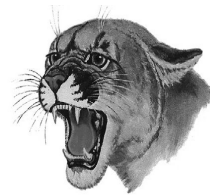


# OLD COLONY

REGIONAL VOCATIONAL TECHNICAL HIGH SCHOOL DISTRICT  
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## Principal's Newsletter September 2019

I hope you find our second newsletter of the year informative and comprehensive. The year is off to a great start with our theme for the year of Wellness. Opening day for teachers featured guest speaker Pam Garramone who left the staff with a powerful message of happiness. I already feel this message has permeated the school culture. Many students have reported that they enjoyed the first day of school and are excited for the year. We have filled all our club and advisor positions and have added Freshman and Sophomore class advisors to help get these classes off to a great start with a clear direction. We are continuing the morning assembly format with meetings taking place once a month with a greater focus on student led activities. Other new features for the meeting will be Student of the Month and Staff Member of the Month. Our new staff members have hit the ground running and will be excellent additions to our school community. We hope our new Meditation Mondays, that meet in the gym from 7:15 -7:30 every Monday (parents welcome) and Coffee Talk with the Superintendent and Principal (look for the October date on our website and twitter) will be well attended by students and parents as a way of starting the week on a positive note connecting with the school. The second trip of the White Mountain Educational Experience (WMEE) will take place September 12-14, as the students and staff head north for 2 days of hiking and relationship building. Please feel free to call me with any questions regarding your student or school.

J. Michael Parker  
Principal

### Academic News

The academic courses are off to a strong start to the year. Our instructors used the first day to introduce students to their content area and each other, and quickly moved to coursework. Students enrolled in Cougar Time also met with their Cougar Time mentors and spent at least one day in their extra help or enrichment environments. Cougar Time will grow to offer more enrichment and extra help as the year progresses and we better understand our students' needs and interests.

### Go Wicked Gold School Cause

In honor of Childhood Cancer Awareness Month, this September, Old Colony RVTHS will be going GOLD. Official campaign gear will be available to purchase in the main office. We invite our school community to partner with local non-profit Wicked Good Cause to help us make a difference this September. Our school will have a Gold Boot display to collect change during the week of 9/23-9/27. Any amount of spare change will all help us give Childhood Cancer the boot! Wicked Good Cause will donate funds raised to childhood cancer research studies and to local families battling the disease.

Our next "All School Assembly" will be held on September 23rd. The theme of the assembly will be to honor the senior class as well as a Gold Theme to support childhood cancer with the Go Wicked Gold Cause.

## Guidance

1.) The PSAT/NMSQT qualifying test, which is required for some college acceptances, and qualifies students to be eligible for college scholarships, has been scheduled at Old Colony RVTHS on Saturday, October 19, 2019. All sophomore and junior students are eligible to take this test. The cost of the test is \$27.00. Both cash and checks are accepted. Checks can be made out to Old Colony Vocational Technical High School. Fee waivers are available to juniors (Class of 2021) who receive free/reduced lunch.

Students who are interested in taking this test should register in the OC Guidance Office. Registration deadline is September 19, 2019.

Students are responsible for their own transportation and must arrive at Old Colony RVTHS between 8:30 and 8:45 a.m.

**Students will be dismissed from testing at approximately 1:00 p.m. Students arriving after 8:45 a.m. will not be allowed to take the test and test fees will not be refunded.**

Students can go online at [collegeboard.org/psatpractice](http://collegeboard.org/psatpractice) for a practice test or to find out more about the test (see the PSAT student guide for more info).

PSAT/NMSQT and SAT's are NOT required for students who are interested in pursuing a degree at Bristol Community College or any other community college. Please also note that not all four-year colleges require SAT scores. Students should review each college's specific requirements. For more information call the Guidance Department at 508-763-8011 x127, x128 or x129.

2.) We are excited to be offering CIS 111, Intro to Business Information Systems, the fifth college course in our LAUNCH: Early Entrepreneurship Series that began last fall. This opportunity is open to any student in grades 10—12. The course will run Tuesdays at 5:00 p.m. at Old Colony and will begin later this fall. The course will be available at a significantly reduced rate of \$250 for any Old Colony students interested in participating. The cost of this course, if taken independent of Old Colony is more than three times this amount.

Parents, staff, and out of district students are welcome to take the course at a separate, reduced rate. Any parent, staff member, or out of district student interested in taking the course may register for a reduced cost of \$500.

