



OLD COLONY

REGIONAL VOCATIONAL TECHNICAL HIGH SCHOOL DISTRICT
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Principal Guenette's October 2016 News

I hope that you are **enjoying this early fall weather!** I am **passing on a few things** that I'd like to share with you for this upcoming month and school year. **October** is both **Breast Cancer Awareness Month** (www.nationalbreastcancer.org) and **National Bullying Prevention Month** (www.stopbullying.gov).

A few weeks ago, I informed you that our **school's voice mail**, within our phone system, is **no longer working**. Please be patient with us, as this was an unexpected and unplanned project. However, when trying to reach someone at the school to leave a message, the **front office staff is available to answer calls** and take messages **from 7 a.m. – 3 p.m.** Additionally, **all staff is checking their emails** throughout the day. Please check our website www.oldcolony.us for our directory. We are **expecting another 3-4 weeks of being inconvenienced**, so **thank you for your understanding**.

The state released the **2016 MCAS/PARCC Assessment and Accountability Results**, which are available online for your review if you go to the school's website www.oldcolony.us, under the **About tab**. Under the state accountability results are based on statewide test scores over time, student growth percentiles, annual dropout rates, graduation rates, and participation rates to classify schools into Levels 1-5. I am very happy and proud to report that **Old Colony RVTHS has again achieved a Level 1 rating**, which means we are **meeting gap narrowing goals**, overall. The percent of students **scoring Proficient or higher on the 10th grade MCAS was 94% in English Language Arts**. The percent of students **scoring Proficient or higher on the 10th grade MCAS was 84% in Mathematics**, and **76% of students scored Proficient or higher on the 9th grade MCAS for Science Technology/Engineering**. MCAS student reports will be mailed to parents by mid-October.

Freshmen have experienced their **first two shop exploratory sessions** in September. Students **will explore six more** shops before reselecting and being placed in their permanent shop. Detailed **information** about the exploratory and placement process was shared with the freshmen at an assembly on Sept. 9th. Please remind your child to check their schedule and the expectations packet, carefully, and to come prepared and ready to work in each exploratory. **For safety reasons, many shops have shoe and clothing requirements**. Students must be dressed appropriately to participate in shop activities. The presentation and handout can be viewed at: <http://www.oldcolony.us/2016/09/exploratory-assembly>.

All Old Colony students will be participating in the **ALICE School Safety Practice Drill** during the month of October, which will be **led by the Rochester Police Department and two certified trainers** employed by Old Colony. The ALICE training offers school districts options that mitigate liability, assume less risk and, most importantly, equip students and faculty with life-saving skills.

The **“Grab & Go Breakfast Program”** is set up each morning **in the cafeteria, for students to purchase or acquire breakfast food and drinks to take to their first period class in the morning.** Please check the school’s website at www.oldcolony.us for **breakfast menu prices and options.**

Mare Studios has taken individual student pictures for the 2016-17 school year and **lanyards with photo IDs have been issued to most students at OC.** All students are **expected to wear them in and around the building daily.** They are allowed to take them **off while they are working in shop,** if there is a safety hazard. **Students who lose their ID and lanyard will be charged \$5 for a replacement.** If a student **forgets to wear their ID, or loses it,** they will **report to the front office** and will be issued a **temporary one to wear** for the day. After **three offenses,** a **detention** will be **issued** to serve after school on a Tuesday or Thursday. The wearing of lanyards with student **IDs is mandatory beginning on Tuesday, October 11, 2016.** As they are getting used to wearing them, students are reminded daily about this new practice.

All students have received or been notified of the **2016-17 Student Handbook** sign-off forms, **Grade 9 Emergency Forms, Voluntary Student Accident Forms,** and **Grades 10-12 Schoolbrains Verification Information** sheets to **be signed by each student and parent.** Please note the student accident insurance sheet, which is posted online at www.oldcolony.us, under the **Parents’ link, whether taking the insurance or not,** must be **signed and returned to school.** Please sign **all** of the forms and have your child return them **to Mr. Harrison’s office.** If you did not receive any of these forms, please **contact Mrs. Robert in Mr. Harrison’s office at x 166,** and one will be sent to you.

