rely on fundraising and donations** so that we can **assist the teachers and students** and **provide services** that are greatly needed to the community. We are hoping that the Old Colony PTO

Spring Fling will attract a lot of attendees, but we are depending on the **added support of the business community to supply us with exciting auction items**. Would you be **willing to donate either a gift certificate or merchandise** from your business? Please contact **PTO President Kate Bandzul** at <mailto:kgbandzul@gmail.com> to **arrange** for a donation to be **picked up or dropped off** for this event. Any donation is **greatly appreciated**, and **thanks, in advance**, for your **PTO support** this year!

Mrs. Murray, yearbook advisor, would like to announce that the 2018 yearbook deadline is March 31. Go to Jostens.com/yearbook to order. **Also, yearbook supplements will be created and printed by the Graphic Communication shop and mailed to seniors after graduation**. The supplements will include all of the **spring sports, events (ex. Mr. Cougar), prom, and graduation**. A letter and **order form will be mailed soon**, and the **deadline** for orders will be on **May 1st**.

The **Massachusetts Life Sciences Center (MLSC)** is excited to announce the re-launch of their **High School Apprenticeship Challenge!** The program **creates new internship opportunities** for high school students by enabling **small businesses and academic researchers to hire paid interns**. The MLSC **connects students with employers via an online platform and reimburses host organizations for stipends paid to students**.

They are **now accepting applications** from **eligible students** through their **website**, where student can register via a secure, password-protected portal. Interns **must be Massachusetts high school students that are at least 16 years old and currently in their sophomore, junior, or senior year**. There is no application deadline, but **internships will take place between June and August**.

Applications will be made available to prospective **host organizations** that have completed the **required registration form** and have been **approved by MLSC**. Representatives from these organizations will review applications and **reach out directly to candidates** to inform them about their opportunity. **Students are then interviewed, hired, and paid directly by the employer**. The MLSC will reimburse eligible host institutions for intern stipends of up to **\$2,880 for students selected** through the program (amount is based on a pay rate of **\$12/hour for 6 weeks**). For **further details** regarding this **program**, please visit our **website**: www.masslifesciences.com/programs/hsapprenticeship. If you have **questions**, please **email** internship@masslifesciences.com.

Grant Funded Enrollment Opportunity for High School Students in new Sustainable Engineering course! **Virtual High School (VHS)** has a limited number of **FREE seats** remaining in **Sustainable Engineering for Spring 2018**. This new, honors level, **15-week semester course** is offered in **partnership with Concord Consortium through a federally supported grant from the National Science Foundation**. They are looking for a small number of motivated students who are **interested in sustainable engineering and solar science**, to participate in this exciting opportunity, **using Energy 3-D software to model and solarize a community**. Additional details on this course can be found in the VHS catalog [Sustainable Engineering](#) course description. They can only allow up to 5 seats per school.) **Please note: This honors-level course differs from our existing standard-level, Engineering for Sustainable Energy course. Students can expect to work an average of 8-10 hours/week in this honor course**. If interested or for more information, please **contact Sehba Kahn**, Regional Sales Manager, (978) 450-0451 [LinkedIn](#).

The Old Colony **science department** is **looking for 35 sophomores and juniors** who are interested in exploring a **career path in biotechnology** to join us on this field trip to **Biotech Futures on March 8th**. **Biotech Futures is a college and career exploration program** designed for high school students. It exposes students to the **educational opportunities** and diverse fields of study in college/university life sciences programs **through presentations and hands on laboratory experiences**. Students learn about current challenges facing **scientists and engineers**, including creating **new**

medicines and treatments for disease, improving food production, coping with climate change, developing renewable energy resources, and remediating environmental degradation. Any interested student should obtain a permission form from their Old Colony Science teacher. The deadline to turn in the permission form is February 15, 2018.

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

- Mon., Jan. 29 – Wellness Committee meeting from 12:50 – 2:15 p.m. – office conf. room; OC 2018 Golf Tournament Comm. meeting from 2:30 – 3:30 p.m. – café
- Wed., Jan. 31 – Educational Tours 2019 trip to Portugal/Spain w/Ms. Guy @ 6:30 - library
- Week of Feb. 4 – 10 – Skills USA Week and National Career & Technical Education Month & JA Job Shadow Week with Guidance & Grade 10 shops
- Mon., Feb. 5 – Late Start for all Students at 9:45 a.m.
- Tues., Feb. 6 – OC Tour w/Mr. Trahan at 8:15 a.m. in the lobby; GSA Club w/Mrs. Lacroix at 2:30 p.m. in the cafeteria; PTO Feb. meeting at 7 p.m. in the cafeteria
- Wed., Feb. 7 – Southcoast Mobile Heath Van at OC from 8 a.m. – 1 p.m.; School Committee meeting at 6 p.m. in the cafeteria
- Sat., Feb. 10 – Robotics Club to Scituate High School for competition; Automotive students to compete in MSADA competition at UTI
- Mon., Feb. 12 – All-school assembly at 7:45 a.m. in the gym
- Tues., Feb. 13 – OC Tour w/Mr. Trahan at 8:15 a.m. in the lobby
- Wed., Feb. 14 – Valentine’s Day; Nontraditional Club to MA Girls in Trades field trip; OC Faculty meeting at 2:20 p.m.
- Mon., Feb. 19 - Fri., Feb. 23 – February vacation week – no school
- Mon., Feb. 26 – All OC classes resume
- Tues., Feb. 27 – OC Tour w/Mr. Trahan at 8:15 a.m. in the lobby
- Wed., Feb. 28 – MCAS ELA retest Composition Sessions A & B
- Thurs., Feb. 29 – MCAS ELA retest Reading Comprehension Sessions 1 & 2
- Fri., Mar. 2 – Skills USA District Competition at Greater New Bedford VTHS

As always, please feel free to contact me with any questions or concerns.

Karen Guenette, Principal

kguenette@oldcolony.us

[Follow me on Twitter @OCPrincipalKG](#)