



May 23, 2020

Dear Old Colony Families,

We hope that this update finds you and your family healthy as we head into warmer weather and the Memorial Day Weekend. Please continue to reach out to us if we can be of assistance during the extended closure. While we are all faced with uncertainties during this window of time, we would like to reassure you of our efforts to deliver some constants and structure.

- **We will remain flexible to help you find success through the rest of the school year.** We understand that our Old Colony community and their families all have differentiated needs. This is not limited to students, but staff as well. We are all focused on growth, and not perfection. This process will remain fluid and iterative. We have navigated this together with an unprecedented level of support and understanding. We remain committed to this approach.
- **Please communicate with us.** We are extremely proud of the follow through and initiative being shown by our staff and students. If there are extenuating circumstances, we are here to help in any way we can.
- **Our teaching and learning model will remain consistent through the end of the school year.** We await further guidance from the state as part of our planning effort for next year. We will keep everyone informed as information becomes available.

We continue to work through the challenges presented with our new normal as we navigate a school without hallways. Our hallways allow for a foundational facet of our work. It is where we make eye contact, smile, and ensure we have the ability to routinely assess the visual cues that play an important part in caring for the whole child, and though many may not realize, our staff and community.

Our staff members have done an incredible job working to connect directly with students using our remote model. We must however keep in mind the importance of maintaining these strong connections given the extenuating circumstances. Please encourage your students to continue attending their live sessions. We appreciate the ongoing commitment of everyone involved.

### **Advanced Placement (AP) Course Info for NEXT school year (2020-2021)**

Students who have been recommended for AP English Language and Composition, AP Calculus, or AP English Literature and Composition and students who are opting to take those courses without teacher recommendations, must fill out [this AP Expectation Form](#) by **May 27, 2020**. If this form is not complete, students will not be enrolled in AP courses. Please contact Mrs. Tuccinardi, our Academic Coordinator, at [tuccinardi@oldcolony.info](mailto:tuccinardi@oldcolony.info) with any questions.

### **Outstanding Cafeteria Balances**

We are required to collect outstanding debt owed to the school meals program. Please deposit funds into your child's account if you have received a bill for outstanding debt. All Seniors will need to pay their debt in full by Senior Sign Out Day on May 28th. If you have any questions please email Crystal Andrade [candrade@oldcolony.us](mailto:candrade@oldcolony.us).

### **Worth Sharing**

Ryan Scott, 9<sup>th</sup> grade Metal Fabrication student from Carver, recently completed a sand screener using his welding skills at home. In the midst of all that is going on, it is inspiring to see the passion and skill of our students. If we have **students working on the frontlines**, or completing vocational work at home, please send your photos to [apolansky@oldcolony.info](mailto:apolansky@oldcolony.info). We would love to continue sharing your work as we celebrate your passion, work ethic, and contributions. Thank you for sharing.



### **Personal Belongings**

Over the course of the last few weeks, we have organized opportunities for our students to retrieve personal items. If your student has not yet had the opportunity to pick up their personal items, please email Mr. Parker, at [jmparker@oldcolony.info](mailto:jmparker@oldcolony.info) so that we may coordinate for your student to pick up their belongings.

### **Graduation**

We have been given the official “green light” to conduct a graduation ceremony on Oliveira Field. The Department of Education has released [guidance](#) for graduation ceremonies. Graduation ceremonies will be limited to students and their immediate families per the guidance that has come from the state. Additional information will be forthcoming. Please note that our intention is to run an outdoor graduation, rain or shine. We would much rather stand with you in the rain to rejoice, than forego the opportunity to celebrate all that you have accomplished.

### **Senior Week**

We have organized a Senior Week from July 13-19, 2020 to celebrate your accomplishments. Please note that details associated with the Senior Week will be communicated in the near future. The dates and activities that have been organized are identified below:

Monday, July 13 <sup>th</sup>	Social Distancing BBQ (Yearbooks will be distributed)
Tuesday, July 14 <sup>th</sup>	Virtual Awards Night
Thursday, July 16 <sup>th</sup>	Promenade (details to follow)
Sunday, July 19 <sup>th</sup>	Graduation (rain or shine)

### **Senior Sign Out**

Your final day as a senior at Old Colony is Thursday, May 28<sup>th</sup>. We would like to celebrate you all with a ceremony for Senior Sign Out at Old Colony. The ceremony will involve a drive up to the main entrance where you will be greeted by your teachers and favorite staff members to commemorate your last official day. We invite parents to come as well. Please accompany your student in the same car. Please bring any books you have, electronic devices signed out to you and payment for any outstanding items. The event will be from 11:00 a.m. -12:30 p.m. and we will have you arrive at a specific time based on your shop. You will be receiving your caps and gowns along with your school records. Report cards will be mailed at a later date.

Please arrive at the school for the following times:

<b>11:00</b>	<b>11:30</b>	<b>12:00</b>
Automotive	Cosmetology	Graphics
Business Tech	Culinary	Health Careers
CADD	Electrical	Carpentry
Computer Science	Electronics	Machine and Tool
		Metal Fabrication

### **Remote Learning Plan Update for May 26-29, 2020**

The week of May 25<sup>th</sup> begins with the Memorial Day holiday. **There will be no live sessions held on Monday May 25<sup>th</sup> or Tuesday May 26<sup>th</sup>.** Teachers will post assignments on Tuesday and will hold regular office hours Wednesday and Thursday. Grade 12 students will be in academics and will have one collaborative assignment from all of their academic teachers for the week. The assignment will be available in their English teacher's Google Classroom on Tuesday morning. **It must be completed using Google Docs, and shared with ALL of their academic teachers by Wednesday May 27<sup>th</sup> at 8pm.** Live sessions will resume Monday June 1<sup>st</sup>.

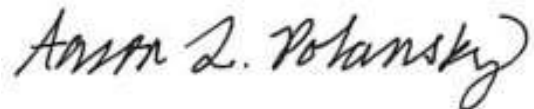
### **Coffee Talk**

Our next Coffee Talk will be scheduled for Wednesday, May 27<sup>th</sup> at 10:00 a.m. This is an open forum with no set agenda. We will be available to answer questions, or simply engage in conversations with our Old Colony community. Parents, students, staff, and community members are welcome to join us. You must pre-register to attend and can do so by [visiting the following pre-registration link](#). If you have questions you would like us to address, or innovative ideas you would like us to consider, please email your questions or ideas to [apolansky@oldcolony.info](mailto:apolansky@oldcolony.info) prior to the Coffee Talk.

We encourage all members of our Old Colony Family to take time this weekend to reflect upon the true meaning behind the observance of Memorial Day. We recognize our Veterans for the sacrifices they and their families have made. Let us especially reflect upon and pay tribute to those who have made the ultimate sacrifice, for they have provided all Americans with the liberties we experience and enjoy each & every day. As always, if you have any questions and/or concerns please feel free to contact me at [apolansky@oldcolony.info](mailto:apolansky@oldcolony.info). Enjoy a much deserved weekend.

Thank you for your continued commitment to excellence as we navigate these fluid times.

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