



# Oyster River High School News

## April 5, 2024

Hello Parents & Guardians,

Well, this is not the week we expected. We were able to get the SATs and PSATs in! We are moving the end of the quarter to 4/9, giving students and teachers a blue and a white day for any end of quarter assignments that need to be turned in. Report cards will still be April 15<sup>th</sup>. Monday is a half day with students getting out at noon. During their Advisory time, all students will have an opportunity to go to the college fair, with over 100 colleges & universities in attendance. We will also be giving out eclipse glasses on Monday. Because of the snow days, we missed having John Gianforte, the Director of the UNH Observatory, present to students about the eclipse. He was kind enough to send a video linked below.

I hope you have power and enjoy the last remnants of winter. Spring must be close!

Have a great weekend!  
Rebecca

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## New

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### All Students

To purchase a yearbook, go to: [www.yearbookforever.com](http://www.yearbookforever.com) Type in Oyster River and then choose Oyster River as your school. Click on "Yearbook". From here, you can make choices on any extras (or not) and purchase your yearbook.

Teacher Appreciation week is the 2<sup>nd</sup> week of May (6-10). We are creating gift baskets for the staff to raffle off that week. If you would like to donate a gift card to go into a basket, please drop them off in the front office. All donations are appreciated!

ORHS gets out at noon on Monday for the eclipse. Here is the video by Director Gianforte: [eclipse video](#)

On April 8<sup>th</sup>, Monday, from 9:30-11:00am, we will have a College Fair at the high school with over 100 colleges represented. All students will have an opportunity to attend the fair. Here are some helpful resources for students to make the most out of the fair, including the list of colleges, a college fair checklist, and suggested questions to ask college reps. [college list](#)

Here is a [check list to get organized](#) and some [tips & questions](#) you can ask.

In organizing this event, we've collaborated with Portsmouth High School who has invited ORHS families to a college and future planning fair that will include various panel sessions hosted by college reps. Here are the details:

### Portsmouth High School College & Future Planning Fair

Monday, April 8, 2024 from 5PM - 7PM

#### *Schedule of Events*

##### **5:00-5:30 Panel Sessions - Various Locations**

(PHS students will be in the hallways to direct people)

- ***The College Essay: How important is it, tips for topics, supplemental essays, topics to avoid (Little Theater)***
  - Dickinson College, Xavier University, Colby-Sawyer College, & University of Pittsburgh
- ***The Student Resume: Senior year scheduling, extracurriculars, internships & job shadows, recalculating GPA for admissions, portfolio work (Main Auditorium)***
  - University of Delaware, University of Wisconsin-Madison, Maine College of Art & Design, Bishop's University, Merrimack College
- ***Financial Aid: Need vs. Merit Aid, Net Price calculators, FAFSA & CSS Profile, ED and financial aid (PHS Library)***
  - Roanoke College, University of Maine Farmington, Syracuse University, Granite Edvance

##### **5:15-7:00 College & Future Planning Fair**

PHS Gymnasium

[CLICK HERE](#) for the complete list of college and organizations attending

From the DEIJ Director: I will be hosting an upcoming support space for parents and caregivers of LGBTQ+ youth called "Inclusive Connections." This will be an opportunity for district parents and caregivers to be in community and discussion with others navigating the journey of raising LGBTQ+ youth as well as a chance to meet and connect. The space will be held on Monday, April 15<sup>th</sup> from 6pm-7:30pm in the HS Library with light refreshments served. If you have any questions or would like additional information, please contact Rachael Blansett at [rblansett@orcsd.org](mailto:rblansett@orcsd.org) [FLIER](#)

### Parents of Seniors

Granite Edvance is partnering with Exeter High School to host a **FAFSA Open House event on Tuesday, April 9<sup>th</sup> from 4-7pm**. This is a drop in event, so no registration is required for families to attend but this event is for any students that still need to submit a FAFSA or if any families have questions about the financial aid process. We will be creating FSA ID's if needed, answering questions on the status of their applications, really anything financial aid related, we would encourage those families to come see us at Exeter! (flier attached) There will be limited laptops so if families have their own, they want to bring with them, that is encouraged. [FLIER](#)

### Parents of Juniors

April 8<sup>th</sup> we will have a College Fair at the high school with over 100 colleges represented. All students will have an opportunity to attend the fair. The link to preview all the colleges and universities is above, in the "All Students" section.

