Winter 2017

Winter 2019

School 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 Corner” 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

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- 29 Superintendent's Conf. Day

#### SEPTEMBER 2019

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

#### OCTOBER 2019

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- 1 Rosh Hashanah
- 9 Yom Kippur

#### NOVEMBER 2019

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

#### DECEMBER 2019

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- 23-31 Christmas/New Year's Recess

#### JANUARY 2020

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

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- 17 President's Day
- 17-21 Winter Recess

#### MARCH 2020

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- 9-17 Easter/Passover Recess

#### MAY 2020

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- 22-25 Memorial Day

#### JUNE 2020

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- 26 Last Day of School

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- **Closed for Students and Teachers Teachers Only Report**
- If there are no inclement weather days, school will be closed on Friday, May 1, 2020

Page 2 oceansideschools.org
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 Provler 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 Markouli 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

April 10
Budget Workshop #4 (if necessary); BOE Honors

March 20
Budget Workshop #3 - Staffing, Revenue

May 8
Budget Hearing
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!

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 Dzialowa
Grace Edwards
Liam Fager
Danielle Fischgrund
Owen Flood
Angelina Fucile
Madeline Garguilo
Elizabeth Gilmartin
Olivia Gilmartin
Janice 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
Thanhie Stoupas
Allyson Stuart
Kaitlyn Valukis
Elizabeth Vitulano
Alexa Weissman
Alison Whitney
Gabriel Wilkens-Vega
Jacqueline Wright
Barry Zheng
Nancy Zheng

**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 Hisson
Brandon Iovino
Jude Javillo
Josena Joseph
Madison Kalman
Nicole Kraemer
Marissa Kufeld
Lianna Lo Sardo

**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

**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*
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 and click to access the Spring 2019 Brochure.

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**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 CTT programs begins  
**Monday, March 11th at 7:00pm**

* More Detailed Information on Registration Procedures to Follow *

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**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

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.”
Special Education Notice

In 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 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.