Course Description: Business Information Systems is a 3 credit college course that deals with fundamental computer concepts applicable to business and management, including software, problem-solving, case studies, business models, and computer systems analysis and design, as well as basic computer applications. Students will use the Microsoft Windows operating system and the current version of Microsoft office. Students will learn to work with a spreadsheet, a database management system, word processing and presentation software and to apply these skills to the functional areas of organizations. Case studies will be drawn from accounting, finance, marketing, information systems, operations management, and other areas of business. Students learn how to use the Web successfully to research information. Basic familiarity with computers is recommended: students without this knowledge should consider taking CIS 110 prior to this course. Three lecture hours per week.

Please contact Mrs. Susan Abaray ([Sabaray@oldcolony.info](mailto:Sabaray@oldcolony.info)) for additional information. A check for \$250 payable to Old Colony should be delivered to Mrs. Susan Abaray in Guidance prior to Friday, September 13th for those interested in reserving a spot.

3.) The Guidance Office is once again promoting Mass Maritime Academy (MMA) fall dual enrollment opportunities for our OC students. The following FREE college-level courses are being offered:

Western Civilization - Tuesdays

Intro to Emergency Management - Thursdays

Ecological Sustainability - Mondays

All courses run from 4-7pm.

This opportunity is available to current sophomores, juniors, and seniors. Although the courses are free of charge, students are responsible for the cost of the textbook which varies by class. SPACE IS LIMITED and on a first-come, first-served basis. For additional information or for an application, students should see Mrs. Abaray in the Guidance Office.

4.) On Tuesday, October 15th at 6:30 p.m. the OC Guidance Department will host a financial aid seminar for all interested students and parents. Beth Connelly-Sylvia from the Massachusetts Educational Finance Authority (MEFA), will provide a detailed overview of the entire college & financial aid application process. Students and parents will learn about financial aid applications, types of financial aid, the factors that determine aid eligibility, how colleges determine the amount of aid to offer, and the details of financial aid award letters. All parents and students are welcome to attend. Please RSVP by calling 508-763-8011 ext. 231

Advisers from the Education Opportunity Center (EOC) will visit Old Colony on Wednesday, November 6th to assist our college bound students and their families with completing their FAFSA form (financial aid form). This program is by appointment only. Further information, including a link to make an appointment, is available on the Old Colony website. Click on: Academics tab>>Guidance>>Financial Aid>> RSVP to FAFSA night.

5.) The guidance department will be presenting the **Senior College & Career Presentations** the week of September 16th. Students will be given a copy of the powerpoint which has a lot of important and helpful college and career information.

## Area College Fall Open Houses

### UMASS Dartmouth

Saturday, October 19, 2019

9am: Check-in & Information Fair

9:45am: Program begins

Sunday, November 3, 2019

9am: Check-in & Information Fair

9:45am: Program begins

Visitors to arrive by 9:30am.

Register at: <https://www.umassd.edu/openhouse/>

### Bridgewater State University

Saturday, October 26, 2019

9 a.m. - 1 p.m.

[College of Humanities and  
Social Sciences](#)

Saturday, November 2, 2019

9 a.m. - 1 p.m.

[College of Education and  
Health Sciences](#)

Saturday, November 16, 2019

9 a.m. - 1 p.m.

[Bartlett College of Science  
and Mathematics](#) and  
[Ricciardi College of  
Business](#)

Register at: <https://www.bridgew.edu/campus-tour>

## **Stonehill College**

Saturday, October 19th, 2019

9:30 a.m. Lunch will be provided.

Saturday, November 9th

9:30a.m. - Lunch will be provided.

<https://www.stonehill.edu/admission/undergraduate-admission/visit/fall-open-house-2019/>

## **Massasoit Community College**

Friday, November 15, 2019

5:30 pm - 7:30 pm

at the Brockton Campus Student Center.

Register at: <https://www.massasoit.edu/openhouse/index>

## **School Store**

On SALE NOW. Spirit Week T-shirts; \$20. Half of all proceeds will be donated to Dana Farber. Please contact Business Technology to get your order in. All money is due by September 13, 2019.



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## **Vocational News**

The Exploratory Program has begun! Take time to review the expectations and requirements for each technical program, included in the Exploratory Assembly Handout, prior to entering each exploratory selection. These expectations and requirements will have an impact on your program exploratory grade, which could affect your ultimate shop assignment.

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## Upcoming Events

September 18th, 2019

September 23rd, 2019

September 25th, 2019

September 27th, 2019

October 15th, 2019

Student Advisory Committee, School Council Meeting

Go Gold Assembly

Early Release @ 11:25, Parents Night/Open House

Snapshots Mailed Home

Financial Aid Seminar