

Principal's Annual Report
Old Rochester Regional Junior High School
FOR: FY2021/2022
Silas Coellner, Principal

The Junior High experienced several personnel changes in the past year.

The following new staff were added to the Junior High:

Crystal Gendreau - Special Education Teacher
Mary Caine - Special Education Teacher
Collin Melo - Paraprofessional
Caitlin Roberts - Paraprofessional
Camryn Kidney - Paraprofessional
Kathrynne Perrill - Receptionist

The following staff retired/resigned from the Jr. High School:

Maureen Barrett - Mathematics Teacher (retired)
Nancy Juvinal - Health Teacher (retired)
Donna Kirk - Special Education Administrative Assistant (retired)
Joanna Buckley - Special Education Teacher (resigned)
Rubab Rashid - Special Education Teacher (resigned)
Morgan Matthews - Paraprofessional (resigned)

Curriculum and Instruction:

- Continued professional development and implementation of project based learning.
- Integration of the 21st century skills focused on collaboration, communication, creativity and critical thinking.
- The social studies department continued to develop and refine curriculum aligned with the 2018 History & Social Studies Curriculum Frameworks.
- Continued implementation of The Responsive Classroom approach to teaching and learning
- Raising and releasing trout project-based learning was conducted in 8th grade science.
- Piloted OpenSciEd Science Units in grade 7.
- Conducted multiple Aimsweb+ and IXL Benchmark Assessments
- Students experienced 8 weeks of "Planning for Success" in their Advisory curriculum.
- Acceleration Road Map After School Program - tutoring for six weeks in ELA and math
- Coastal Ecology by Rail Field Trip for the 7th grade students

After School Activities: Old Rochester Regional Junior High School offers many extracurricular activities throughout the year. Activities offered include: Field Hockey, Jazz Band, Volleyball, Ping Pong, X-Country, GSA, Computer Science, Engineering, Jr. Ambassadors, Spring Track
Sports Clinics: Lacrosse, Soccer, Cheerleading, Football, Basketball, Volleyball

Survival and S.C.O.P.E.: The Survival and SCOPE programs returned after a two-year hiatus due to COVID 19.

Grade 7 Orientation/Opening Day: Ninety-five percent of our Grade 7 students attended the 6th annual orientation. Mrs. Carla Cafarella and Mrs. Carol Herrmann volunteered over the summer to organize this event; 15 teachers and numerous 9th graders volunteered for this day. Parent tours were conducted on four different occasions as well as a parent reopening Q & A via Zoom.

School Council: The Old Rochester Regional Junior High School's School Council met regularly from October 2021 through June 2022. The School Council provided input for the FY 22-23 budget and received updates on the progress of the School Improvement Plan.

Project 351 Ambassadors for 2021-2022:

Town of Rochester: Molly Wronski

Town of Marion - Nicholas O'Donnell

Town of Mattapoisett - Sasha Volkema

The Project 315 Ambassadors facilitate a school wide children's clothing drive supporting the non-profit organization *Cradles to Crayons*. The Junior Ambassadors read the Governor's Proclamation on Memorial day in their respective town celebrations.

Grant Recipients: Brian Almeida received a WPI grant for a Robotics Kit to be used with the 7th and 8th grade curricula. The grant included two days of professional development.

Staff Accomplishment(s): Nichole Charbonneau, Grade 8 English Teacher (Orange Team), was selected again to serve on the state level Bias & Sensitivity Assessment Development Committee for the Massachusetts Comprehensive Assessment System (MCAS)

Student Accomplishment(s):

Twelve 8th grade students were published in the 2022 edition of Young Writers

Old Rochester Regional Junior High to Senior High Transition: In September, 2020, Gr. 8 Guidance Counselor, Julie Taylor, visited each of the Grade 8 social studies classes regarding Career Exploration and High School Planning. The 8th grade students participated in the ORRH Club Hub Day to see what the high school has to offer for afterschool activities. The 8th graders attended the fall high school pep rally, to participate in and experience school spirit at ORRH. The ORRH Ambassadors gave our 8th grade students tours of the high school. A "Step Up" day happened on June 1, 2021.

Vocational School Visits: On November 22, 2021, Grade 8 Students participated in a High School Application Process assembly; and, high school tours took place during the week of November 22. On December 7, 2021, students in Grade 8 had the opportunity to visit Old Colony Vocational School. (Mattapoisett and Rochester students) and Upper Cape Vocational School (Marion students). Transportation was provided by the vocational schools.

Grade 6 to 7 Student Transition: On March 22nd and 29th, 6th grade parent nights were held by Zoom. The sessions consisted of an informational presentation and a time for Q & A.

As mentioned, an orientation half-day was held at the end of August, 2021 to familiarize incoming Grade 7 students with the school prior to the first day.

On May 25, 2022, 6th grade parents were offered the opportunity to tour the ORRJHS with Junior Ambassadors.

6th grade students toured the ORRJHS from each elementary school. On June 13, 2022 Old Hammondtown School students, on June 14, 2022 Sippican School students, and on June 15, 2022 Rochester Memorial School students toured.

Highlights:

- Reopening Q & A Zoom session for parents
- In-person Open House returned after a hiatus due to COVID
- Maintained our summer reading program where students in grades 7 & 8 were allowed to choose a minimum of one book from a selection of fiction and non-fiction titles. A book discussion was held on their selected title in September.
- Annual Booster-thon Fundraiser raised \$17,000.00. This money was used to defray field trip admission and transportation costs, supplies and equipment for student afterschool and advisory activities.
- With the Mattapoissett Police and School Resource Officer, Matt McGraw, we trained our staff and students in the A.L.I.C.E. program (enhanced lockdown for school intruder emergencies).
- Continued our ORRJHS Student Junior Ambassador Program.
- 1:1 Chromebook initiative continued
- Continued late buses 3 days a week, which dropped off students at their local town libraries.
- Mandatory substance abuse screening “SBIRT” took place for our Grade 7 students.
- Conducted the National Geography Bee and Spelling Bee.
- Conducted Panorama SEL (Social Emotional Learning) Survey for students and staff.
- World Read Aloud Day lead by Ms. Enos on February 2, 2022.
- Regularly held Cultural Proficiency Committee meetings.
- Junior Ambassadors attended the “YOU Lead” student leadership conference
- 8th Grade Jury Commission Presentation returned after two-year hiatus
- Unified Sports Day at Tabor Academy
- Parent supported “Teacher Appreciation Day”
- Friday Enrichment Activities
- 8th Grade Dinner Dance
- First Annual 8th Grade Awards & Promotion Ceremony
- First Annual 8th Grade Breakfast

- Europe Trip lead by Mr. Orie on June 15, 2022

Student Assemblies:

- May 10, 2022 Jamele Adams on Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion
- 7th Grade: Ben Speaks “Power of Choice” with Judy Giovangelo

Music Accomplishments:

- Amanda Tomasso auditioned for, was accepted and performed in the Treble Chorus at Southeast Music Educators Annual District Concert. It was held at Scituate High School in March, 2022.

Respectfully Submitted,

Silas D. Coellner, Principal