



# Oceanside Schools

## Anchored Together

### BY PURPOSE, PASSION, AND PEOPLE

Winter 2019

## What's Next After OHS & How to Get There?

### *Counseling Department Innovating Behind The Scenes*

**S**chool counseling, like movie directing, means working behind the scenes to encourage best performances. For counselors, the reward for guiding students through the transition to high school and beyond is seeing students find their path. Recently, the counseling department has revamped programs to enhance student support.

"The fundamentals have been in place as a foundation," said Dr. Paul Guzzone, Associate Principal and Director of Guidance. "We are updating some of the practices."

The Career Readiness Program is now a four-year plan tailored by grade level. Career assessments match freshmen and sophomores' aptitudes, interests and personalities with possible careers. The Career Forum further illuminates options for juniors to research. Interview Day serves seniors facing college and job interviews.

Dr. Guzzone hailed the Career Advisory Board established by counselor Michele Melillo (now retired) and current Board of Education president Sandie Schoell, in partnership with the English Department, for its visionary approach to career exploration. Emphasizing college *and* career readiness, the Counseling Department renamed Junior *College Meetings* to Junior Conferences resulting in a 25 percent increase since 2016-17 of juniors meeting with their counselors. While most OHS students are college-bound, counselors aim to guide students to make informed choices.

Underscoring that counselors are resources for students, the department launched Twitter (@OHSNYcounselors) and Remind accounts to flag events and deadlines. A "College Cor-

ner" feature in *Sider Press* highlights schools students may wish to investigate and teachers have received professional development on what colleges seek from recommendation letters. In the spring, juniors can jump start their college applications with counselors standing by to help. On Decision Day, seniors celebrate the results of all their research and planning. They are on their way!

From Freshman Orientation to graduation, the goal is to help students sort out the vast possibilities. Counselor Kevin Carbonetti said that work begins on the following year's orientation as soon as the current year's event ends. On the flip side, the department is forging stronger relationships with colleges and encouraging reps to visit OHS. As more doors open for students, choosing a path can seem daunting. Counselors are there at every step to light the way.

*Below, students are dressed for Interview Day*



# 2019-20 Calendar Approved

## AUGUST 2019

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
				1	2	3
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
25	26	27	28	29	30	31

29 Superintendent's Conf. Day

## SEPTEMBER 2019

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
29	30					

2 Labor Day  
3 1st Day of School for Students  
30 Rosh Hashanah

## OCTOBER 2019

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
		1	2	3	4	5
6	7	8	9	10	11	12
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
27	28	29	30	31		

1 Rosh Hashanah  
9 Yom Kippur  
14 Columbus Day

## NOVEMBER 2019

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
					1	2
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
24	25	26	27	28	29	30

5 Superintendent's Conf. Day  
11 Veterans Day  
28-29 Thanksgiving Day

## DECEMBER 2019

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
29	30	31				

23-31 Christmas/New Year's Recess

## JANUARY 2020

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
			1	2	3	4
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28	29	30	31	

1 New Year's Recess  
20 Martin Luther King, Jr. Day

## FEBRUARY 2020

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
						1
2	3	4	5	6	7	8
9	10	11	12	13	14	15
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
23	24	25	26	27	28	29

17 President's Day  
17-21 Winter Recess

## MARCH 2020

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
29	30	31				

## APRIL 2020

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
	1		1	2	3	4
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28	29	30		

9-17 Easter/Passover Recess

## MAY 2020

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
					1	2
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
24	25	26	27	28	29	30
31						

22-25 Memorial Day

## JUNE 2020

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
	1	2	3	4	5	6
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
28	29	30				

26 Last Day of School



Closed for Students and Teachers  
Teachers Only Report



If there are no inclement weather days, school will be closed on Friday, May 1, 2020

# Exploring OHS' New Senior Seminar

For the last several years, OHS seniors have had the option to choose from one of three paired sets of literature courses known as “senior seminars” to fulfill their grade 12 English requirement. This year, a new course, *True North: Finding the Self in the Modern World* has been added to Pair A. The companion course in Pair A is *A Perfect World: Utopian and Dystopian Literature*. (Pair B is *Horror: Monsters in Our Society* and *Fairy Tales & Fantasy*. Pair C is *The Graphic Novel* and *Modern Literature*.) Each course in Pairs A, B and C is one semester in length.

