



# Oyster River High School News

## December 15, 2023

Hello Parents & Guardians,

Today we had **Chaos & Kindness** come into the school and present to the kids. They were absolutely amazing!! Their messages of positivity, inclusiveness, and kindness were well received and enjoyed. There was laughing, time for serious questions, amazing feats of agility and musicianship, and even a teacher dance off! Justin spent time talking about his own struggles with mental health. When asked how he started Chaos & Kindness, he talked about the community events they did in Las Vegas and how that helped him realize doing things for people was so much better for them and for him, rather than just throwing money at a problem or a person. That was the catalyst for Chaos & Kindness. Now, they spread joy all over the world and have a special place for New Hampshire in their hearts. Their message parallels ours. In our school community, we are working on inclusion, equity, honoring everyone's uniqueness and individuality, and making sure school is a safe, welcoming place for all. A huge thank you to Chaos & Kindness for coming to see us and being a part of the work we are doing.

Have a wonderful weekend!  
Rebecca

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## New

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### All Students

We are having our 2<sup>nd</sup> annual holiday Staff Appreciation week. In the library, we'll have a table where students can make a card for their teachers or members of the staff, to go along with other staff surprises next week.

The January workshop date ie. No school for students, has changed. Originally the workshop date was 1/22, Monday. Because the primary is being held on 1/23, Tuesday, the School Board has voted to move the workshop day to 1/23, Tuesday. I will send reminders and the midterm schedule will include this week in January so parents and students can plan.

The Senate food drive is going on until 12/20. Remember to check expiration dates of donated goods. Suggested items are listed on the flyer attached to your donation box. Please remind students that these items benefit End 68 Hours of Hunger in our district and are sent home in shopping bags with kids, so large heavy items are not ideal for this food drive.

Lunar New Year- Community Day- 2/10/24 [flier](#)

If you are interested in learning more about activities taking place during the school day at Oyster River schools, you are invited to visit the district website's [news section](#). Recent news include Moharimet School's Nautilus Research Vessel assembly offered in collaboration with UNH's Center for Coastal & Ocean Mapping, last week's Coding and Cocoa activities, the Oyster River Middle School's dodgeball fundraiser benefitting eighth grade students' trip to Washington, DC, in April 2024, and more.

## Parents of Seniors

**Senior January COLLEGE Application Deadlines.** Regular decision deadlines are quickly approaching for those college bound seniors who are looking to complete their first round of applications. Please note that your school counselor and teachers writing letters for your applications need your information three weeks prior to your first deadline. It is recommended you get this done **prior to break**. Also, ALL seniors should have met with their school counselor on future planning. If you have not had your meeting yet, set one up! You can access your school counselor's online booking on the home page of the website, stop in the office or use a QR code.

## PROJECT GRADUATION DONATIONS/SPONSORSHIP OPPORTUNITY!

*This event is especially important for the class of 2024, whose 8th grade milestones were ENTIRELY CANCELLED due to COVID.* Thank you for helping to give them a special night they deserve!

EVERY year this is executed and paid for by a volunteer group of parents of the graduating class. *Families are not charged for this event* to be inclusive for all.

You can help by [making a tax deductible donation HERE!](#) Own a business? You can sponsor there too and we provide free advertising for YOU! (click the link below)

[Oyster River Alumni Association](#)

[oralumni.org](http://oralumni.org)

Project Graduation is an annual all-night event created to promote a safe, substance-free evening for graduating seniors and occurs all graduation night. We appreciate you!

## Parents of Juniors

Now is a great time for students to learn more about CTE options in the Tri-City area. ORHS students can apply to take CTE program offered at Dover, Somersworth and Rochester. The application process will start when we arrive back from break. Students who want to learn more about any of these programs should apply during this time. This will allow you to travel to the center, observe the program and talk with the teacher to learn more before you make your decision of attending. Find the full list of CTE programs offered at each school on the last page of our Program of Studies. You will also see a link to each school's website with full descriptions of each program.

## Parents of Sophomores

Now is a great time for students to learn more about CTE options in the Tri-City area. ORHS students can apply to take CTE program offered at Dover, Somersworth and Rochester. The application process will start when we arrive back from break. Students who want to learn more about any of these programs should apply during this time. This will allow you to travel to the center, observe the program and talk with the teacher to learn more before you make your decision of attending. Find the full list of CTE programs offered at each school on the

last page of our Program of Studies. You will also see a link to each school's website with full descriptions of each program.

## Parents of Freshman

Now is a great time for students to learn more about CTE options in the Tri-City area. ORHS students can apply to take CTE program offered at Dover, Somersworth and Rochester. The application process will start when we arrive back from break. Students who want to learn more about any of these programs should apply during this time. This will allow you to travel to the center, observe the program and talk with the teacher to learn more before you make your decision of attending. Find the full list of CTE programs offered at each school on the last page of our Program of Studies. You will also see a link to each school's website with full descriptions of each program.

## Important Dates

December 19	High School Chorus concer (at ORMS)
December 22	Early release (12:10)
December 24-Jan 1	No school - holiday recess
January 2, 2024	SCHOOL DAY- Welcome to the new year
January 17-22	Midterm exams
January 23	Teacher workshop day - voting!
January 24	First day of Semester 2/Quarter 3

## Athletic Features

Athletic Schedule: [December 16-22](#)

## Community Features

**WANT TO SUPPORT YOUR PTO?**

**There are two ways to give to support the ORHS PTO!** Your PTO provides educational opportunities for parents, supports all school improvement efforts and supportive activities for staff such as the Appreciation Lunch and wish list items.

Fair Trade Holiday Sale

The holidays will be here soon! Check out all the ethical sustainable handcrafted gift items available. 25% of everything you buy goes directly to our PTO initiatives.

<https://fairtradecaravans.com/fundraiser/orhs-pto/>

OR

Just give us tax deductible money! Simple!

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## Weekly Features

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### Bobcat of the Week: Student

I would like to nominate Talion DeBoer for BoW. He is kind, friendly, quick with a smile and always willing to lend a hand. I appreciate him stepping up to judge rockets this week! Thank you, Talion.

### Bobcat of the Week: Staff

Scott McGrath. He spreads kindness and acceptance to all students and staff. He looks to solve a problem no matter what it is. He thinks outside of the box to help any student struggling. He makes it safe for everyone to approach him and talk. He cares about this community, and everyone involved. Following his example, has helped me focus on what is important, the student, and not the distractions.

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## Reminders

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Next week: White/Blue/White/Blue/ White- early release

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)