


PRINCIPAL UPDATE WEEKLY EMAIL



November 1, 2021

Good Afternoon - Happy November!

Some of these items are repeated, but have been updated.

Winter Sports Sign-Up

Winter sports sign-up has been posted - the QR code is present at the main office area for students to scan and sign-up - the Google Form needs to be filled out - scan the following code for this form.



Sports Physicals, Paperwork & Pooled Testing -Updated

A student-athlete is required to have **one** physical on file per the 4 years in high school. This is a requirement to participate in sports at OTHS. If your student-athlete did not participate in fall, they will need to fill our Form A or green form located on our website or at the main office.

All students who wish to play a winter sport will need to be involved in pooled testing, **this is going to be a requirement to participate in athletics at OTHS.**

Here is the link:

To sign up for Pooled Testing:

To sign-up a minor child - here is the link:

<https://testcenter.concentricbyginkgo.com/minor-consent/start>

If you are 18 or older and signing up yourself:

<https://testcenter.concentricbyginkgo.com/invite-by-code>

Access Code: X67ZUZ (This is a code for OTHS only - each of the schools in RSU34 have their own code)

End of Quarter

The first quarter ends on Friday, November 5th. The 1st quarter grade is used to calculate Honor Roll and used in Eligibility (combined with Habit of Work (HOW) scores). (see next section) Because the first quarter grade is more of a progress report, the second quarter grades will start where the first quarter left off. The end of the second quarter will be used to award credit.

Parent/Teacher Conferences

Parent/Teacher Conferences will be on Wednesday, December 1st from 3pm to 8pm. They will be done via Zoom and we will send link along next week. But, for now - save that date.

Attendance/Automated Attendance Phone Calls - updated

Starting next Monday 11/8/21, we will be doing automated calls for any student who has an unexcused absence during periods 1 or 2 that day. It serves as a reminder for students who are home sick, for parents to call in to excuse their absence but also notifies parents if a student has missed a class during periods 1 and/or period 2. The call will go out around 10:45 each morning. If you have any questions, or need to excuse a student's absence, please contact Carrie Madden, at carrie.madden@rsu34.org or 824-3910 ext 2306.

Math help is back! - Updated

We have had several students ask about getting math help outside of school again. We will be running the Math Lab again on Wednesdays from 4 to 7. Students who would like help on their homework should send an email to MathHelp@hs.rsu34.k12.me.us. Help is available in person or virtually. Students should arrange a time before 3 PM on Wednesdays.

OTHS Yearbook

The 2022 OTHS Yearbook is now on sale!

The cost is \$60.

To purchase: <http://jostensyearbooks.com?ref=A03269000>

Eligibility for Winter Sports

For the fall sports season, the RSU 34 School Board waived the academic eligibility policy in light of how difficult last school year was for all involved. Students who wish to play a winter sport this year, WILL have to be eligible by virtue of the RSU 34 eligibility policy. A link to the policy can be found below. If you have questions, please reach out to Mr. Bousquet.

 [Eligibility Policy 2021](#)

Diplomas of Distinction

To the Students, Parents, and Guardians of the Classes of 2024 and 2025,

First, we hope that the first months of school have been good and that you are enjoying many of the exciting opportunities we have here. One opportunity that you may not have heard much about yet, are our Diplomas of Extra Distinction.

In addition to the standard Old Town High School Diploma, students may elect to deepen their studies by pursuing an Honors, STEM, or most new Humanities Diploma. Honors and STEM have been offered for some time, but the Humanities Diploma is brand new this year. To get more information about these exciting options, including requirements, please visit the following link: <https://tinyurl.com/othsdiplomas>. For application information and other questions please see Mrs. Gardner.

Subs

We are once again in really desperate need of substitute teachers at all levels in RSU 34 schools, but specifically - Old Town High School. If you are interested, please reply to this email or give me a call and I can answer any questions that you may have and get you the information that you will need to get the ball rolling.

Financial Aid Help for Senior families

Help is available for students and families completing the FAFSA. Meredith Lee can help walk you through all the parts of the FAFSA.

Before setting up an appointment make sure that you:

1. Have set up your FSA-ID. Students and parents need to have their own FSA-ID (https://fsaid.ed.gov/npas/index.htm?appid=HRSA_BMISS_PRD)
2. Have access to tax return from 2020. (Meredith can assist if needed)

To set up an appointment with Meredith - reach out to the guidance office at the high school. 827-3910 x2114 or email sue.stlouis@rsu34.org. Meredith has evening appointments available as well as some day time ones.

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Masking Update and Expectations

The RSU 34 School Board is requiring all staff and students to wear a mask while in school until further notice. To maintain the safety of all school personnel, students, and our community, we ask that students wear masks to school, wear masks appropriately (over the mouth and nose) while attending school, and respect the expectation that has been asked of us as a school community. OTHS administration has put in place a three-strike system to support the expectation of proper mask-wearing: 1 - conversation and a reminder to the student 2 - conversation and call home to the parent/guardian to reinforce the expectation 3 - Administration Dismissal for improper mask-wearing. We are in this together and the best way to move in a direction that does not require masks or whole-school shut down is to practice responsible mask-wearing.

- Update - our students are doing an incredible job with this request! Thank you so much for your support!

If you have any questions, please reach out to us.

Thank you for all of your support.

We are doing the best that we can for our kids!

Scott Gordon

Amy Ketch

Jeremy Bousquet