

Principal's Annual Report
Old Rochester Regional Junior High School
2015/2016
Kevin T. Brogioli-Principal

The Junior High experienced several personnel changes in the past year.

The following new staff has been added to the Junior High:

Sheri DeChellis – 7th Grade Guidance Counselor
Danielle Caron– Grade 7 Math/Science Teacher
Nichole Charbonneau – Grade 8 ELA Teacher
Linda Deveau – Full-time Nurse
Carol Regan – Part-time Guidance Secretary

Additionally, Team Leader positions were re-instated on each of the following interdisciplinary teams:

Grade 7 – Red Team: Erin Sullivan
Grade 7 – Blue Team: Justin Caldarone
Grade 7 – Purple Team: Nate Orie
Grade 8 – Green Team: Erica Ponte
Grade 8 – Orange Team: Jeff Lombard
Exploratory: Angie Vaughn

All Team Leaders attended multiple leadership workshops run by Dr. White and Principal Brogioli.

The following staff resigned from the Junior High:

Beth Martin – Guidance Counselor
T.J. Sartori – Grade 7 Science Teacher

Curriculum and Instruction:

- Team Changes – Ms. Pat Harriman joined the Blue Team – Grade 7
- We implemented a new Advisory program. Students meet twice a week in their Advisory – (approximately 13 students per group) to work on a variety of team building activities, as well as social emotional, and academic tasks.
- We created a new 2-person Team in grade 7, the Purple Team, in order to reduce the average core academic class size in Grade 7. Mr. Orie taught social studies and ELA, and Ms. Caron taught science and math.
- The math department continued to work with math coach Molly Vokey around differentiation strategies.

Afterschool Activities:

Old Rochester Regional Junior High School offers many intramural activities. During the 2015-2016 school year, intramural activities included Girls Field Hockey, Boys/Girls Soccer, Boys/Girls Basketball and Fitness Club. The Boys/Girls Cross Country and Track Team were offered on an interscholastic basis.

Additionally, many students participated in other afterschool activities including Student Council, the Art Club, the Geek Club, Robotics Club, Ping Pong, Yoga, and the drama production of The Princess and the Pea.

Community Service:

During 2015/2016 our students were involved in the following projects:

- Annual Thanksgiving Banquet for the tri-town senior citizens – over 90 eighth-graders, 1/3 of the faculty staff and ½ of the cafeteria workers volunteered their time for this annual event. 250 Senior Citizens from the Tri-town area were served.
- Three students, Mary Clare Butler of Mattapoisett, Ryu Huynh-Aoyama of Marion and Benjamin Ritchie of Rochester, represented the Tri-towns at Project 351 in January. They met Governor Baker and participated in community service in Boston.
- Our Grade 8 Orange Team students volunteered their time during a field trip at Gifts to Give in New Bedford.
- The advisory groups of Mrs. Juvinal and Mr. McEloy worked at the Salvation Army in New Bedford.
- A student/faculty basketball game was held on May 26th for the New Bedford Homeless Advocates.

Survival:

Approximately 112 students went to Northfield, Massachusetts for a week of survival in the wilderness. The trip was the 43rd trip to Northfield for the Junior High.

S.C.O.P.E.: (Supplemental Courses Offering Personal Enrichment)

The remainder of our grade seven students who did not attend Survival took advantage of many educational opportunities in the South Coast. Students had the opportunity to select from a wide variety of valuable and interesting, “hands-on activities” and curriculum related educational field trips such as: Makepeace in Wareham, New Bedford National Park, National Park Freedom Trail – Boston, Skyzone, Mattapoisett YMCA (team building) and a cardboard boat race.

Opening Day Orientation:

Students in Grade 7 were introduced to the junior high by attending a modified day here at the junior high. The day was used to help new students transition into the Junior High School by having planned activities and programs. Team building activities were employed to provide students the opportunity to communicate and work more effectively with other students. A cookout was held at the junior high for all grade seven students as an “icebreaker”. Grade 8 students met for breakfast before resuming a normal day schedule.

School Council:

The Old Rochester Regional Junior High School’s School Council met once a month from September 2015 to May 2016. The School Council reviewed the FY 16-17 budget and received updates on the budget process. Information on MCAS/PARCC was provided and parents and

council members were kept abreast of latest State of Massachusetts Department of Education updates. The council reviewed the School Improvement Plan for the 2015-2017 school years as well as reviewing and updating our student handbook.

Old Rochester Regional Junior High to Senior High Transition:

In December, Grade 8 students toured the Senior High School and visit with teachers and staff of the high school. In February, Grade 8 Parents attended an ORR High School Information Night.

Vocational School Visitation:

In November students in Grade 8 had the opportunity to visit Old Colony Vocational School. (Mattapoisett and Rochester Students). Upper Cape Vocational came to the junior high and gave a presentation to our Marion students. Interested students also had the opportunity to visit Bristol Agricultural School.