Jennifer Frasca, who proposed and teaches the new *True North* seminar, uses varied readings — fiction and non-fiction — to encourage students to reflect on character and self-awareness. The course also explores how adventure, creativity and mindfulness work together in developing one’s identity. In a recent class, students read excerpts from *The Road to Character* by David Brooks on what makes life meaningful, and discussed which of Brooks’ precepts they agreed with and why. Other readings include chapters from *Walden* by Henry David Thoreau on how he lived and what he lived for, *Wild*, a memoir of self-discovery on the Pacific Crest trail by Cheryl Strayed, the Shakespearean tragedy *Hamlet*, and *The Alchemist*, a philosophical novel by Paulo Coelho.

Students had definite opinions of the works they read and the ideas within. Andrew Villalba didn’t believe the author of *Wild* had learned anything

on her quest, for example, while Rebecca Prover enjoyed *The Alchemist* and the fact that “we usually get to see the emotional side of the main characters” in the course readings. Lucia Alamia and Alexa Markoulli felt that Mr. Brooks’ precepts about character were helpful, especially the importance of understanding one’s own flaws.

“If people are over-confident,” said Lucia, “they tend not to see other people’s struggles.”

Since several of the readings covered in the course feature nature as central to the characters’ journeys, Ms. Frasca and Ms. Janet Schuelein, who teaches the *Utopian and Dystopian Literature* seminar that pairs with *True North*, took students on a hiking field trip which students wrote about in their journals. Ms. Frasca also introduced the students to the practice of meditation as a tool for learning to slow down and think before reacting to stimulus in one’s environment.

Ms. Frasca said that all of the senior seminars offer an in-depth approach to a specific literary topic. In designing the *True North* course, she selected ideas from a wide range of classic and modern sources and genres.

## Upcoming Board of Education Meetings

Meetings are at 7:30 pm in School #6 Aud.

### March 6

Budget Workshop  
#2 - Instruction

### March 20

Budget Workshop #3 -  
Staffing, Revenue

### April 10

Budget Workshop #4 (if  
necessary); BOE Honors

### May 8

Budget Hearing



# Students Salute Veterans With Love



Elementary students once again participated in the Town of Hempstead program, *Valentines for Veterans*. Their cards, letters and drawings go to the USO which distributes them to our men and women in uniform around the globe as well as to veterans here at home, particularly those in VA hospitals. Here are photos of our students sharing their hearts. Town Councilman Anthony D'Esposito visited schools to collect the valentines.

From top, Schools #6, #8, #2, #3, #9E, #4 and #5.

## Join Us on Twitter!



@OSchoolsPR

Follow us on Twitter for a first-hand peek inside our classrooms, gymnasiums, auditoriums and field trips at every grade level, from pre-k through 12. Learn what our students are learning, join the #booklove, salute our scientists, athletes, broadcasters, artists, writers, upstanders, mathletes, historians, and all of our teachers and staff who support our students!

Follow our primary account, @OSchoolsPR, and subscribe to our list to see tweets from teachers, coaches, counselors, principals and department heads.

# OHS Advanced Placement Scholars\*

## AP Scholar

Granted to students with scores of 3 or higher on three or more AP Exams.

Richard Acosta  
Areej Ahmed  
Aaron Aronshtein  
Rebecca Auriemma  
Jillian Baehrle  
Danielle Bauer  
Joshua Benjamin  
Ashley Bentsen  
Margarita Bogdanova-Shapkina  
John Bologna  
Jessica Bonacasa  
Chelsea Buda  
Julia Burns  
Alexandria Casella  
Paul Cirillo  
Korhan Citlak  
Daniel Cohen  
Lucy Cohen  
Elysia Colon  
Nickolas Dimitrakas  
Gabriella Dziwura  
Grace Edwards  
Liam Fager  
Danielle Fischgrund  
Owen Flood  
Angelina Fucile  
Madeline Garguilo  
Elizabeth Gilmartin  
Olivia Gilmartin  
Janyce Gomez-Cobb  
Bhishal Jaiprashad  
Danielle James  
Parker Jervis  
Grace Ju  
Dylan Judd  
Mary Justin  
Marissa Kanter  
Irene Kavadias  
Samantha Koval  
Jesse Kretkowski  
Madison Lorenzo  
Nicholas Lubrano  
Colin Mangan  
Hannah Mascuch  
Payton McMahon  
Marco Medugno  
Marissa Mesoraca  
Anjali Mohan

Megan O'Rourke  
Jason Ogbue  
Victoria Palmieri  
Jui Patel  
Dylan Persaud  
Gabriella Piacentino  
Rachel Pomerantz  
Hailey Postl  
Tatiana Rampersaud  
Justin Rich  
Etzio Rovello  
Zachary Santamaria  
Andria Scaglione  
Kaitlyn Schwarz  
Tiana Seaman  
Jessica Seepersaud  
Demetra Spirou  
Toniraquel Spota  
Maeghan Stock  
Thanae Stoupas  
Allyson Stuart  
Kaitlyn Valukis  
Elizabeth Vitulano  
Alexa Weissman  
Alison Whitney  
Gabriel Wilkens-Vega  
Jacqueline Wright  
Barry Zheng  
Nancy Zheng

## AP Scholar with Honor

Granted to students who receive an average score of at least 3.25 on all AP Exams taken and scores of 3 or higher on four or more of these exams.

