

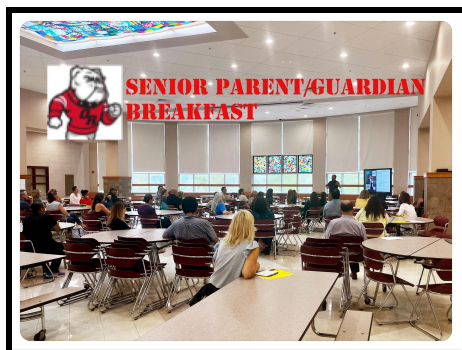
ORRHS Guidance Newsletter

Current Guidance Happenings

This Week - Open House, 9/21

We are excited to see all of our families at Open House on **Thursday, September 21st at 6:30 pm**. Please swing by the guidance conference room during an opening in your student's schedule to connect with our team.

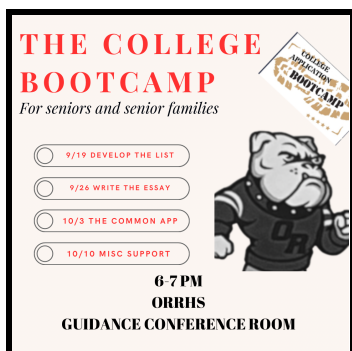
In Case You Missed It, Senior Parent/Guardian Breakfast



Thank you to all of our families who were able to join us for our info session for senior families on 9/12. In case you were unable to attend, here is a link to the presentation for your review: [Senior Parent/Guardian Presentation](#)

Please visit our [Guidance Website](#) for information on the [SENIOR CURRICULUM](#), [SENIOR YEAR TO DO LIST](#) and available scholarships. To access scholarship information, select read more under scholarship information on the right hand side of our website. Scholarships are updated as they become available.

This Week - The College Boot Camp: Making the List, 9/19 at 6 pm



The College Boot Camp is a series of one hour sessions for seniors and families, offered by ORRHS Guidance team members, and will run on **9/19, 9/26, 10/3, 10/10 @6pm** in the Guidance Conference Room. **Seniors and Parents, please bring your chromebooks/laptops. These will be working sessions.**

9/19 - Making the List
9/26 - Writing the Essay
10/3 - The Common App
10/10 - Miscellaneous Support

Senior Meetings are Underway

The Guidance Counselors have been meeting with small groups of seniors in the Guidance Conference Room during directed study to review the steps in the college application process, Naviance, the Common Application, and scholarships. Screencast tutorials have been created and posted on the guidance website under Grade 12, that you may find helpful. [Set Up a Common App Account](#) ; [Match Common App to Naviance](#); [Add Colleges to Your Naviance](#); [Find Scholarships Using Naviance](#)

SAT Information

Are you planning on taking the SAT? Reminder: **Oct 5** is the deadline to register for the Nov 4 test; **Nov 2** is the deadline to register for the Dec 2 test.

Students register using their College Board accounts at [SAT College Board Registration](#).

Reminder - fee waivers are available in guidance for eligible students

West Point Admissions Event, 9/19

West Point is hosting a Facebook Live admissions information meeting on **Tuesday, September 19th** from 6-7pm. This event is wonderful for students and parents to attend to learn more about West Point and have their questions answered live. The event is co-hosted with Cadet Devin Valverde '25 and Major Richard Simpson, Directorate of Admissions. Devin will speak about cadet life at West Point and answer live questions as well! This event will be recorded for viewing at any time on our Facebook page "West Point Admissions". To learn more, click here - <https://bit.ly/ADMBriefBLLive091923>.

Information for AP Students

Attention all AP students - create your CollegeBoard account and join your AP Google Classrooms if you haven't already! If you need help with your log on, please contact Mrs. Millette.

