

OYSTER RIVER HIGH SCHOOL



2023 - 2024 SCHOOL PROFILE

55 Coe Drive
Durham NH 03824
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orhs.orcsd.org

CEEB 300150

Accreditation by NEASC

Leadership and Counseling Staff

Rebecca Noe, Principal
Mike McCann, Assistant Principal
Kristen Perron, Assistant Principal
Andy Lathrop, Athletic Director
Nancy Michaud, Asst. Dir. of Student Services
Shannon Caron, Dir. of School Counseling
Jason Baker, School Counselor
Kim Cassamas, School Counselor
Heather Machanoff, School Counselor
Kim Sekera, School Counselor
Sean Peschel, ELO Coordinator
Sherri Ficker, Registrar

Mission Statement

Oyster River High School seeks to provide a nurturing community where the uniqueness of each member is valued. In this spirit, we are committed to becoming educated, ethical, responsible citizens who are committed to contributing positively toward the betterment of our society and world.

Community & School

Oyster River High School is a cooperative high school serving the towns of Durham, Lee, and Madbury. Durham (pop.15,490), home to the University of New Hampshire, is primarily a residential university town, Lee (pop. 4,520) and Madbury (pop.1,918) are more rural. Oyster River High School also serves approximately 170 tuition students from the nearby town of Barrington (pop.9,326). Residents of the District have high expectations for their schools and the quality of education. Currently, 862 students attend Oyster River High School in grades 9 through 12.

Oyster River Philosophy

The philosophy of Oyster River High School is that students will be challenged to meet high expectations within a context of caring. Faculty members make demands of students, while also being supportive and encouraging. The School Board policy of individualized instruction is taken very seriously. All students are challenged to meet their full potential in heterogeneously grouped classes. The result of this approach to education is that students excel in basic skills of self-discipline and teamwork. ORHS graduates have received a great deal of practice in thinking, as well as in reading, writing, speaking, and listening. They leave Oyster River High School well prepared for further training and for full participation in the world of work.

COVID-19 Response

ORHS and the State of New Hampshire moved to remote learning due to COVID-19 on March 19, 2020. At that time, students had completed six out of nine weeks of Quarter 3 in the traditional school setting. ORHS implemented procedures to create a structure which respected our mission and allowed for equitable and appropriate practices alleviating unnecessary stress in a time of uncertainty for students, families, and teachers. As recommended by our Governor and Commissioner of Education, ORHS transitioned to Default Pass/Fail system for Quarter 4. Our formula, for Default Pass/Fail for Quarter 4, was as follows: A semester-long course's final grade is based on the Quarter 3 grade. A year-long course's final grade is based on the average of Quarter 1, 2, and 3. The ORCS D School Board also made the determination that students could request to earn a letter grade for Quarter 4 in each course. Students who requested to earn a Quarter 4 letter grade were required to submit their request by the end of Quarter 3.

Student Expectations

Academic

Students will develop literacy, critical thinking, problem solving, and communication skills across content areas to the best of their abilities.

Civic

Every student will be prepared to assume an active role as a responsible citizen who contributes to local, state, national, and global communities.

Social

Students will learn to demonstrate respect for themselves, others, and the environment, so that every member feels accepted and valued by all. Students will explore skills and attitudes that will enable them to adopt a healthy lifestyle.

Curriculum

Oyster River High School offers a comprehensive academic program with strong college preparatory coursework, AP courses, Dual Enrollment, and Early College options. Students may expand upon their learning beyond Oyster River High School through Career Technology Education programs at three regional centers, Extended Learning Opportunities, Internships, and Independent Study options.

