



# Oyster River High School News

## November 17, 2023

Hello Parents & Guardians,

Yesterday, we held class meetings to make sure all students had the same understanding of what we have experienced with Hate Speech and vandalism in the school. Our focus was on why we were meeting, a common understanding of Hate Speech, what has been implemented so far, and the effects this vandalism has caused. We then focused on and asked the question, “What do we stand for?” We reviewed the mission statement for the district and I asked students to think about what it means to be a Bobcat. Who are we and who do we want to be? Starting with what we as a community do next, will define who we become. We made sure students knew this was our first step and we would have more conversations. Students moved to Advisory where Advisors facilitated conversations on what was presented.

The feedback I’ve received shows the conversations varied. Some Advisories talked about next steps, some talked about consequences, some had questions and wanted more education, and there were many other discussions that happened. Overall, a step in a positive direction. As a faculty, we are debriefing the activity on Monday and will look at where we go from here with all of the student input. I hope you’ll join us for the Parent Forum on November 27<sup>th</sup> at 6:30. (More details below).

Students took the conversation seriously; they want to keep learning and want this to stop. I was extremely impressed with the feedback on the Advisory discussions. We have great kids that want to do really good things. We will make sure those good things happen.

Have a wonderful weekend and Happy Thanksgiving!

Rebecca

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## New

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### All Students

Because next week only has 2 days, the next newsletter will be on **December 1<sup>st</sup>**.

Parent Forum, November 27<sup>th</sup>, 6:30 pm. Superintendent, Dr. Morse, Assistant Superintendent, Mrs. Filippone, DEIJ Director, Rachael Blansett, and Principal, Rebecca Noe invite you to join them for information and a dialogue on the recent incidents of Hate Speech and other vandalism, and to collaborate on how we move forward as a community.

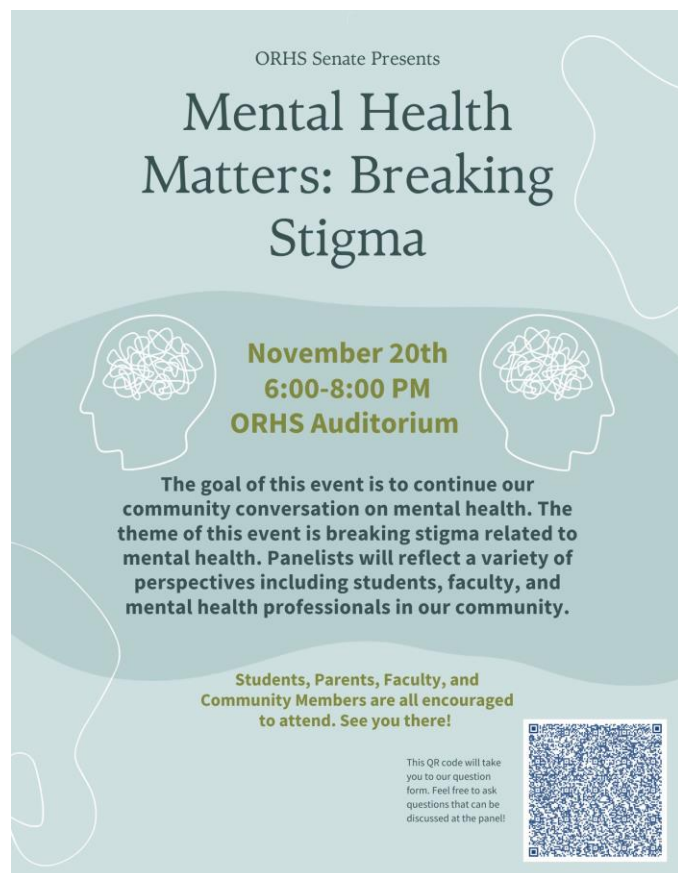
Need to get gifts for the holiday season? Have a craving for some yummy chocolate? The Freshmen Class is hosting an online fundraiser through Sarris Candies. Parents, family members and friends can easily order from the Sarris online platform and the candies will be shipped to the location of your choice by December 25<sup>th</sup>. What an easy and delicious way to spread holiday cheer to out of town family and friends while supporting the Class of 2027 at the same time. Or maybe you can just enjoy them yourself!

