



ORRHS Guidance Newsletter

Current Guidance Happenings

Important Term Dates

Grades close on Thursday, January 16th for Term 2/Semester 1.

Attention All Students - Join our Peer Partner Program

Join our pilot Peer Partner Program this Spring semester and make a meaningful impact in our school community! This program invites high school students to partner with peers in our Life Skills and Transition Skills Special Education Programs, fostering connection, inclusion, and personal growth. As a peer partner, you'll provide support, encouragement, and friendship, helping students with academic tasks, social skills, and classroom activities. It's a rewarding opportunity to develop leadership, empathy, and teamwork skills while creating a positive and inclusive school environment. Be a part of something special—help make a difference, one partnership at a time!

Interest Meetings will be held January 7th and January 9th during Bulldog Block in Ms. Fenton's Room. All applicants are required to attend one interest meeting. Please fill out the following form if you are interested in applying! [Interest Form](#)

Federal Student Aid ID Reminder and FAFSA Now Available

The Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) is now available for students who will be in college during the 2025-26 academic year. Visit fafsa.gov to complete the online financial aid application used by the vast majority of U.S. colleges. A few days before completing the FAFSA, both the student and parent will need to set up a Federal Student Aid account username and password (this account is sometimes called a Federal Student Aid ID). Visit studentaid.gov/fsa-id/create-account to do so.

Looking for in-person FAFSA support?

Join us at our FAFSA night at ORRHS with Beth Connelly Silva from Seven Hills on Wednesday, January 22nd at 6 pm. Please RSVP [HERE](#) if you plan on attending.

Can't make it to our in person night? Students and families who need assistance completing the FAFSA are invited to free, virtual FAFSA Festivals that MEFA is hosting now through February. Log in anytime during the two-hour event to be placed in a breakout room with a financial aid expert who will answer questions and provide one-on-one assistance in completing the FAFSA. [Register for an event now](#) so that MEFA knows when to expect people. Additional resources are available at www.mass.gov/financialaid.

Attention Sophomores

Starting the week of January 6th, counselors will be meeting with groups of sophomores to discuss Career Exploration. Meetings will take place in the guidance conference room during study halls and will last approximately 50 minutes. Please bring a writing utensil and a chromebook as students will be completing a Personality/Career Interest Inventory. Students should continually check e-hallpass for meeting times.

On the Spot Admissions

For Seniors who are interested in applying to BCC, UMASS Dartmouth, and Southern New Hampshire University, please save the following dates for On the Spot Admissions opportunities.

- **BCC - Thursday, January 16**
- **UMass Dartmouth - Thursday, January 23**
- **SNHU - Friday, January 24**

Senior students will have the opportunity to meet with college representatives individually, receive a same-day admission decision, and have the application fee waived. To take advantage of these opportunities, interested students must contact their guidance counselors to sign up.

Job Corps Info Session, January 14th

On *January 14*, a representative from the Job Corps will be here during Bulldog Block for an information session. Job Corps is a free program offered to young adults ages 16-24. Job Corps is a residential trade program where students live for free in a Job Corps center. Students can earn a trade certification, their high school diploma, driver's license, and more. The program is completely free as long as students meet all eligibility requirements. Please sign up with your mentor.

MTTI Open House - January 15th



Interested in learning more about MTTI? Join them at their Open House on January 15th. Tour shops and classrooms, speak with instructors, learn about financial aid and more! For more information or questions about the Open House, call:508-336-6611 or email info@mtti.edu

Scholarships

You can find AVAILABLE SCHOLARSHIPS in the Guidance Office and also on the Guidance website. Visit the [guidance page](#) on the school website and click on Scholarship Information on the right side of the page. Scholarships are updated often, so check back regularly.

SouthCoast Community Foundation - ZOOM Info Session January 14th

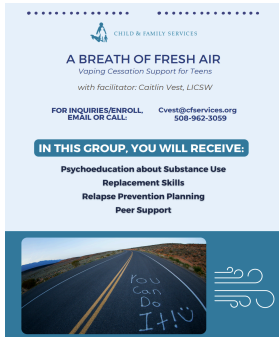


The SouthCoast Community Foundation will award more than 100 local scholarships totaling over \$800,000 in 2025, and the online application is now open! Students complete just one application — no FAFSA (Free Application for Student Aid) is required — and applicants are automatically matched with all eligible scholarship opportunities.

Deadline to apply is January 21st. [Read more about scholarship opportunities and apply.](#) Please register for one of the upcoming scholarship info sessions, where questions will be answered about the application process:


- [Tuesday, January 14th – Q&A Drop-In Session](#) – 5:00 – 6:30 pm (click to register)

Vaping Cessation Group with Child and Family Services



Vaping Cessation Group - A Breath of Fresh Air: This group will run for 8 weeks, beginning in January. The goal of the group is to learn about how vaping nicotine and/or THC impacts brain development, physical health, and mental health. To help student's develop insight into their reason for vaping and find healthy alternatives. Students will learn how to cope and solve problems without substances. They will learn from and support each other. If interested in participating, email Caitlin Vest at Cvest@cfservices.org or call 508-962-3059.

