



May 9, 2020

Dear Old Colony Families and Community,

We hope that your students have adjusted to the introduction of direct instruction and final iteration of our remote learning plan. We are inspired by the incredible efforts of our staff, response from students and feedback from families. The adjustments and flexibility exhibited during our extended closure have been impressive. We appreciate your ongoing support and feedback as we continue to work collaboratively.

The well-being of our community continues to be at the forefront of our focus. Please reach out if you have questions or are in need of something we are able to assist with. We have scheduled our next "Coffee Talk" with the Administrative Team on Tuesday, May 12<sup>th</sup> at 10:30 a.m. Please join us by registering [here](#).

Last week brought some deep moments of joy and reflection. On Tuesday, May 5<sup>th</sup> a number of staff had the opportunity to deliver lawn signs to the homes of every senior. We would like to extend our gratitude to Mr. Trahan (Director of Athletics and Activities), the Parsons, and Hannon families for their organization of this effort, and to the multitude of staff members who gathered to deliver these signs to our graduating Class of 2020. Photos from the May 5<sup>th</sup> event are available on our [Facebook Page](#).

### **Class of 2020**

In an effort to preserve the opportunity to celebrate with our Class of 2020, we have moved "Senior Week" to July 13-19, 2020. The last school day for seniors is scheduled for May 28, 2020. All seniors who meet graduation requirements by May 28, 2020 will be eligible to participate in "Senior Week". Seniors who have not met graduation requirements by May 28, 2020, will continue with a remote learning program to remediate in their effort meet requirements prior to the July graduation. The following activities have been scheduled:

Monday, July 13 <sup>th</sup> :	Senior BBQ
Tuesday, July 14 <sup>th</sup> :	Senior Awards Night
Thursday, July 16 <sup>th</sup> :	Prom
Sunday, July 19 <sup>th</sup> :	Class of 2020 Senior Graduation Ceremony

Please note that all activities are subject to approval based on state guidelines associated with public gatherings as communicated by the Governor's Office and guidance from the Department of Elementary and Secondary Education. Additional details will follow as dates approach.

### **Resources for Family Assistance**

If anyone in your household has filed for unemployment in the last few weeks or if a member of your household has experienced a significant change in financial status, please consider utilizing any of the following resources.

Project Bread's FoodSource Hotline offers free, comprehensive statewide food assistance to all Massachusetts residents. Help is offered in 160 languages and there is a line dedicated to helping those who are hearing impaired. For more information and hours, visit [www.projectbread.org/gethelp](http://www.projectbread.org/gethelp), or call Project Bread's FoodSource Hotline at 1-800-645-8333.

The Department of Transitional Assistance (DTA) assists and empowers low-income individuals and families to meet their basic needs, improve their quality of life, and achieve long term economic self-sufficiency. DTA serves one in nine residents of the Commonwealth with direct economic assistance (cash benefits) and food assistance (SNAP benefits), as well as workforce training opportunities. Visit <https://dtaconnect.eohhs.mass.gov/> to learn more DTA benefits and enroll.

This is a reminder that the State has begun to unfurl the direct delivery of Pandemic EBT cards to eligible households. Families will soon begin to receive funds and can use this account in any store that accepts SNAP and or EBT. Specific details including what can be purchased and where it can be found are on our homepage COVID-19 updates or by visiting [mass.gov/info-details/pandemic-ebt-p-ebt](http://mass.gov/info-details/pandemic-ebt-p-ebt)

These cards can receive renewed and individualized funds so do not dispose of them. The following links contain additional information:

- [Mass. Gov't. Fast Facts Pandemic EBT Program](#)
- [Click here for a list of SNAP eligible foods](#)

Please contact Gary Linehan, Assistant Principal, at [glinehan@oldcolony.info](mailto:glinehan@oldcolony.info) if you are in need of assistance navigating the EBT Program.

### **Teaching and Learning**

For the week of May 11-15, students in grades 9 and 11 will move to their vocational areas, and students in grades 10 and 12 will attend their academic classes. You will find the remote learning schedule for next week [HERE](#). Tips for reading the schedule are available [HERE](#), if you have questions.

Students and families should look at the remote learning schedule alongside their regular student schedule. The remote learning schedule follows the first two blocks from our Monday 1 Academic Schedule, and our Tuesday 1 Academic schedule. Both schedules are color coded. Monday students attend their red and yellow blocks, and Tuesday students attend their blue and green blocks. Grade 10 students will report to Health with Mr. Busa instead of PE/Fitness, and grade 12 students will have an off-block where their related class would be, because related now takes place during the vocational cycle.

Please know that instructors teach multiple sections of the same course. Students should follow their schedule, and not only look for their instructors' names. If you have any questions and would like help with a student's schedule, please email our Academic Coordinator, Mrs. Catie Tuccinardi, at [ctuccinardi@oldcolony.info](mailto:ctuccinardi@oldcolony.info).