Our **OC Student Council** is hosting, along with the **Athletic Dept.** events, **Spirit Week** that is culminated by the **Homecoming Dance.** The designated week is from **Oct. 17-22, 2016.** **Spirit Week schedule is as follows: Mon., Oct. 17th- America Day** (Support our Nation, wear your red, white and blue); **Tues., Oct. 18th- Twin Day;** **Wed., Oct. 19th- Colors for a Cause** (Seniors- purple for Alzheimer's, Juniors- silver-gray for Parkinson’s, Sophomores – red for Heart Disease, and Freshmen – orange for Leukemia); **Thurs., Oct. 20th- Pajama Day;** and **Fri., Oct. 21st- School Spirit Day:** Seniors- Black, Juniors - White, Sophomores- Gold, and Freshmen- Maroon. The **Pep Rally** will begin at **1:30 p.m. in the gym.**

The **Homecoming Dance tickets are \$10.00** and it will run from **7-10 p.m., on Saturday, October 22nd at the school.** Parents can **drop off and pick up their child in the front of the school.** Please know that **if you do not want your child to leave the premises, you will have to notify Student Council Advisor, Grace Thompson,** at gthompson@oldcolony.us, as often students who drive to the event ask to leave early. Once students leave the premises, **they are not allowed back into the Homecoming Dance.** Also, if your child is bringing an **outside guest,** he/she must **obtain a “Student in Good-Standing” form** from **Mr. Harrison’s office** to be filled out by the guest’s high school administrator that also includes parent contact information. Our **theme this year is "A Night Under the Stars".**

Also, the **OC Student Council** is supporting **School on Wheels** organization as their one of their **fundraising and community projects.** We are **collecting school supplies until the beginning of November** and are **taking donations.** The items are as follows and **must be in original packaging:**

Crayons	Washable Markers	Colored Pencils	Pencils	Pencil Sharpeners
Pens	Large Erasers	Highlighters	Pencil box/Zipper pouches	Rulers
Glue Sticks	Blunt Scissors	Pocket Folders	Scribble Pads	Index Cards
Single subject notebooks		Composition notebooks		3-Ring Binders
Scientific/Square Root Calculators		Student Dictionaries	Grade Level Reading Books	

The **National Honor Society** is excited to announce that they **inducted 41 new students** into their organization **on Sept. 30th**! Once again, they are organizing a **Trunk-or-Treat** event for **local elementary-aged children**. Last year, **over 100 students decorated more than 30 cars, purchased candy** with their own money and **spent 2 hours passing out candy and prizes** to elementary aged trick or treaters. The organization would like to **invite you** and your elementary-aged children to visit **Old Colony RVTHS on Friday, October 28th at 6:30 p.m.** to **trick-or-treat in the safety of our school's parking lot. Admission is free, but cash donations will be welcomed and donated to a charitable organization** to be chosen by the students. Additionally, National Honor Society **welcomes any donations of candy or prizes** that can be handed out to trick-or-treaters, to help ensure there is enough for all. **Candy donations can be dropped off at the main office** between now and the event.

Attention Seniors! All seniors must have their **portraits completed by Mare Studios by October 13.** **Yearbook photo choice** must be made to Mare Studios **by first week of November** or one will be chosen for you. Photos that **do not meet the submission deadline will not be published.** **Complimentary photo shoot** will take place at Old Colony (**by Mare Studios**) for those seniors who have not been photographed (**date TBD**). Please **stay tuned** for more information to come regarding yearbook ordering and pricing. **Mrs. Erin Murray, is the Yearbook Advisor.** She can be reached at emurray@oldcolony.us with any questions or concerns.

