



OLD COLONY

REGIONAL VOCATIONAL TECHNICAL HIGH SCHOOL DISTRICT

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Principal Guenette's May 2018 News

A **new month** is already upon us; the month of **flowers blooming**, the **fifth month** of the year and also, the month in which many and important **celebrations** take place! **Welcome May!** I would like to extend "**special congratulations**" to **all of the students** who will participate in this weekend's **Skills USA competitions in Marlboro, MA**. Whether walking away with a medal, or not, these students **worked so hard** to make-it to the **state level of competing** with the best-of-the-best students **within their technical programs**. The entire **OC** community is **very proud of you!**

Old Colony has started and seeing success in its **Walking Club** which is held on **Tuesday and Thursday** mornings from **7 – 7:30 a.m.**, rain or shine. Come join us, any of these mornings, for a healthy way to **start the day** with our **staff, students, parents, and community members**. **Thank you to Mrs. Humphrey and Mrs. Lacroix for this fitness opportunity** for our OC staff, students, and parents.

Congratulations to the Welding and Metal Fabrication shop! They received a **Welder Workforce Grant** to purchase **new equipment** by the American Welding Society (**AWS**) and were presented with this **award and plaque** by **Daniel Stopnik** an AWS representative on **Tuesday, April 10th**.

The **Cougar' Den** has a new offering, "**Dinner from the Den**," in addition to our breakfast and lunch offerings. These are **family-sized dinners** that are already **prepared for you**. They just need to be reheated and served on your dinner table. The **menu is posted for the public on Mondays** under the Cougar's den Menu Page on the school's website. All orders can be taken by **phone (x168) or email cougarsden@oldcolony.us by Wed. at 1 p.m.** Orders must be **picked up on Thursdays** between **10:45 a.m. – 12:15 p.m.** and **cash payments are required**. As always, please join us for **Breakfast - Tuesday through Friday 9:15-10:15 a.m.** for **walk-ins** and no reservations are needed and **Lunch - Wednesday-Friday 10:48 a.m.-12:48 p.m.** **Reservations** are required, and the menu is posted every night on the school's website. Orders can be phoned or emailed into the Cougar's Den. **We look forward to serving you!**

The **OC Drama Club Production of Door-to-Door** will take place on **Friday, April 27 at 6:30 p.m.** in the **OC Stage/Cafetorium**. **Coffee and light refreshments** made by our own **students in the Culinary** department will be **offered to our guests**. Tickets are **\$10 for adults and \$8 for senior citizens and students**. You may **contact Ms. Guy** (cguy@oldcolony.us), any of our drama **club members**, or the **main office** to purchase **tickets**. A **limited number of tickets will be sold at the door** so please buy your ticket in advance to guarantee a seat!

"**Door-to-Door** is a dramatization of opportunities **involving two doors onstage** which **represent various types of doors in life**: bedroom doors, closet doors, apartment doors, dorm room doors... even the metaphorical doors we face every time we make a decision. **Eight individual scenes** and monologues

take us through these doors, offering a breadth of tones that **reflect upon life, choices, moments, and self-discovery.**"

UMass-Dartmouth College of Engineering is sponsoring a **Middle/High School Engineering Exploration Event** on **Saturday, April 28, 2018, from 9 a.m. – 4 p.m.** The event will take place on campus at the **Woodland Commons, 285 Old Westport Rd., N. Dartmouth.** This event is being **organized by the Society of Women Engineers** with the objective of letting middle school and high school students **learn about different engineering majors** and engaging them in **STEM activities.** There will be a **poster session** in which students will be able to **speak to UMassD students** in various engineering majors. Students will also be participating in **hands-on engineering activities** designed by UMass Dartmouth engineering professors. A **lunch of pizza and salad** will be provided as well as a **snack.** **The event is open to both male and female students and is free.** **Application/registration forms** are available in the **main office** at Old Colony or **email swe@umassd.edu** with subject "Engineering Exploration Event: Student Application **for an application and to register** for the event.