Go to [sarriscandiesfundraising.com](http://sarriscandiesfundraising.com) Here is the flier! [Sarris candies fundraiser.pdf](#)

Hello Oyster River **Bobcat Fans!** The winter spirit store is now open at the link below. The store will close on November 27<sup>th</sup>. Orders will be delivered prior to December break. All orders help raise money for the ORHS athletics department. Thank you for your support!

<https://collinssports.chipply.com/oysterrivergear/>

A new date for our Mental Health Panel! The goal of this panel conversation is to continue our community conversation on mental health. The theme is "breaking the stigma related to mental health". Panelists will reflect a variety of perspectives including students, faculty, and mental health professionals in our community. [question submission form here.](#)



ORHS Senate Presents

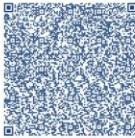
# Mental Health Matters: Breaking Stigma

**November 20th  
6:00-8:00 PM  
ORHS Auditorium**

The goal of this event is to continue our community conversation on mental health. The theme of this event is breaking stigma related to mental health. Panelists will reflect a variety of perspectives including students, faculty, and mental health professionals in our community.

**Students, Parents, Faculty, and Community Members are all encouraged to attend. See you there!**

This QR code will take you to our question form. Feel free to ask questions that can be discussed at the panel!



School Resource Officer (SRO) Michael Nicolosi wishes to thank students, parents, guardians, and community members for their collaboration and patience during school pick-up and drop-off at the Oyster River middle and high schools. Due to the increased amount of traffic this year, SRO Nicolosi urges drivers to remember the importance of the following safety rules and the importance of planning your commute with traffic in mind.

- Drop off and pick up are only permitted in dedicated areas
- Do not attempt to pass vehicles using the middle or opposing lane
- When instructed to stop by our School Resource Office, you must immobilize your vehicle immediately
- U-turns are not permitted on the road

To read SRO Nicolosi's full letter, please [click here](#).

School Board News [SB News 11 15 23.pdf](#)

## Parents of Seniors

### PROJECT GRADUATION 2024

The Committee REALLY NEEDS your help for this event to occur. Without help there's a chance of it falling flat.

**WREATHS:** We need parents to decorate and kids to delivery still!

Sign up here for a slot and come have some fun!

**DONATION / COMPANY SPONSORSHIP:** Please consider donating yourself or sending a simple [email or text](#) communication and Direct Ask to family, friends and employers. We have options for company sponsorships as well and this is MOST impactful. [This is the fundraising website](#) and everything is tax deductible!

*Gratefully,* your Project Graduation Parent Chairs

Project Graduation fundraiser **November 21<sup>st</sup>**. Chipotle in Newington, NH. 33% of the sales go to Project Graduation. **4-8pm**. You can also order online for pick up and use code: TCQZ6B8

## Parents of Juniors

Nothing specific this week.

## Parents of Sophomores

Nothing specific this week.

## Parents of Freshman

Please see the top of the newsletter for a Freshmen Class fundraiser! You can buy chocolate and support the Class of 2027.

## **Important Dates**

November 17-18	Arsenic & Old Lace- two more nights!
November 22-24	Thanksgiving Break
December 1	Progress reports
December 11	Red Cross Blood Drive
December 12	Orchestra concert

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## Athletic Features

### Athletic Schedule:

At Portsmouth, Clippercats vs. Bedford - 6:00pm tonight!

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## 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!

<https://orhs-pto-community-support-fundraising-appeal-fal-49094.cheddarup.com>

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## Weekly Features

### Bobcat of the Week: Student

I nominate Autumn Hoffman for her work directing the fall play, *Arsenic and Old Lace*.

Whether its been spending every day for the last 11 months working on it, or her willingness to step up assume the role of the lead when needed, she's shown complete dedication and truly embodies what it means to be a Bobcat! I'm so proud to have had the chance to work with her and am excited to see what more she can do!

### Bobcat of the Week: Staff

"Ms. Perron has been an amazing addition to the leadership team at ORHS. She is responsive, consistent, and positive. I feel as though I can go to her with any problem, and she is willing to brainstorm realistic solutions on the spot. She also has a great relationship with many students- she holds them to fair expectations as students but also spends time getting to know them as people. Thank you, Ms. Perron, for all the work you have already done for ORHS."

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## Reminders

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Next week: Blue/White/ Thanksgiving Break!

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)