We have partnered with **Stop & Shop and Red Robin Restaurant** for an **Old Colony Rewards Program** again this year. These corporations give the school a percentage towards a rewards program in our school's name when you purchase items from them. **Any funds** generated to the school are **used for our students and school assistance programs.** Please review the information at the bottom of this newsletter to sign up for each program. **We appreciate this fundraising effort for our school!**

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

- **Wednesday, Oct. 5, 2016 from 8 – 11 a.m. – Southcoast Mobile Health Van on site (please contact Bonnie Chuk, x-130 if you would like to make an appointment)**
- **Wednesday, Oct. 5, 2016 @ 6 p.m. – OC Fall General Advisory Board Meeting with School Committee members in the library and 6:30 p.m. dinner and meeting for all of the OC vocational advisory boards in the cafeteria**
- **Monday, Oct. 10, 2016 – No school – Columbus Day holiday**
- **Tuesday, Oct. 11, 2016 – GSA Club meeting at 2:20 p.m. with Mrs. Lacroix**
- **Thurs., Oct. 13, 2016 – Mare Studios at OC for underclassmen photo retakes**
- **Mon., Oct. 17 – Fri., Oct. 21st – Homecoming Week and Spirit Week (see details above) at OC “Under the Lights” thanks to DW White Construction for donating 10 portable lights:**
 - **Tues., Oct. 18th @ 6 p.m. – Girls’ Soccer vs. Avon**
 - **Thurs., Oct. 20th @ 6 p.m. – Boys’ Soccer vs. Bristol Aggie**
 - **Fri., Oct. 21st @ 7 p.m. – Football team vs. Cape Cod Tech**
- **Wed., Oct. 19 from 8 – 11 a.m. – PSATs tests for Grades 10 & 11 students in the café with the guidance dept.**
- **Thurs., Oct. 20 @ 10:48 a.m. – Early Release Day – Students dismissed for Parent-teacher conferences:**
 - **11:15 a.m. – 3:15 p.m. – Parent-teacher conference appointments**
 - **5 – 8 p.m. – Parent-teacher conference appointments (guidance counselors not available in the evening session)**
- **Fri., Oct. 21 @ 1:30 p.m. – OC Fall Pep Rally in the gym and 7 p.m. Football game**

- **Sat., Oct. 22 from 7-10 p.m. – Homecoming Dance at OC**
- **Wed., Oct. 26, 2016 @ 10:48 a.m. – Early Release Day – Students dismissed**
- **Thurs., Oct. 27, 2016 @ 4:30-7:30 p.m. – College Awareness and MEFA (MA Educational Financial Assistance) Evening for all OC students and parents to attend with the guidance dept. in the cafeteria**
- **Fri., Oct. 28, 2016 @ 7 p.m. – NHS Trunk-or-Treat fundraising event in the student parking lot \$2/child or \$5/family**

Thanks in advance for your support! Please feel free to contact me with any questions or concerns.

Karen Guenette, Principal
kguenette@oldcolony.us

Stop & Shop

From October 2016 through March 2017 customers can help Old Colony R.V.T.H.S. earn cash every time they shop using their Stop & Shop Card. The Old Colony RVTHS, ID number is 10747.

All you have to do is:

- Log on to www.stopandshop.com/aplus to designate our school online using your Stop & Shop Card,
- OR
- Call the A+ Hotline at 1-877-275-2758 for assistance

After you register your card, each shopping trip at Stop & Shop, using your Card, earns CASH for our school. Each month, the amount of CASH awarded will be updated on the Stop & Shop A+ website. You can track the amount of points you earn for our school by checking your grocery receipt and online when you create an account at www.stopandshop.com. Our school will receive a check at the end of the program and the money can be used for our school's educational needs.

If you registered your card last year, you DO NOT need to re-register this year. You can visit the website to verify correct school assignment. Also, don't forget to encourage your friends and relatives to do the same. It could mean more CASH for our school.

<http://stopandshop.com/savings-and-rewards/rewards-program/aplus/>

Red Robin

Red Robin will donate 1% of your check to a school of your choice every time you visit and use your Red Robin Royalty Account.

Join Red Robin Royalty or sign in to your existing account to select Old Colony R.V.T.H.S. The school's ID number is 250914001471.

Parents please spread the word and click on the link below to register for this amazing program to benefit our school:

<http://www.redrobin.com/betterschools>