Old Colony's **Peer-to-Peer Mentoring Club** is holding its **second fundraiser with Savers of New Bedford!** **Are you Spring cleaning?** If so, please **drop off your bagged donations** in the school's lobby between **7:30 a.m. – 2:30 p.m. during the weeks of April 23-May 4, 2018** or **drop off your donation to Savers in New Bedford between 1 – 2 p.m. on Saturday, May 5th.** Savers will give Old Colony **20 cents per pound.** Items that they/we accept: **clothing, shoes, bedding, towels, CDs, DVDs, books, small electrical items, toys/games, small kitchen items, knick-knacks, and sporting goods.** Please **contact Al Amaral** in CAD at **x184** or **email him at aamaral@oldcolony.us** for more information.

Athletic Director Matt Trahan and **Coach Brandon Mendez** are once again hosting the **Mr. Cougar** competition. **Senior contestants** have already begun rehearsals for the annual competition with a **top secret.....theme.** The **funds raised** will go to the **athletic programs,** and this event will be held on **Friday, May 4, 2018, at 7 p.m. in the gymnasium.** **Tickets are \$10 each.** Students can purchase them **during all lunch shifts beginning April 23rd, contestants have tickets to sell,** and tickets will also be **sold at the door.**

Don't miss the **SE MA STEM Network's STEM & Career Pathways Seminar** and join us for **Old Colony's official ribbon cutting ceremony** to **celebrate** the acquisition of **new equipment** funded through the **MA Workforce Skills Capital grant.** **Four vocational programs** have benefited from grant **awards totaling \$577,179.** STEM stakeholders including parents, students, educators and representatives of business, government, and community organizations to **gather resources, connect with potential STEM partners, share ideas, and network.** This event will **host speakers and exhibitors,** have a **panel discussion,** and **tour** Old Colony in addition to the ribbon-cutting ceremony. The event is **free and open to the public,** but please **register at <http://www.connectsemass.org/stem>** if you would like to attend on **Thursday, May 10th from 4 – 6 p.m.**

The **Class of 2019** is hosting a **Flag Football fundraiser** on **Friday, May 11th from 2:30 – 3:30 p.m.** on the **athletic field.** There is a **\$10 team registration fee and \$1 admission fee.** Come to cheer on your favorite team and **support the junior class!** **Contact Mrs. Taveira** at **ktaveira@oldcolony.us** or **Ms. Gamelin** at **mgamelin@oldcolony.us** for more information.

Old Colony's **National Honor Society** and the **Old Colony Student Council** are sponsoring a **Neon Nights Spring Dance** in the **OC gymnasium** on **Friday, May 11th from 7 – 10 p.m. - \$8 for a student ticket.** **Tickets will be sold during all lunch shifts,** but for any questions, please **contact Mrs. Gifford** at **hgifford@oldcolony.us,** **Ms. Gamelin** at **mgamelin@oldcolony.us** or **Ms. Thompson** at **gthompson@oldcolony.us**

There will be a SkillsUSA fundraiser on **Thursday, May 17th, 2018, at 6:30 p.m.**, which will be a **Student vs. Faculty Basketball Game** in the **gymnasium**. For any student or faculty member that would like to participate, **cost of entering is \$3 a player**. To watch, **tickets can be bought at the door** and are **\$2 for students and \$3 for adults**. Come **join us** for this **fun-filled fundraising event**, and the **PTO** will be **selling snacks and drinks** during this event **in the school's lobby**.

The **14th annual OC Golf Tournament Scholarship Fundraiser** will take place on **Sat., May 19, 2018**, at **Acushnet River Valley Golf Course at 1 p.m.** All monies raised will go towards supporting our senior scholarship awards. If you would like to volunteer for the event, please contact **Kathy Peterson** at kpeterson@oldcolony.us. **Donation forms** for any type of donation (tee-box or tee-shirt advertising, or gift certificate, gift basket, etc.) were **mailed home** with your child's trimester 2 report card. We **appreciate any offer to assist us in this fundraising event**. There are **some foursome team spots left** at this time, but they are selling out quickly. If you would like a **registration form**, please **contact Kathy Peterson** at **x-133** or **email her** at the above address.

