

Principal's Annual Report
Old Rochester Regional High School
2009-2010
Michael Devoll – Principal
J. Michael Parker – Assistant Principal

Old Rochester Regional High School serves three southeastern Massachusetts towns: Marion; Mattapoisett; and, Rochester. All three towns have maintained their individual charm through careful and thoughtful community planning. Marion and Mattapoisett are quaint, close-knit seaside communities. Rochester has a more rural landscape surrounded by scenic farms, cranberry bogs, pine forests and fresh water ponds. Residents are proud of their school systems and have been very supportive in passing legislation to insure its continued success.

Old Rochester Regional High School enrolls approximately 700 students in grades 9-12. The school offers a comprehensive curriculum with a wide selection of honors and advanced placement courses. In 2010, approximately 88% of ORR graduates continued their education at two or four-year colleges. In 2009, Approximately 76% of the senior class took the SAT, achieving an average critical reading score of 533, an average writing score of 528, and an average math score of 539. Of the 63 faculty members at ORRHS, 70% have their Masters degree and 3% have their Doctoral degree. The school welcomed a new administrative team. Michael Devoll assumed the title of Principal, having served previously as the Assistant Principal. The school also warmly greeted J. Michael Parker from Sandwich High School to serve as the new Assistant Principal.

The 2009-2010 school year saw the Old Rochester Regional High School graduate it's 49th senior class. The class of 2010 will be remembered as a class of academic excellence. The College Board recognizes several levels of achievement based on students' performance on AP Exams. At Old Rochester Regional one student, Christine Beatriz (UMass Amherst), qualified for the National AP Scholar Award by earning an average grade of 4 or higher on a five-point scale on all AP Exams taken, and scores of 4 or higher on eight or more of these exams. Twelve ORRHS students qualified for the AP Scholar with Distinction Award by earning an 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. These students were: Christine Beatriz (UMass Amherst), Daniel Duggan (UMass Amherst), Brian Heacox (UMass Amherst), Matthew Jennings (UMass Amherst), Julia Kantner (Northeastern University), Elizabeth Maxey (Smith College), Margaret Pullo (UMass Dartmouth), Jean Smith (UMass Amherst), Amanda Stubbs (UMass Dartmouth), Rebecca Sylvia (Univ. of Connecticut), Bryan Teefy (UMass Amherst) and Sarah Walsh (UMass Amherst). Three ORRHS students qualified for the AP Scholar with Honor Award by earning 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. These students were: Emily Bungert, Dana Dourdeville and Erica Janik (Elon University). Six students qualified for the AP Scholar Award by completing three or more AP Exams with grades of 3 or higher. The AP Scholars were: Mary-Lee Barboza, Nina Batt, Sarah Edwards (Stonehill College), Sofia Gabriel, Catalina Llanas-Colon (Bard College) and Emily Roseman.

The athletic teams continued their tradition of excellence in the South Coast Conference. Our girls sports programs had the highest winning percentage in the entire S.C.C. Golf, Field Hockey, Girls Basketball, Girls Tennis, and Boys Tennis all captured S.C.C Championships. It continued to be the year of the bulldog along the south coast!

The 2009-2010 Debate Team season had many highlights. The team debated: Resolved that United States federal government shall establish a policy that substantially increases social services to persons living in poverty. There were many highlights for the group. Jean Smith and Margie Pullo of the ORR Varsity Affirmative A team were the 2nd highest ranked regular season team in the Eastern Massachusetts Debate League with a 6-2 record and was also the highest ranked team by speaker points. Anne Smith and Rebecca Johnson of the ORR Novice Affirmative A team were tied for the regular season's highest ranked novice varsity team in the EMDL with a 7-1 record. Dan Kelley and Justin Galipeau of the ORR Novice Negative team were the highest ranked novice negative debaters in the regular season with a 7-1 record. Jean Smith, Margie Pullo, Anne Smith, Rebecca Johnson, Dan Kelley, Sophie Turowski, Isabelle Gillis all ranked as top ten speakers in their respective categories. Many four-year debaters graduated in 09-10 including Jean Smith, Margie Pullo, Julia Kantner, Kelsey Frink and Sophie Turowski.