Guidance is now collecting the \$40 per exam non-refundable down payment for your Advanced Placement Exam(s). The deadline to make your deposit is **Friday, November 2nd**. Payments of cash or check (made payable to ORRHS) will be accepted in the guidance office. If you miss this deadline, an additional \$40 per exam late fee will be added to your exam cost. The full cost per exam is \$98 with the exception of Seminar and Research, which is \$146 per exam. If you qualify for Free or Reduced lunch and would like to apply for a waiver, you must contact Guidance prior to Friday, November 2nd, for approval. Students that are approved to receive a waiver will be responsible for a payment of \$15 per exam, due by November 2nd to avoid the \$40 per exam late fee. Please contact laurenmillette@oldrochester.org with questions related to APs.

Navigating the College Search for Students with Learning Differences Workshop, 9/28



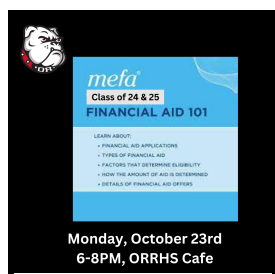
On **September 28th** Curry College will be hosting their annual 'Navigating the College Search for Students With Learning Differences' Workshop on campus from 6:00-7:30pm. By attending 'Navigating the College Search,' students and families will receive critical information to support their college search process

as they pursue colleges with the proper academic support to help them succeed. Although the faculty and staff are excited to highlight some key offerings of [Curry's Program for Advancement of Learning \(PAL\)](#), the workshop aims to support student's college search process as a whole - not only their consideration of Curry College. Students and families may [register for the workshop here](#).

NHS Tutoring, for Grades 9-12

The ORRHS National Honor Society would like to invite any students who would benefit from peer tutoring (in any subject) to take advantage of our free NHS tutoring program. It is a goal of our National Honor Society to foster a strong academic community through collaborative opportunities. Please contact Heather Bichsel at heatherbichsel@oldrochester.org or Theo Jacobsen at theojacobsen@oldrochester.org to coordinate peer tutoring.

Junior and Senior MEFA College Financing Seminar - 10/23



Attention '24 and '25 Parent/Guardians SAVE THE DATE: Join us as our ORRHS Guidance Department hosts a MEFA College Financing Seminar on **Monday, October 23rd at 6 pm in the high school cafeteria**. This seminar will provide information and clarity on the entire financial aid application process. You will learn about financial aid applications and types of financial aid, the factors that determine your aid eligibility, how colleges determine the amount of aid to offer, and the details of the financial aid award letters. *Seniors are able to start applying for financial aid as early as December 1st.* (Massachusetts Educational Financing Authority; www.mefa.org) Want a copy of MEFA's presentation? [Click here](#)

Ongoing Virtual Opportunities to Learn from MEFA

Check out MEFA's valuable resources and tools to help you prepare for the future and navigate the college planning process. The Massachusetts Educational Financing Authority is here to help. Register for live sessions by visiting www.mefa.org/events.

Club Hub, 9/21, for Grades 9-12

All students will participate in the Club Hub this Thursday and will have the chance to check out all of our club and activity offerings. We are excited for this opportunity for all of our students to connect and get involved.

Local College Events for Juniors and Seniors

Next Week: UMASS Dartmouth College Fair, September 23, 2023 from 12-2pm at the UMass Dartmouth Marketplace in Dartmouth Ma. To learn more visit: [NEACAC fall college fairs 23](#). For a complete list of colleges attending the fair, visit: [UMass Dartmouth College Fair List](#)

NEXT WEEK: The University of Notre Dame's Office of Undergraduate Admissions will be hosting ND on the Road events in our area. These events include information on academic, community, and spiritual life at the University of Notre Dame, as well as insights into the admissions and financial aid processes. This is a great opportunity for students and their families to learn more about Notre Dame.