Graduation Requirements Credit & Grading System

4.0 Credits English

1.0 Essentials of English, 0.5 Writing, 0.5 Communications course, 0.5 Literature, 1.5 Additional Electives

3.0 Credits Mathematics

With an additional 4th year Math Experience

2.5 Credits Social Studies

World Cultures, U.S. History, and 0.5 Citizen Education

2.0 Credits Science

1 Physical Sci., 1 Biological Sci.

1.0 Credit Exercise Physiology & Wellness

0.5 Credit Health

0.5 Credit Fine Arts

0.5 Credit Economics

0.5 Credit Computer Science

7.5 Credits Electives

22.0 Total Credits Minimum

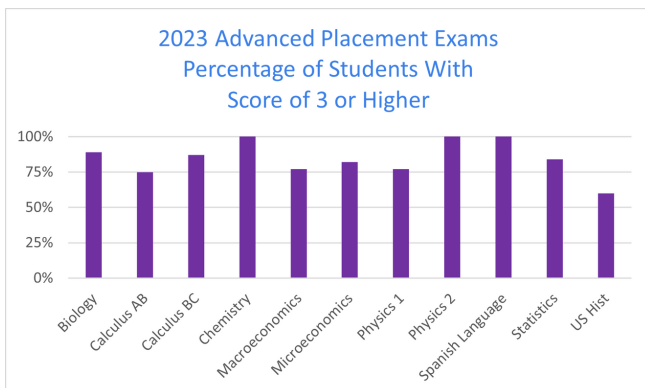
Highest Level Offerings

- Advanced Writing
- Advanced Seminar: Literature
- Advanced Studio Art
- Anatomy and Physiology
- AP Biology
- AP Chemistry
- AP Calculus AB
- AP Calculus BC
- AP Economics (Macro/Micro)
- AP Physics 1
- AP Physics 2
- AP Precalculus
- AP Spanish
- AP Statistics
- AP US History
- Calculus
- Journalism II

One credit/unit is granted for satisfactory completion of courses (D- or better). One half credit is awarded for one-semester courses. Report cards and transcripts reflect letter grades. Transfer credits are included in the GPA.

Dual Enrollment Course Offerings

- Algebra 2/Trigonometry
- Anatomy & Physiology
- AP Economics
- AP Precalculus
- Calculus
- Child Development I & II
- College Composition
- Digital Photography
- Digital Video Production
- Environmental Science
- Introduction to Business
- Quantitative Reasoning
- Precalculus



National Merit Scholarship Program

Year	Commended	Semi-Finalists	Finalists
2023	3	TBD	TBD
2022	1	1	5
2021	2	3	N/A
2020	2	1	1

ORHS Grade Scale

Grade	%	G.P.A.
A+	98-100	4.33
A	93-97	4.00
A-	90-92	3.67
B+	87-89	3.33
B	83-86	3.00
B-	80-82	2.67
C+	77-79	2.33
C	73-76	2.00
C-	70-72	1.67
D+	69	1.33
D	66-68	1.00
D-	65	0.67
F	0-64	0.00

Class Rank

Students are not ranked at Oyster River High School. Oyster River embraces the philosophy of heterogeneous grouping. Students are encouraged to select appropriately challenging courses. All courses weigh equally; no weighted GPA is calculated. Both attempts at courses repeated during the academic year are included in GPA.

Dual Enrollment

Students at ORHS can enroll in college-level courses through Dual Enrollment, either in the building or on a college or university campus. Students utilize the Community College System of NH, Southern NH University, and the University of New Hampshire to earn dual credit on campus, in addition to the ORHS course offerings.