Attention Seniors! The Old Colony **Academic and Vocational Scholarship Applications** are **available this month in the guidance office**. All applications **must be completed and turned in** by this year's **deadline on Monday, May 14th**, in order to be considered for this year's scholarship awards. **Mrs. Sherman updates the scholarship list weekly**.

Students are being reminded that **Bristol Community College Career/Vocational Technical Education (CVTE) Linkages Program** (formerly Tech Prep) will be **offering dual enrollment opportunities** for our students for the **summer semester**. Dual enrollment provides opportunities for Massachusetts high school students to **take FREE college-level courses and earn credit** toward high school completion and their future college degrees. **Interested students** should **see Mrs. Abaray** in the **Guidance office** for an **application** or more **information**. **Deadline for registration is May 7th**.

Seniors, bring your resumes! **Spherion Staffing Agency in Dartmouth, MA**, will be at Old Colony on **Monday, May 21, 2018, from 1 – 2:15 p.m.** in the **cafeteria** to present a **"Me Ink" training**, to discuss **career and job opportunities**, and **collect your resumes** for planning for beyond Old Colony graduation.

College/Career Fair for the Junior Class will be sponsored by the Guidance Department. Old Colony will be hosting representatives from a wide range of **colleges, universities, technical schools, military branches and businesses**. This fair will allow us to learn more about each institution's opportunities and their needed requirements. The **Junior class** will **attend both days** of the presentations and **parents** of Old Colony students (any grade) **are welcome to join us** on **Wednesday and Thursday, May 23rd & 24th from 8 – 11 a.m. in the gym**. Please **call Anne Spirlet at (508) 763-8011 x 128** or email aspirlet@oldcolony.us with any questions/concerns.

College-bound juniors should take advantage of **signing up** for the **last SAT of this school year**. The test is scheduled for **Saturday, June 2nd**. Regular registration **deadline is May 5th**. Register online at sat.org/testing. Students who receive **free or reduced lunch** should **see their guidance counselor** for a **fee waiver**.

The **OC Junior/Senior Prom** will be held **Friday, May 25th at The Seaport Inn**, Fairhaven, MA, from **6:30 – 11 p.m.** Anyone with questions can **contact Kathy Peterson at x133** or email kpeterson@oldcolony.us.

Old Colony's PTO has partnered with **FundingFactory** for the **latest fundraising** activity. FundingFactory turns our used [toner and inkjet cartridges](#) into cash to fundraise for our organization. This FundingFactory's supports a 100% free-fundraising program and **with the help of our community**,

the **PTO will earn much-needed funds** in no time. There has been a **drop-off box** placed in the front office that will be **collected regularly**. **Thank you**, in advance, **for supporting** this fundraising effort! The next **PTO meeting** is **Tuesday, May 1st from 7 – 8 p.m. in the cafeteria**. New members are welcome!

The **Assawompset Elementary School** in **Lakeville** is looking for **artists** who can do **3-hour summer shifts**. Students will be compensated with **vouchers for free food and drink**, and can **earn community service hours**. The hours are **Friday - 6-9 p.m., Saturday and Sunday - 12-9 p.m., and Monday - 12-5 p.m.** Students can email either contact: **Mrs. Erin Murray, OC Graphics Instructor at x-197 or Ms. Anne Tavares-Buker, Visual Arts Teacher, Assawompset School, (508) 947-1403, x-4048**. Any qualified artists who might be interested in this **resume-building opportunity** would be greatly appreciated.

Interested in **Entrepreneurship**? Interested in saving **thousands of dollars** in college expenses? Old Colony is preparing to **LAUNCH** an Early College Initiative for students interested in **29 college credits** and a certificate in Entrepreneurship. Our **LAUNCH** information night will take place at **5:30 p.m. on Tuesday, June 5th** at Old Colony RVTHS. Please email Mrs. Costa, Assistant to the Superintendent-Director at jcosta@OldColony.us to RSVP.