Registration for the ND on the Road events is available here:

Monday, September 25, 2023 at 7:00 PM

La Salle Academy, 612 Academy Ave, Providence, RI

<https://enrollment.nd.edu/portal/ndontheroad?id=8571da7f-a93b-416b-b80f-d7a3c1d94ab4>

Wednesday, September 27, 2023 at 7:00 PM

St. John's High School, 378 Main St, Shrewsbury, MA

<https://enrollment.nd.edu/portal/ndontheroad?id=4a5ec2bb-29b1-4109-92f2-05b1d6ba0ef9>

Thursday, September 28, 2023 at 7:00 PM

St. Sebastian's School, 1191 Greendale Ave, Needham, MA

<https://enrollment.nd.edu/portal/ndontheroad?id=ec7d7269-d8e3-423b-8d50-1484b3ed12c1>

Wednesday, October 4, 2023 at 7:00 PM

St. John's Preparatory School, 72 Spring St, Danvers, MA

<https://enrollment.nd.edu/portal/ndontheroad?id=bcd3c428-e75b-48ea-a379-0932a8f8dc53>

Union College Preview Day, 10/8-10/9

Learn about Union College and all of their offerings on Preview Day. For more information visit <https://www.union.edu/admissions/getting-to-know-union>

Northeast Maritime Institute Open House, 10/14

Northeast Maritime Institute, College of Maritime Science, invites you to their fall open house on **Saturday, October 14, 2023 from 12:00 - 3:00 p.m.** For more information, reach out to admissions@nmi.edu.

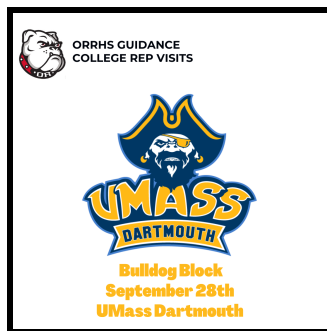
Virtual College Fairs for Juniors and Seniors, *STARTING September 10th-November 12th*



The virtual fair is a great opportunity to connect with colleges and pursue your college dreams. Have a quick video chat with a rep, drop in on a virtual presentation, send a question through chat - make a connection YOUR way!

NACAC fairs will also feature MatchMaking! At the time of registration, you will select the attributes that are most important to you in a college. You'll then receive an email that best matches you to the specific colleges and universities based on the criteria you provide. Check out a [video](#) on how it all works! [Register HERE for free](#)

Upcoming College Rep Visits for Juniors and Seniors



College/University information sessions will be held during Bulldog Block. **Juniors and Seniors** must sign up online through Naviance and with your Bulldog Block Mentor to attend. To access [Naviance](#) use your student username and password.

College Now/Start Program

The College Now/START program is excited to begin accepting student applications for the Fall 2024 cohort through alternative admissions at the University of Massachusetts Dartmouth. Due to the program's limited space for incoming students, applicants are strongly encouraged to apply early and complete an in-person meeting with our admissions team prior to April 1st, 2024. Students interested in the College Now/START Program can apply by using the UMassD online application or the Common Application. Please note when completing the application, students must select either College Now (COLNW) or START (START) as their 1st choice of major and second choice should be their major of interest.

Students interested in applying to the College Now Program must be either a U. S. citizen or a permanent U. S. resident for at least one year and cannot exceed 24 transferable college credits. Although not limited to students who only meet the criteria below, applicants who satisfy one of the following criteria below are encouraged to enroll and receive support services through our program: (1) Be of low-income status, as defined by federal guidelines and/or (2) Be first generation college bound

Students interested in applying through the START Program must be pursuing calculus-based majors, such as Engineering, Math, Computer Science or Physics.

- Applicants applying to the College Now/START Program are not admissible through the Office of Admissions.
- Applicants must demonstrate the ability to complete developmental and credited courses in order to matriculate into the university.
- College Now/START is a Fall admissions program only.

The Guidance office will hold an info session to help students learn more about this program if interested. Please contact your guidance counselor with questions if you believe you are a match for this program.

SEL Tip of the Week

Thank you to everyone who wore teal and purple last week to come together as a community to increase awareness for suicide prevention. In honor of Suicide Prevention Month, please make an effort to check in with your friends, classmates, and loved ones regularly, both in person and virtually. Remember that it's okay to ask someone how they're really feeling and to genuinely listen to their response. Create a safe space for sharing emotions and concerns, and remind each other that seeking help is a sign of strength, not weakness. Together, we can foster empathy, support, resilience, and hope.