Grade 6 to 7 Student Transition:

We offered three (3) separate parent meetings in the spring at each of the elementary schools: Superintendent Dr. White, Assistant Principal – Silas Coellner, Guidance Counselor – Ms. DeSousa, and Principal – Kevin Brogioli lead these meetings.

Our guidance counselors visited all three elementary schools in February to begin the transition process. Students in Grade 6 in Marion, Mattapoisett and Rochester were bussed to the Junior High School in June to visit the junior high and to become familiar with the layout of the building. In March we held a “Parent Information Night” especially designed for the parents of our incoming grade seven students. Guidance counselors and administrators were present and ready to answer any questions that parents might have had.

Grade 7 teachers began planning an orientation day to be implemented at the end of the summer prior to the first day of school for the 16-17 school year.

Initiatives:

- We maintained our summer reading program where students in grades 7 & 8 were allowed to choose a minimum of one book from a selection of fiction and non-fiction titles. A book discussion was held on their selected title in September.
- “Coffee with the Principal” was held three times during the school year.
- The principal held student roundtables discussions throughout the school year.
- Our annual Magazine Fundraiser earned \$4,200.00 in profits for the Jr. High School. Money was used to defray fieldtrip costs, for student celebrations and to purchase equipment.
- With the Mattapoisett Police and School Resource Officer, Matt McGraw, we trained our staff and students in the A.L.I.C.E. program (for school intruder emergencies).

- The school council and staff worked on the creation of a new Mission Statement. The final statement now reads:

“OUR MISSION IS TO EDUCATE, MOTIVATE, AND HELP STUDENTS NAVIGATE A COURSE INTO THEIR FUTURE”

We Educate:

Intellectually
Socially
Emotionally
Physically
Ethically

We Motivate:

By making education relevant
By providing opportunities for student talk and group work
By having students problem solve
By giving students choice
By providing students with opportunities to have fun
By praising effort
By being enthusiastic about a subject

We Help Navigate:

By offering guidance during advisory
By exploring career and college options
By working with students to help them make good choices

- The Healthy Tri-Town Coalition met all year and focused on three key areas based on Youth at Risk Survey results: depression, substance abuse, and relational violence. This committee was made up of administrators, teachers, parents, and community members.
- We continued to increase our 1 to 1 technology capability by leasing more chromebooks and carts.
- We implemented no homework night once per month in coordination with all other district schools.

Student Assemblies:

- In September, 2015 – School Resource Officer, Matt McGraw, led an ALICE presentation with our 7th grade students and in October, 2015 an ALICE drill took place with Officer Matt McGraw of the Mattapoisett Police Department; several “intruder” scenarios were given to the staff/students with directions on how to react.
- Chris Herren (September, 2015) – A former Durfee basketball star and NBA player spoke to our students on substance abuse, peer pressure and the courage to be one’s self. Prior to his presentation, students watched an ESPN video about Mr. Herren as background for his presentation.
- In November, 2015 – Grade 7 students attended the MARC (Massachusetts Aggression Reduction Center) presentation on bullying and cyberbullying. They

learned about the importance of maintaining password secrecy, the seriousness of sexting, and the types of impressions on-line information can leave.

- In November, 2015 – our Guidance Department organized “Career Day”. We had 32 individuals speak to our students in small groups about their professional and career paths. Our keynote speaker was Mr. Joseph Noonan, the Executive Vice-President and Chief Legal Officer of the Acushnet Company. He spoke to students about attributes of successful individuals.
- In November, 2015 – Jamele Adams, Dean of Students from Brandeis University, as well as a poet, spoke to our students about diversity and tolerance and had all JHS students writing and reading poetry.
- In April, 2016 – An assembly on “Making Healthy Choices” was presented before both 7th and 8th grade students. Linda Dutil, an Emergency Room Nurse and National Speaker, was the guest speaker.
- 8th Grade students attended an assembly on the Mass. Jury System
- Drug Story Theatre was offered at the High School auditorium on May 16th.

Music Accomplishments:

The following music students auditioned for and were accepted into the Southeast District Music Festival. They performed with other musicians from Southeastern Massachusetts Festival held at Taunton High School in March, 2015.

CHORUS:

Taylor Amaral
Lilah Gendreau
Zoe Hahn
Isaac Hartley
Lucas Ketchie
Erin Scott

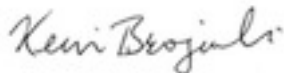
ORCHESTRA:

Jacob DeVoe
Emma Gabriel
Patrick Igoe
Joseph Sheridan

CONCERT BAND:

Tova Brickley

Respectfully Submitted,



Kevin Brogioli, Principal