Juniors will have a presentation by Officer Nicolosi on Friday, 4/12, during Advisory based on Internet Crimes Against Children (ICAC) presentation in February. This is a presentation adapted for high school students. It helps students understand where the dangers are online and how to avoid them.

May 23<sup>rd</sup> is PROM! More information will be coming from the Prom Committee.

### **CALLING ALL PARENTS OF ORHS JUNIORS!**

**It's our turn to help with this year's Project Graduation!**

**WHAT is it? Project Graduation provides a safe, substance-free celebration for the entire graduating ORHS class each year.**

**Learn More:** <https://oralumni.org/orhs-project-graduation>

**WHEN is Project Graduation?** June 7<sup>th</sup> at 8pm -June 8<sup>th</sup> at 7am

**We need a little help this June so that others will do it for us next year!**

- **Junior Class parents continue the long tradition of chaperoning the new graduates all night so Senior parents can have the night off after attending graduation.**
- Junior parents **only** chaperone the event. Senior parents did the rest already!
- Volunteers can sign up for all or part of the overnight.
- The location(s) are **top-secret** until June 7th but will start and end in Durham.

It takes many Junior parents to pull off the amazing event the Senior parents have planned.

Sign up here: [https://www.signupgenius.com/go/10C0F4BA5A723A7FE3-48479597-junior#/Thank you!](https://www.signupgenius.com/go/10C0F4BA5A723A7FE3-48479597-junior#/Thank+you!) Questions? Please email Amy Sterndale at [asterndale@gmail.com](mailto:asterndale@gmail.com).

### **Parents of Sophomores**

April 8<sup>th</sup> we will have a College Fair at the high school with over 100 colleges represented. All students will have an opportunity to attend the fair. The link to preview all the colleges & universities is above in the "All Students" section.

Sophomores will have a presentation by Officer Nicolosi on Tuesday, 4/16, during Advisory based on Internet Crimes Against Children (ICAC) presentation in February. This is a presentation adapted for high school students. It helps students understand where the dangers are online and how to avoid them.

### **Parents of Freshman**

Freshmen will have a presentation by Officer Nicolosi on Monday, 4/8, during Advisory based on Internet Crimes Against Children (ICAC) presentation in February. This is a presentation adapted for high school students. It helps students understand where the dangers are online and how to avoid them.

April 8<sup>th</sup> we will have a College Fair at the high school with over 100 colleges represented. All students will have an opportunity to attend the fair. The link to preview the colleges & universities is in the “All Students” section.

## Important Dates

April 8	Eclipse and early release
April 9	*** (change) End of Quarter 3
April 10	SAT makeup
April 15	Report cards
April 22-26	April vacation
May 6-10	Teacher Appreciation Week
May 16	Underclassmen Awards
May 23	PROM
May 24	No School- Teacher Workshop Day

## Athletic Features

Athletic Schedule: [April 8-13 games](#)

## SAU Features

### **Save the Date: May 2 DEIJ Community Event**

The ORCSD DEIJ Committee invites you to One Community, Many Voices: Embracing Belonging this coming May 2, 6:00-8:00 p.m. at the Oyster River Middle School Concert Hall (1 Coe Dr, Durham, NH 03824). Join us for this special event to share stories, experiences, and celebrate our differences. No RSVP required.

