



Oyster River High School News

August 31, 2023

Hello Parents & Guardians,

The excitement is back in the building! During the class meetings, I explained to students, they are the reason we are here. They bring life to this building and fill it with spirit and energy! When school was out in June, everyone was ready for the summer break. After a season of sun, rain, more rain, and adventures, we are all ready to come back, share our stories, and be together as a school community again.

Our theme this year is “Empowering Positive Pathways”. As I explained to the kids, this is all about helping them find success, however that looks for each individual. We have so many opportunities for students to try new things, study a new topic, create their own club, or even create their own class! I truly hope they explore what ORHS has to offer. We are here to help them in any way we can.

Rebecca

New

All Students

Picture Day: September 7th is picture day for all students. This is for the yearbook and student IDs. Seniors will also have pictures taken for their ID.

Please mark your calendars for October 5th, OPEN HOUSE. You'll follow your student's schedule and meet teachers. More details coming soon!

Student Pick up! Please be sure to pick your student up in front of the high school. Stopping along Coe Dr. or Bagdad Dr. is causing hazards for our students crossing the street. We do get traffic moving pretty quickly; traffic is usually gone by 3:12pm.

We have repainted the lines for student drop off. If you are in the right-hand lane, please pull all the way forward and wait for your kiddo. If you are in the left-hand lane, this is thru traffic, and you'll go to the stop sign at Coe Dr.

All Students: The last day to add a course is Thursday, September 14th at 3pm. The last day to drop a course to not have it reflected on the transcript is Wednesday, October 4th at 3pm.

CTE Students: All three centers (Dover, Rochester, and Somersworth) will start their CTE programs on Thursday, September 7th. Until then, students who are scheduled for a CTE course will have

time to get work done for other classes. If you have any questions, please reach out to Mr. Peschel at speschel@orcscd.org.

ORCSD Superintendent Search

Superintendent Morse has announced his coming retirement at the end of the current school year and the ORCSD School Board has officially announced the search for his successor. The School Board invites highly qualified and future-focused candidates to apply for the position of Superintendent of Schools, with a start date of July 1, 2024. The district has hired [The New England School Development Council \(NESDEC\)](#) to assist with the search. Applications are due on Oct 27, 2023.

The School Board invites the community to take part in the search by providing input during the search process. A survey will be provided on the district's website in September and shared with targeted stakeholders. Community members will also be invited to attend focus groups during the month of September.

The information gathered at these meetings and through the survey will be used to establish a profile of the preferred candidate. More information, including dates and locations, will be provided soon, including on the Superintendent Search page on the district's website. The webpage also contains more information about the entire search process, which is anticipated to run through the end of December 2023.

Community members interested in reading the School Board's letter and obtain additional information regarding the superintendent search process, can visit ORCSD's [website here](#).

Barrington bus routes. If your student takes the bus to ORHS from Barrington, please see the links below. Another driver has been hired, so Barrington was able to create 2 bus runs instead of one. <https://1drv.ms/x/s!AsvI7o8LXBJEsCuBh0uNONQIoMDX>

ORCSD Care –is all on the enrollment page in PowerSchool. Below is a screenshot of what it looks like in PowerSchool. There are instructions in LINQ on how to purchase ORCSD Care through the store. The deadline for signing up by as October 1.

ORCSD Care

The ORCSD Care Program covers school issued laptops, iPads, chargers, and cases against loss, theft, or accidental damage from day of distribution through the last day of school. If the device is not covered by ORCSD Care, you will be liable for full replacement or repair cost. All ORCSD Care covered student devices and peripherals must be turned in for summer routine inspection, maintenance, and repair prior to the last day of school. All ORCSD Care covered devices must be returned in their original condition, apart from normal wear and tear. Families may register for ORCSD Care for \$20.00 per student at the time of registration for each school year. Coverage does not begin until you agree to the program and payment is received. (Please note that students who qualify for Free/Reduced Lunch will have a \$0.00 fee for enrollment. Please contact Food Service).

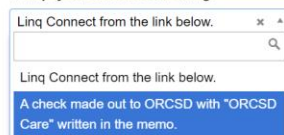
Families may choose to join ORCSD Care later in the school year upon inspection of the device by building IT personnel.

Participation *

I will participate in ORCSD Care, I have read and understand the included coverage.

- YES-I will participate in ORCSD Care
- NO-I decline the ORCSD Care program and understand that I will be responsible for the full replacement and or cost should any damage to the device occur.

I will pay for ORCSD Care using:



The screenshot shows a Linq Connect window titled "Linq Connect from the link below." with a search icon. Below the title bar, there is a memo field containing the text: "A check made out to ORCSD with 'ORCSD Care' written in the memo."

AP Mandarin: If your student is interested in AP Mandarin, we are looking into offering an after-school class twice a week. Please fill out this survey so we can reach out to interested families with details: [AP Mandarin Survey](#)

Parents of Seniors

Seniors will be receiving information about class t-shirts soon! Be on the lookout.

Senior Privileges: For your Senior to be able to leave if they have 2nd or 3rd block off, they should have paperwork for you to sign, allowing this. This is separate from ER/LA, below.

Early Release and Late Arrival are approved, by you, during the registration process in PowerSchool. These are two separate privileges! This allows students to come in late if they have block 1 off, or leave early if they have block 4 off.