The Old Rochester Chapter of the National Honor Society was active again last year in leadership, character building, academics, and community service. The Adopt-A-Freshman Buddy Program continued this past summer with personal letters from the National Honor Society members to their Freshman Buddies. During Freshmen Orientation and on the first day of school, the new buddies met face to face twice in an effort to ease the transition into high school and have since had several follow-up meetings. Just before school began, NHS President Hannah O'Day organized a Beach Clean-up in Mattapoisett; many members participated and cleaned litter from the Town Beach, the whole of Ned's Point Road, as well as the grounds on Ned's Point Lighthouse.

Another service project, the Thanksgiving Food Basket Project provided over-flowing baskets for Thanksgiving dinner to eight families who would otherwise not have had one, as well as gift cards for turkeys to complete their dinners. During the holiday season, NHS organized a very successful Giving Tree to aid families and individuals through the New Bedford Child and Family Services Holiday Hope Project, to which the staff and students at ORR responded most generously.

NHS students also served as guides for a number of school and community events, such as Open House, Community Open House, and the annual Marion Women's Club Holiday House Tour, which raises money for scholarships. As another annual NHS service project, students organized the ORR Red Cross Blood Drive held in March at the school, and in the spring participated once again in the "United Way Day of Caring" through the Greater New Bedford United Way. This year most of the students worked for the day at the Share the Harvest farm. In terms of further successful giving, NHS students also organized a Socks and Underwear Drive for Gifts to Give through the ORR homerooms. The ORR NHS Honor Bowl team also had a very impressive season in SCC academic league competition, losing only one match in the season.

In February forty-four new members were inducted at a candle-lighting ceremony under the direction of NHS Advisor Teresa Dall, and, at Senior Awards Night, graduating members were awarded their gold tassels and honor cords.

Old Rochester held its first Health and Wellness Fair on Wednesday, March 3, 2010 from 5-8 p.m. in the High School gymnasium. The event was free and designed to share health, safety and wellness information with the tri-town and surrounding communities. In addition to over 30 vendors attending, the evening offered fitness demonstrations including zumba, pilates, and martial arts. Jay Kruger from the Biggest Loser Show and Amanda Kelly, Miss Massachusetts, 2009 were on hand to greet and socialize with attendees. Health and wellness

seminars were on going throughout the evening in the auditorium and all proceeds benefited the Josh Garcia Scholarship Fund.

Some students in Old Rochester's Foreign Language Department began teaching Spanish language lessons to elementary school students at Sippican School through VASE in the After-Class Enrichment program. Julia Kantner, Jessica Hibbert, and Sophie Turowski ran a class for students in grades 1-3 in Beginning Spanish.

The Old Rochester Pep Band was made up of 36 students in grades 9-12. Once again the band voted to include some new selections at games this year including a crowd favorite, "Don't Stop Believing" by Journey. The band played at five home games, and traveled to Apponequet for the away game on Thanksgiving. To close out 2010 the Pep Band played at a hockey game in December. Working with the coaches and Athletic Director the Pep Band is hoping to branch out and be able to get the crowd energized at other sporting events.

The Music Department brought back the Battle of the Bands this fall. Hosting four bands, three made up of ORR students, and raising money for various trips and equipment repairs, this was an event that had stopped being held in 2007 and the students in the Music Department were excited to bring it back and hope to continue hosting this event in the future.

The faculty, staff and student body are to be commended for their achievement in the classroom and on the playing field, as well as their service to the community during the 2009-2010 school year. Across-the-board, the Old Rochester Regional High School continues to be a first-class high school, and aims to be the top high school along the south coast.

Personnel Transactions:

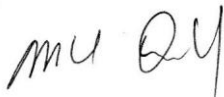
Retirements/Resignations:

Bill Hillier – retirement
Robert Hohne – retirement
Becky Zora – retirement
Jean Hong – retirement
Cathy Hohne - retirement
Silas Coellner – transfer to Junior High School

New Staff:

Robert Biehl – High School English
Joanne Dorothy – High School Art
Ben Tilton – High School Mathematics

Respectfully submitted,



Michael Devoll
Principal

J. Michael Parker
Assistant Principal