Jethel Leian Bayawa  
Kristin Bedics  
Jillian Bloom  
Julia Boyle  
Samuel Breen  
Victoria Ciminera  
Rebecca DeBellis  
Molly Eisenberg  
Angelina Fazio  
Kaitlyn Hennig  
Emma Jimenez  
Jessica Mallozzi  
Isabella Marchiel  
Brendan McFall

Hailey Mcginley  
Anna Mikhaylova  
Emily Myer  
Isabella Picillo  
Erin Roughan  
Vincent Schell  
Jason Schorr  
Kelly Strasser  
Gabriella Tringali

## AP Scholar with Distinction

Granted to students with average score of at least 3.5 on all AP Exams taken and scores of 3 or higher on five or more of these exams.

Filip Aronshtein  
Nicole Ayvas  
Kristen Babel  
Michael Baccari  
Gillian Bartholomew  
Amanda Benson  
Amanda Bonacasa  
Viktor Buckley  
Timothy Buhse  
Sarah Burch  
Christina Cacioppo  
Jack Candiotti  
Tiffany Chou  
Justin Ciocoi  
Jane Cohen  
Jack Dauber  
Olivia Degen  
Megan DiDominica  
Mariya Eldho  
Adrianna Enoch  
Sera Eviner  
Nicola Fecentese  
Rachel Finkelstein  
Malaya Green  
Caleigh Hardecker  
Maxine Heintz  
Brian Henn  
Natalie Hissong  
Brandon Iovino  
Jude Javillo  
Josena Joseph  
Madison Kallman  
Nicole Kraemer  
Marissa Kufeld  
Lianna Lo Sardo

Mohammed-Ama Masalawala  
Nicholas Mauro  
Alexander Meyerowitz  
Christina Moran  
Cory Nichols  
Devang Patel  
Tara Podias  
Timothy Radtke  
Isabella Ranieri  
Julianna Risi  
Joseph Sammartano  
Harrison Schmidt  
Brianna Stanco  
Alexander Utrecht  
Casey Walsh  
Dia Zheng

## National AP Scholar

Granted to students with average score of at least 4 on all AP Exams taken, and scores of 4 or higher on eight or more of these exams.

Gillian Bartholomew  
Amanda Benson  
Tiffany Chou  
Jane Cohen  
Rachel Finkelstein  
Jude Javillo  
Alexander Meyerowitz  
Christina Moran  
Devang Patel  
Joseph Sammartano  
Brianna Stanco

*\*This list is comprised of students who took Advanced Placement exams in Spring 2018, some of whom were seniors at the time and have since graduated*



Oceanside Public Schools

DEPARTMENT OF COMMUNITY ACTIVITIES

125 Merle Avenue • Oceanside, NY 11572 • 516-594-2336

**WINTER  
2019**

**YOUTH & ADULT CONTINUING EDUCATION & RECREATION PROGRAMS**


**It May Be Winter Outside, but Warmer Weather Is On Its Way...  
Browse the Spring Adult Continuing Education Brochure  
& Sign Up for a Course Today!**

The Department of Community Activities is busy planning an exciting new season of learning opportunities for our Adult Continuing Education program. Our Spring 2019 Brochure will be available in mid February, and we invite you to take a look and choose a course from amongst the variety of categories we offer. There's something for everyone, no matter what your age or interest.



From A to Z... Art to Zumba & all things in between, you'll find it here at Community Activities!



Go to the Oceanside School District home page at [oceansideschools.org](http://oceansideschools.org) and click  to access the Spring 2019 Brochure



**SUMMER PLAYGROUND 2019 REGISTRATION**

Rolling Registration for Early Childhood through Gr. 9 begins

**MONDAY, MARCH 4th at 9:00am**

PLAYGROUND

Gr 1-6, Mon-Fri 9am-2pm  
Gr 7-9, Mon-Fri 8:45am-1:45pm

EXTENDED PLAYGROUND

Grades K-6  
Mon-Fri, 8am-4pm or 8am-6pm

EARLY CHILDHOOD

3, 4 & 5 Year Olds  
Contact DOCA office for Hours

Online Web Registration for 9th, 10th & 11th Grade CIT programs begins  
Monday, March 11th at 7:00pm