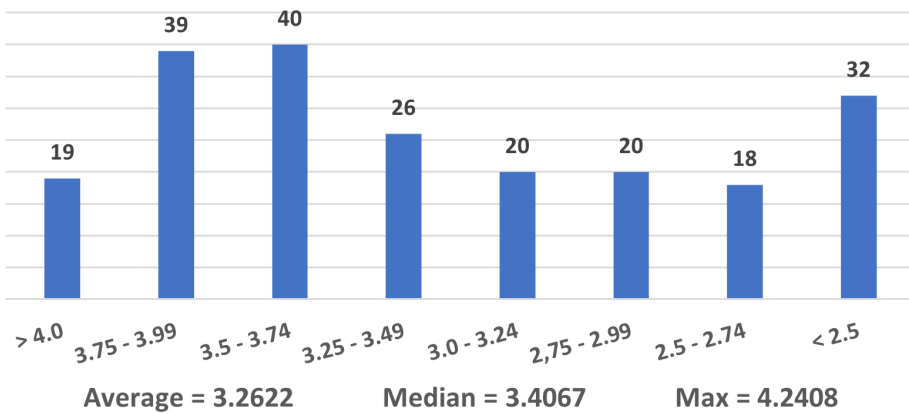
UNH CATS Program

Students at ORHS can apply to take coursework at the University of New Hampshire, Durham campus. These college courses, taken at the university, are not typically added the ORHS transcript, as they are college credits from the university.

Extended Learning Opportunities (ELO)

ELOs are student-initiated and student-centered learning experiences that are designed to individualize, personalize, and customize a student's high school experience through exposing, exploring, and experiencing academic and career-focused opportunities that enhance and/or expand upon the traditional curriculum offered at ORHS.

GPA Distribution for the Class of 2024
214 Students



Post-Secondary Choices

Class	4-Yr. College %	1-3 Yr. College %	Work/Military %	Gap Year %
2023	65	14	19	2
2022	67	12	17	4
2021	73	11	12	4
2020	77	11	9	3

Clubs and Activities Options

- | | |
|------------------------------------|--|
| Art Club | JEDI (Justice, Equity, Diversity, Inclusion) |
| Best Buddies | Literary Arts Magazine |
| Book Group | Math Team |
| Chamber Orchestra | Mouth of the River Magazine |
| Climbing Club | National Honor Society |
| CodeRunners | Prom Committee |
| Coffee House | Quiz Bowl/ Granite State Challenge |
| Dance Team | Red Cross Club |
| Debate Team | Science Club |
| Equestrian Team | Student Athletic Leadership Team |
| Fellowship of Christian Athletes | Student Senate |
| Film Club | Sustainability Club |
| FIRST Robotics Team | The Pearl- Literacy & Arts Magazine |
| Future Business Leaders of America | Ultimate Frisbee |
| Future Women in STEAM | VEX Robotics |
| Game Club | Writing Club |
| Gender Sexuality Alliance | Yearbook |

NH State Scholars

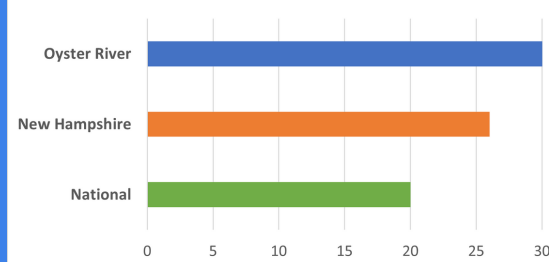
NH State Scholars is part of the State Scholars Initiative, a national program that partners with business leaders and recommends a rigorous college preparatory program to high school students. Beginning in Grade 9, participating students must complete a comprehensive course load in English, Mathematics, Science, Social Studies, and World Language. These courses provide students with the necessary skills for the increasingly competitive work force and post-secondary education requirements. NH Scholars pathways are Original, STEM, Art, STEAM, and Career.

Standardized Testing

Class of 2023 Mean SAT Scores
171 Students



Class of 2023 ACT Composite Scores
9 Students



Athletic Opportunities

- | | |
|---------------|-------------------|
| Baseball | Softball |
| Basketball | Special Olympics |
| Cross Country | Spring Track |
| Field Hockey | Swimming & Diving |
| Football | Tennis |
| Golf | Unified Sports |
| Hockey | Volleyball |
| Lacrosse | Winter Track |
| Skiing | Wrestling |
| Soccer | |