Career of the Week

CAREER OF THE WEEK		HUMAN RESOURCES
		 https://www.bls.gov/ooh/
WHAT DO THEY DO?	HOW TO BECOME ONE	JOB OUTLOOK & SALARY
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • PLAN AND COORDINATE AN ORGANIZATION'S WORKFORCE TO BEST USE EMPLOYEES' TALENTS • LINK AN ORGANIZATION'S MANAGEMENT WITH ITS EMPLOYEES • PLAN AND OVERSEE EMPLOYEE BENEFIT PROGRAMS • SERVE AS A CONSULTANT TO ADVISE OTHER MANAGERS ON HUMAN RESOURCES ISSUES, SUCH AS EQUAL EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITY AND SEXUAL HARASSMENT • COORDINATE AND SUPERVISE THE WORK OF SPECIALISTS AND SUPPORT STAFF • OVERSEE AN ORGANIZATION'S RECRUITMENT, INTERVIEW, SELECTION, AND HIRING PROCESSES • HANDLE STAFFING ISSUES, SUCH AS MEDIATING DISPUTES AND DIRECTING DISCIPLINARY PROCEDURES 	<p>HUMAN RESOURCES MANAGERS TYPICALLY NEED A BACHELOR'S DEGREE TO ENTER THE OCCUPATION. THE DEGREE MAY BE IN HUMAN RESOURCES OR ANOTHER FIELD, SUCH AS BUSINESS, COMMUNICATIONS, OR PSYCHOLOGY.</p> <p>COURSES IN SUBJECTS SUCH AS CONFLICT MANAGEMENT MAY BE HELPFUL.</p> <p>SOME JOBS MAY REQUIRE A MASTER'S DEGREE IN HUMAN RESOURCES, LABOR RELATIONS, OR BUSINESS ADMINISTRATION (MBA).</p>	<p>PROJECTED JOB GROWTH 6% BETWEEN 2023-2033</p> <p>MEDIAN SALARY: \$136,350</p>

SEL Tip of the Week



As you start the new year, set goals that focus on both personal growth and self-care. Instead of aiming for perfection, try using the SMART goal approach—make your goals Specific, Measurable, Achievable, Relevant, and Time-bound. Think about what truly matters to you and set intentions that align with your values and hopes, such as improving a skill, strengthening relationships, or managing stress. Break big goals into smaller, manageable steps, and celebrate small wins along the way. Remember, growth takes time, so be kind to yourself and adjust your goals as needed.

Pre-College Opportunities with Boston Architectural College

The CityLab Intensive introduces students to Boston as a living laboratory for exploration of design practice and design thinking within the City. During the 4-day CityLab Intensive, small interdisciplinary sections are led by an instructional team through a rigorous process of touring, studying, and analyzing Boston. Throughout the Intensive, students engage in a series of hands-on field-based activities, representation workshops, and guest presentations by designers, urban planners, real estate professionals, and civic leaders. The Intensive aims to discover past, present, and future design arenas by encouraging students to begin to collaboratively explore the context within which they will intervene as designers.

CityLab will run from January 17 to February 21. This course is 2 academic credits with students completing the course with a final project due in February. We invite pre-college students to join our first year undergraduate students in this class. The virtual meeting dates are listed below:

- Friday, January 17 from 9am-5pm
- Saturday, January 18 from 9am-5pm
- Wednesday, January 22 from 5:30pm-7pm
- Friday, January 24 from 9am-5pm
- Saturday, January 25 from 9am-5pm

Community Practice serves as an introduction to professional design practice and to the values and priorities of the design process at the BAC. Students will learn in both lecture and project-based formats and will be responsible for working in multiple modes: individually and collaboratively in a team on group projects. Community Practice will use design projects as the vehicle for learning- focused on acquiring and practicing the skills of communication, collaboration and understanding their applications in the civic or public realm. Students will engage in learning by doing, and they will be required to document, reflect, and analyze their work at the end of each of the three modules (communication, collaboration, and community engagement) and at the end of the semester. Students will address the multiple meanings of “community” and will begin to posit the role of the designer, design thinking, and design processes at the interface of community engagement. Students will typically be in one group for the first portion of each class meeting. The remainder of class will be in sections with individual instructors. Community Practice will meet in-person on Thursdays from 4-7pm EST beginning January 21 – May 10. This course is 3 academic credits. We invite pre-college students to join our first year undergraduate students in this class.

Please email your guidance counselor if you are interested in learning more about either of these opportunities with BAC!