



OLD COLONY

REGIONAL VOCATIONAL TECHNICAL HIGH SCHOOL DISTRICT
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June 16, 2021

Dear Old Colony Community,

Today is June 16th.

This statement is cathartic. Today we celebrate you, your families, your students, our teachers, our staff, and our entire community at the close of a school year that has proven our flexibility, our creativity, our cohesiveness, and our ability to support one another in the face of challenging times. I am inspired.

I am inspired because our ability to pivot in challenging times means that we also have an ability to pivot and reimagine the future of an Old Colony education. Education may only be maximized when connection is at its apex. Our students will love the learning process most when the value of such learning is known, and more importantly, when their own value is confirmed through our investment in them as individuals and collectively. Subject matter is important. Student agency is important. Stakeholder agency can be transformational. Your voice and feedback are important.

Academic knowledge will provide a foundation. Vocational competencies will drive futures. Connection and stability; etiquette and people skills; balance and health; and an awareness of the world beyond our walls will all result in the ultimate success of our student population. So let us offer you a simple question as we begin our planning process for 2021-2022.

What if . . .

What if budgets were not an issue? What if time did not limit our school day? What if grades didn't exist? What if the MCAS were eliminated? What if classrooms were outdoors? What if our curriculum included classes outside of the "norm" to encourage further creativity associated with student interest?

As we prepare for the school year ahead, we would like to hear from you about innovative ideas you feel could change the lives of our students and make the educational experience something more than what it is today. We've shown our ability to pivot in the face of a pandemic. It is time for us to consider the power of innovation as we make our move to the school year ahead. We are looking at opportunities to redefine our return. There is no better time than now.

The federal government has provided ESSER III funding to support recovery from the pandemic for every public school district in Massachusetts. Please consider completing the survey at [the following link](#). We will utilize your feedback over the course of the summer to direct our thought process as we plan to innovate and best serve our students and community during the 2021-2022 school year and beyond. We thank you for your continued commitment to our Old Colony community and wish you a wonderful summer and much deserved reprieve from the past 16 months.

With Gratitude,

Aaron L. Polansky