Old Colony's 2nd Annual Summer Discovery Program will run from **July 16-20, 2018**. This five-day experience is **open to any students entering grades 5-8** with options for career exploration, sports and recreation, and other exciting opportunities. Please visit www.oldcolony.us for more information or email summerdiscovery@oldcolony.us to receive further information for some incredible opportunities to explore building, cooking, creating, designing, etc. **Become part of the OC Creates movement** as middle school students get to explore opportunities to **ignite their passion for learning**.

Lastly, both **Mrs. Machamer**, vocational coordinator, and **I** have **accepted new positions** for the **2018-19 school year** at **Bristol-Plymouth Regional Technical High School**. This opportunity presented itself to us back in January, and we were selected for these positions which **fulfills both our personal and professional growth**. It is with **heavy hearts** that we **leave our Old Colony families** to pursue these new endeavors. We will **take with us our friendships and memories** that we have gained **over the 21 and 12 years, respectively**, that we have worked for this district. We both feel that **we have accomplished much** and are **leaving Old Colony with a solid foundation** in which to **continue to grow and build** upon.

Massachusetts is trying to better understand and **meet the needs of youth and young adults** who experience **housing instability and homelessness**. Many of us don't fit the stereotype of people experiencing homelessness, but **could use support with housing and resources**. If you are **under 25**, please take the **confidential Youth Count Survey between Monday, April 23rd – Sunday, May 13, 2018**. **Data** from this survey will **impact funding and services** for young adults experiencing housing instability. The survey is **available online** at <https://tinyurl.com/mayouthcountsurvey>. **Learn more** at <https://tinyurl.com/mayouthcount2018> or email massachusettsyouthcount@gmail.com. With strength from unity, we can **make our voices heard**. This **project is sponsored** by the **MA Commission on Unaccompanied Homeless Youth**.

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

- Every Tuesday & Thursday from 7 – 7:30 a.m. – Walking Club meets in the OC lobby (rain or shine)
- Thursday, April 26 – Sat., April 28 – Skills USA State Competition in Marlboro, MA with Mr. L'Heureux, Mr. Arsenault, Ms. Couto, and Mrs. Gifford

- Friday, April 27 – Student mid-trimester 3 grades posted and in-danger-of-failing reports mailed home
- Friday, April 27 – OC Drama Club Production of Door-to-Door on stage in the cafeteria – Admittance is \$10 adults; \$8 seniors adults and students; show starts at 6:30 p.m.
- Sunday, April 29 – OC Hiking Club w/Mr. Trimble to Borderlands State Park in Easton, MA
- Monday, April 30 – OC Wellness Committee meeting at 12:50 – 2:15 p.m. w/Mrs. Guenette in the office conference room
- Tuesday, May 1 – CPI Nonviolent Crisis Intervention Staff Recertification and Training w/Mr. Busa in the auto related class
- Tuesday, May 1 – OC Softball Team calendar fundraiser begins @ \$10 each
- Tuesday, May 1 – GSA Club meeting w/Mrs. Lacroix at 2:20 p.m. in the café
- Tuesday, May 1 – 7 – 8 p.m. PTO meeting in the cafeteria
- Wednesday, May 2 - 8:00 a.m. – 1:00 p.m. – Southcoast Mobile Health Van on site
- Wednesday, May 2 at 7 p.m. – Wareham Elks Club – Honors selected Seniors for “Student of the Month” and “Student of the Year” program
- Friday, May 4 – NHS to United Way’s Day of Caring in New Bedford w/Mrs. Gifford & Ms. Gamelin
- Friday, May 4 – Graphics shop field trip to Plymouth County Law Day at Brockton Trial Court
- Friday, May 4 – Mr. Cougar 2018 Show at 7 p.m. in the gymnasium
- Monday, May 7 – Late start day at 9:45 a.m. for OC students
- Monday, May 7 – 11 – National Teacher Appreciation Week
- Wednesday, May 9 – Math MCAS next-generation field test for selected grade 10 students
- Thursday, May 10 – "Educating for the Future - 2020 Beyond" a STEM and Career Pathways Seminar from 4 – 6:30 p.m. in cafeteria and will include the Capital Skills grant ribbon-cutting ceremony
- Friday, May 11 – In-danger-of-failure for the year progress reports mailed home with summer school information from the guidance office
- Friday, May 11 – Class of 2019 Flag Football fundraiser at 2:30 p.m. - \$10 team registration and \$1 admission
- Friday, May 11 – NHS & Student Council sponsored Neon Nights Spring Dance in the gym from 7 – 10 p.m. - \$8 for a student ticket
- Saturday, May 12 – 8:30 – noon – Incoming Grade 9 (Class of 2022) Math and English placement testing at OC
- Wednesday, May 16 – 7:30 a.m. – Student Advisory Council to the SC meeting w/Mrs. Guenette in the office conference room
- Wednesday, May 16 - 8 a.m. – 12 p.m. – Cosmetology “Family Day” celebration for grades 10/12 shop-cycle parents
- Wednesday, May 16 – 12:15 p.m. – Early Release Day, all students dismissed & faculty meeting at 2:15 – 3:15 p.m.
- Wednesday, May 16 – 3:30 p.m.– School Council meeting w/Mrs. Guenette in the office conference room and School Committee meeting at 6:30 p.m. in the cafeteria
- Thursday, May 17 - 6:30 p.m. - Student vs. Faculty Basketball Game in the gym & PTO selling snacks
- Saturday, May 19 – 1 p.m. - 14th annual OC Golf Scholarship Tournament at Acushnet River Valley Golf Course
- Monday, May 21 – 1 -2:15 p.m. in the café for “Me Ink” presentation and training for seniors (remember to bring your resumes)