It may seem early, but caps & gowns are ordered in the fall. We are working on the website with Balfour now. Information is coming in the next two weeks!

Tuesday, September 12th, 6pm is Senior College Night, in the ORHS Auditorium, with a representative from the NH Higher Education Assistance Foundation's(NHHEAF) Center for College Planning ! This session is intended to educate high school seniors and their families about the college admission process. Whether you need a quick refresher after the summer or this is the first time you are thinking about college, we'll share everything you need to know to navigate your college application journey. Attendees will also receive NHHEAF's Admissions Insider. No registration is required.

Tuesday, October 10th at 6pm, Financial Aid 10, in the ORHS Auditorium. Join an Education & Career Counselor from NHHEAF's Center for College Planning for this informative presentation! This session will help families navigate through the federal financial aid process including the FAFSA, explore what type of additional aid is available, review scholarship searches and highlight the importance of meeting deadlines. Attendees will receive NHHEAF's Financial Aid Insider.

Please see the College Workshop Series flier for more information, including information about the spring Paying for College Workshop (April 18th): [NHHEAF College Night Flier \(5\) \(1\).pdf](#)

There is also a NHHEAF webinar on Financial Aide 101: [NHHEAF Financial Aid Webinar Flyer.png](#)

FAFSA Requirement: There is a **new state graduation requirement** that will take effect this school year. Each student who is eligible to graduate from high school, or the parent of such a student who is under the age of 18 years, shall either:

1. File a Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) with the United States Department of Education; or
2. File a waiver on a form created by the state board of education with the student's school district indicating that the parent or guardian or, if applicable, the student, understands what the Free Application for Federal Student Aid is and has chosen not to file an application

The Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) is part of the college application process for students seeking post-secondary education. The requirement is part of a college readiness initiative to ensure students understand the FAFSA is available, and they have access to financial aid if they choose to apply.

Here are the FAFSA letter and waiver form that were shared over the summer:

[FAFSA Letter to Students+Families \(2\).pdf](#)

[FAFSA Waiver Form.pdf](#)

Parents of Juniors

If you are interested in getting ahead on financial aide, there is a NHHEAF webinar on Financial Aide 101: [NHHEAF Financial Aid Webinar Flyer.png](#)

Early Release and Late Arrival: If you clicked 'yes' in PowerSchool for these privileges during registration, this starts on 9/5. Your Junior can come in late if they have block 1 off and leave early if they have block 4 off.

Class t-shirt information is coming soon!

Parents of Sophomores

Be on the lookout for class t-shirt information, coming soon!

Parents of Freshman

Is your student interested in running for class office? They can pick up the necessary paperwork in the main office Tuesday, 9/5- 9/20.

Paperwork is due to Mrs. Gibson, Freshmen Class Advisor, by 9/22.

Students running must meet with Mrs. Gibson for an interview by 9/29.

Speeches and voting for class office will be on 10/5.

Information on class t-shirts will be coming soon!

Important Dates

9/1	No school
9/4	Labor Day, No School
9/29	Brown Center for Freshmen
10/2	Brown Center for Freshmen
10/5	Open House
10/6	No School, Teacher Workshop Day

Athletic Features

Athletic Schedule for Sept 4- 9: [athletics schedule sept4-sept9.pdf](#)

Community Features

Dear Oyster River High School Parents,

Welcome to the 2023-2024 school year! The ORHS PTO's purpose is to share information, provide support and resources for both parents and teachers alike, as well as be a tool to come together as one community for our ORHS kids.

We need to know from YOU what you're interested in – how can we support you, what information do you need, what topics matter to you. Email us at oysterriverhs.pto@gmail.com and please let us know!

POSITION SEARCH – Two of us are aging out end of this year. WHOOT! One role is spoken for. The other is for treasurer! Love numbers? Join us now to learn from Kevin all year!

INFORMAITON - We'll have a table at Parent Night this fall to learn more about us and sign up to help, if you want. Please keep your eyes out for our two annual online fundraisers, which support ORHS wide projects and staff/teacher needs. And join us online us to keep on top of all things ORHS. Our primary information sharing tactic is via [Facebook here](#). [We do not update parents via email regularly]

CLASS PAGES - We encourage you to join the Parent run pages for your child(s) grade. *Please note, these are not school sponsored pages, but parent administered resource for parents only of that class.* Please click on your child(s) class for the hyperlink.

Class of 2024

Class of 2025

Class of 2026

Class of 2027

Here's to a great year for your kids and you! Go Bobcats!

Fondly, Oyster River PTO Board

Rebecca Throop, Katie Maggio, Kevin Strawbridge, Bridget Elsemore and Deb Savage-Rearick Curran

Weekly Features

Starting next week, we will have **BOBCATS OF THE WEEK** in this section. Students and Staff that portray and exemplify the ORHS vision and mission are nominated by their peers. Each

week, at least one student and one staff member are chosen from those nominated. Anyone in the community can send a nomination in! Please send them to rnoe@orcscsd.org

Reminders

Next week: Off/ Blue/White/Blue/White

Please remember to call or email if your student is going to be absent.

call: 603- 868-2375

Or email: ORHSAttendance@orcscsd.org