### **Trimester 3 and Final Grades**

As indicated in previous communications, we have moved to a credit/no credit model for Trimester 3 based on recommendations from the Department of Education. The numeric coding of "1" and "0" entered into SchoolBrains grade books indicate participation from students in our live sessions and whether or not they have attempted and completed their weekly assignments. These numeric indicators (1 and 0) are a means to track their participation and engagement during the remote learning process. Credit is assigned as follows:

1 = Submission meets the requirements

0 = Assignment not submitted, does not meet expectation, or student has not participated.

Final grades for the school year will be an average of Trimester 1 and Trimester 2 grades. Trimester 3 will not impact the numerical grade for the year. Trimester 3 may impact promotion to the next grade level. It is imperative that students participate and keep current with their work in Trimester 3 to receive credit for the year. Students who receive "no credit" for Trimester 3 due to lack of participation, non-submittal of work, or incomplete work will be in danger of not being prepared for the next school year and/or in danger of not being eligible for graduation or promotion to the next grade level.

### **Advanced Placement (AP) Testing**

AP Calculus students will test on May 12th at 2pm, and AP English Language students test on May 20th at 2pm. Each exam is reduced to 45 minutes. Students must log into their College Board accounts to access their e-testing tickets two days prior to their testing date. On the testing day, all students must be logged onto their AP classroom 30 minutes prior to testing. Our Computer Science Principles students must have their portfolios submitted to the College Board website by May 26th. Please email Mrs. Tuccinardi at [ctuccinardi@oldcolony.info](mailto:ctuccinardi@oldcolony.info) with any questions or concerns.

Here is a video from the College Board that provides an overview of the AP Exam process for 2020.

<https://apcoronavirusupdates.collegeboard.org/students/taking-ap-exams/exam-day-experience>

Check out the AP Exam Day Checklist: <https://apcentral.collegeboard.org/pdf/ap-student-exam-day-checklist.pdf>

All students can access the AP 2020 Exam Demo. If they have not already done so we highly recommend it.

<https://ap2020examdemo.collegeboard.org/>.

This is the College Board website that will provide any other updates for the exams

<https://apcoronavirusupdates.collegeboard.org/>

### **Course Recommendations**

Families received mailings this past week with instructions for completing the Course Recommendation process. Please follow the viewing directions using SchoolBrains Community Portal and then complete [THIS FORM](#) to approve, or request courses for your student.

### **Pick up of Personal Belongings**

Grade 9 and 11 students are scheduled to pick up belongings from May 12-14. Grade 10 and 12 students are scheduled from May 19-21. Please refer to the schedule below to see when your shop is scheduled for pickup. Your belongings will be organized in the gymnasium. **Please go to door 2 (large gym doors) to pick up your items.**

#### **(Grades 9 and 11 Only)**

##### **Tuesday May 12, 2020**

1:00-2:00 Automotive  
2:00-3:00 Business Tech and Computer Science  
3:00-4:00 CAD Drafting and Cosmetology

##### **Wednesday May 13, 2020**

1:00-2:00 Culinary Arts  
2:00-3:00 Electrical and Electronics  
3:00-4:00 Graphic Communication

##### **Thursday May 14, 2020**

1:00-2:00 Health Careers  
2:00-3:00 House and Mill Carpentry and Machine and Tool  
3:00-4:00 Welding Metal Fabrication

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#### **(Grades 10 and 12 Only)**

##### **Tuesday May 19, 2020**

1:00-2:00 Automotive  
2:00-3:00 Business Tech and Computer Science  
3:00-4:00 CAD Drafting and Cosmetology

##### **Wednesday May 20, 2020**

1:00-2:00 Culinary Arts  
2:00-3:00 Electrical and Electronics  
3:00-4:00 Graphic Communication

##### **Thursday May 21, 2020**

1:00-2:00 Health Careers  
2:00-3:00 House and Mill Carpentry and Machine and Tool  
3:00-4:00 Welding Metal Fabrication

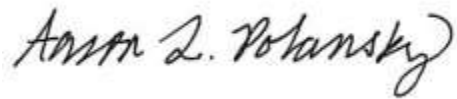
If students have books they are not using, please return them on your scheduled day. If you are still using your books please keep them until next year. Seniors will have another day to drop off books.

All students are required to wear face coverings and to practice social distancing by remaining 6 feet apart when entering the building.

If you are unable to make these times, please email Mr. Parker at [jmparker@oldcolony.info](mailto:jmparker@oldcolony.info) to set up an alternative time for pick-up.

Please reach out if you are in need of anything during our extended closure. We look forward to continued connection to the greatest extent possible. We wish you and your family health and peace of mind as we continue to adjust to this new routine.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Aaron L. Polansky". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large, stylized initial 'A'.

Aaron L. Polansky, Superintendent-Director  
Old Colony Regional Vocational Technical High School