**\* More Detailed Information on Registration Procedures to Follow \***

**Save These Dates!**

**56th Annual Roller Skating Show**



**"A SPACE ODYSSEY"**



**Friday, March 15th - 7pm • Saturday, March 16th - 7pm**  
Tickets for the public will be available at DOCA beginning February 4th

**DOCA/Kiwanis Egg Hunt**



**Saturday, April 13th • Ages 3-9**  
More info to follow



# District STEM Program Attracts Attention



*Visiting educators observe Oceanside's STEM and Makerspace programs*

Approximately a dozen school districts sent representatives to a STEM/Maker Space demonstration hosted at School #4 by the Oceanside School District's Science Department. In addition to the local Long Island educators, there were representatives from the IEEE, the world's largest engineering association and Women In Technology. School #4 teachers Amy Simon and Mary Ann Formisano played key roles in developing the presentations and leading discussions about their classroom practices.

STEM, a curriculum focused on the intersection of science, technology, engineering and mathematics, is designed to ignite students' curiosity and passion for projects that can change the world. Makerspace provides students with space and materials to explore, tinker and solve puzzles and problems using observation, trial and error and teamwork. The two curriculum areas foster collaborative and creative approaches to problem-solving.

After a presentation about the elementary school STEM and Makerspace curricula, the Oceanside teachers invited their guests to use the Makerspace materials.

"We stood in the shoes of students and felt their experiences of success and defeat authentically," said Allison Curran, a teacher from the Lynbrook School District. After observing STEM coordinator Donna Migdol conducting a lesson with first grade students, Ms. Curran elaborated further.

"The classroom created a safe place to take risks and explore. Students talked about 'failing forward' when their plan didn't work out exactly the way they were hoping. The class also established a culture of collaboration. When students explained their work, instead of saying 'I', they said 'we' to show the team work that went into the activity."

Makerspace, as the presenters explained, is not a product but a process. Students may use blocks and other building toys, packaged kits with gears, wheels, pulleys and other simple machines or miscellaneous everyday items such as cardboard tubes, craft supplies, buttons, and so forth.

"So much of Makerspace feeds off the natural inquiry students have. One of their first words is often 'why.' We don't squash that, we celebrate it," said Ms. Simon.

Ms. Formisano said that she had reservations about Makerspace until she observed students at work with gears, "talking about patterns and structures. They solved the problem before we even gave it to them."

Following the guests' use of Makerspace materials, Ms. Migdol gathered first grade students and asked the children to talk about a project they had completed. One child began to speak and Ms. Migdol asked him to observe his audience and who was paying attention based on who swiveled to look at him. Once he had everyone's attention, he explained how he and another child figured out a problem involving a wheel and its axle. He wrote in his notebook, "I feel better about myself as a learner."

## Oceanside Union Free School District Board of Education

Sandie Schoell, *President*  
Mary Jane McGrath-Mulhern, *Vice President*  
Seth J. Blau  
Michael D'Ambrosio  
Stuart Kaplan  
Donald Maresca  
Robert M. Transom

Dr. Phyllis S. Harrington  
Superintendent of Schools

Donna Kraus  
Public Information Coordinator; Editor

Administrative Offices:  
145 Merle Avenue, Oceanside, NY 11572.

*Please call 678-7525 with any questions*

Visit our website @ [oceansideschools.org](http://oceansideschools.org)

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U.S. POSTAGE  
**PAID**  
Oceanside, N.Y.  
Permit No. 417

## ECRWSS POSTAL PATRON

## Special Education Notice

**I**n accordance with federal and state regulations, the Oceanside School District provides appropriate special education services to students with educational disabilities. Parents who suspect that their child may have an educational disability may make a written referral to their school's principal or to Dr. Tina Smith, Executive Director of Special Education, Oceanside Schools, 145 Merle Avenue, Oceanside, NY 11572.

### Section 504

In accordance with Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act and the Americans with Disabilities Act, the Oceanside School District does not discriminate against students with disabilities. The District provides appropriate accommodations for students who have a mental or physical disability that results in a substantial limitation of a major life activity. Parents who suspect their child may

be eligible for accommodations may make a referral to the building principal or school 504 Coordinator. Questions about Section 504 may also be directed to Dr. Tina Smith, Section 504 Compliance Officer, 516-678-1217.

### Central Registration

If your child is not currently enrolled in the Oceanside School District, parents/guardians must contact the Central Registry at 678-6238. Go to [oceansideschools.org](http://oceansideschools.org) and click Register for School to obtain required paperwork.

### Early Intervention

Parents of children under 3 who may need special education services should contact the Nassau County Early Intervention Program at (516) 227-8661.