- Monday, May 21 - Rain date for Class of 2019 Flag Football fundraiser at 2:30 p.m. - \$10 team registration and \$1 admission
- Tuesday, May 22 - Health Careers Freshman Parent Awareness Day
- Wednesday, May 23– Gr 10 Math MCAS testing & Senior Final Exams in English & Math; Gr 11 College & Career Fair from 8 – 11 a.m. in the gym; Seniors released after 1st lunch at 11:20 a.m.
- Wednesday, May 23 – 8 a.m. – 12 p.m. - Cosmetology “Family Day” celebration for grades 9/11 shop-cycle parents
- Thursday, May 24 – Gr 10 Math MCAS testing & Senior Final Exams in History & Science; Gr 11 College & Career Fair from 8 – 11 a.m. in the gym; Seniors released after 1st lunch at 11:20 a.m.
- Thursday, May 24 - Health Careers "pinning ceremony" for our newly certified CNA's from 1-2 p.m. Parents are invited to attend and more information will be forthcoming from the HC instructors.
- Friday, May 25 – Senior Sign-out, Breakfast, Report Cards, and Yearbooks distributed
- Friday, May 25 - Junior and Senior Prom at the Seaport Inn, Fairhaven, MA from 6:30 – 11 p.m.
- Monday, May 28 – Memorial Day Holiday – No school
- Tuesday, May 29 – 6 – 7 p.m. – Excellence in Effort Awards and Dinner in cafeteria for recipients and their families
- Wednesday, May 30 from 8 – 10:30 a.m. – Senior graduation rehearsal w/senior class advisors
- Thursday, May 31 at 6:30 p.m. – Senior awards night in the gymnasium
- Friday, June 1 – Senior trip to Six Flags (must have pre-registered and paid with senior advisors to attend)
- Sunday, June 3 - 1 p.m. – OC Senior Graduation – will be outdoors on football field (unlimited guests), or if inclement weather, in the gymnasium (limited guests will be admitted with invitations only).
- Monday, June 4 - Late start day at 9:45 a.m. for OC students
- Monday, June 4 – 5:00 – 8:30 p.m. – Incoming Gr 9 (Class of 2022) OC math placement testing and parent orientation at OC
- Tuesday, June 5 – 5:30 p.m. – BCC & OC’s LAUNCH Entrepreneurship program information night in the gym
- Wednesday, June 6 & Thursday, June 7 – Science Tech & Engineering Grade 9 MCAS testing

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

Karen Guenette, Principal
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 Follow me on Twitter @OCPrincipalKG