### **Save the Date: Celebrating Superintendent Morse**

Join us at the Oyster River Middle School on May 16 to celebrate Superintendent Morse's coming retirement and 12 years of dedicated service to the Oyster River community. Additional details will be provided in the coming weeks.

### **Rescheduled: Moharimet Finding Nemo Jr.**

Due to this week's forecast the Finding Nemo Jr. evening performance has been rescheduled to Friday, April 5, at 6:30 pm. At the Oyster River High School Auditorium (55 Coe Dr, Durham, NH 03824). Open seating, no tickets required.

#### Reminders:

#### **E-Waste Collection April 8-19**

ORCSD schools will be collecting electrical and electronic waste (e-waste) between April 8-19. Details about drop-off locations and a list of eligible items may be viewed here.

#### **Mast Way Spring Musical: Willy Wonka Jr.**

Join us for Mast Way's 3<sup>rd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> grade spring musical Willy Wonka Jr. on Thursday, April 11, 6:30-8:00 p.m. at the Oyster River High School Auditorium (55 Coe Dr, Durham, NH 03824). Open seating, no tickets required.

#### **ORCSD April 11 Community Dinner**

The ORCSD Sustainability Committee will be hosting a community dinner on Thursday, April 11, at the Oyster River High School. The dinner will be followed by a musical performance of Mast Way students in the auditorium (Willy Wonka Jr.). **Dinner cost:** \$10 per adult or \$25 per family (a family includes up to 2 adults and children living within the same household). Kindly RSVP here by Tuesday April 9.

#### **Moharimet Pancake Breakfast April 13**

Join us for Moharimet's 20<sup>th</sup> edition of its famous Pancake Breakfast this coming April 13, 8:00 - 11:30 a.m. **Suggested donations:** \$6 per person or \$20 per family. At Moharimet School (11 Lee Rd, Madbury, NH 03823). No RSVP required.

#### **Reduced Plastic Lunch Day April 16**

On Tuesday, April 16, the ORCSD Sustainability Committee will be hosting a reduced plastic day and join school cafeterias across the US in a nationwide initiative to reduce single-use plastics. Additional information may be found here.

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## **Community Features**

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## Weekly Features

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### Bobcat of the Week: Student

Grade: Group 1: 11<sup>th</sup> grade Group 2: 12<sup>th</sup> and 10<sup>th</sup> grade.

Olivia Andersen, Sarah Ellsworth, and Vivian O'Quinn should be recognized for volunteering their time and talents to coach middle school basketball intramurals as well as officiate the middle school staff/student game. Thanks for your help and stay classy!

My nomination is about little acts of kindness, but they mean a lot to me. Two students have taken up chores that they do without prompting. One, Nate Marcus, sharpens my colored pencils during flex and has been coming back to see if they need sharpening. Another, Aether Rasmussen, has been coming in just about every day after school to change the date on my board. Both are being that "I" in kind. :)

### Bobcat of the Week: Staff

Subject area or position: Paraprofessional

1. Ry, one of the many wonderful paraeducators at ORHS, always has something kind and encouraging to say to our students. Though I don't work with them often, I have noticed the care that Ry takes to make their students feel seen, supported, and valued in class and in the hallways. Ry continuously advocates for all students to help them flourish in every part of their education. They always show enthusiasm for students' interests and passions, something I'm sure students will remember and cherish even after high school graduation. We are grateful to have Ry on the para team! 2. I would like to nominate Ry Friese for Staff Bobcat of the Week. They have been a wonderful addition to the para team at ORHS. They continue to show compassion and understanding toward every student and have been a strong advocate for their students across all subjects. Their participation in coaching unified sports, their efforts to help support and expand the Pride Student Space, and the everyday work they do to make students feel heard and encouraged are all reasons to celebrate Ry.

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## Reminders

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

Please remember to call or email if your student is going to be absent.  
call: 603- 868-2375 Or email: [ORHSAttendance@orcsd.org](mailto:ORHSAttendance@orcsd.org)