

***Principal's Annual Report  
Old Rochester Regional Junior High School  
2009-2010  
Kevin T. Brogioli-Principal***

The Junior High experienced several personnel changes in the past year. The following teacher, administration and educational support personnel have retired:

**Retirements:**

Natalie Cote	Grade 7 Special Education Teacher
Judy DeMailly	Instructional Assistant
James Gadbois	Assistant Principal
John Johnson	Speech Therapy
Phyllis Voit	Grade 8 Special Education Teacher

**New Staff:**

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

Chris Bobola	Instructional Assistant
Silas Coellner	Grade 8 Math teacher (transferred from ORRHS)

**Curriculum and Instruction:**

Teachers have worked on establishing essential understandings for each course and have begun creating common assessments. Additionally, the junior high is embedding anti-bullying lessons into the health, social studies, and English Language Arts Curriculum.

The junior high has established a twelve-week Saturday school in conjunction with an after-school FINO (Failure is Not an Option) program to assist struggling students.

**Interscholastic Activities:**

Old Rochester Regional Junior High School offers many intramural activities. During the 2009-2010 school year, athletic teams and intramural activities included Fitness Club, soccer, cross country, basketball, table tennis, track and field, flag football and field hockey. At the end of each intramural season, an interscholastic team was chosen to participate against area schools in a shortened season.

**Community Service:**

During 2009/2010 our students were involved in the following projects:

- Annual Thanksgiving Banquet for the tri-town senior citizens
- A charity student & faculty basketball game proceeds were donated to a local family in need
- Gifts to Give
- Candy Cane fundraiser to raise monies for the Neediest Family Fund
- Food drive to benefit Damian's Food Pantry
- Pennies for Peace fundraiser in conjuncture with summer reading book.

**Survival:**

Approximately 115 students went to Northfield, Massachusetts for a week of survival in the wilderness. The trip was the 38th trip to Northfield for the Junior High.

**S.C.O.P.E.:** (Selected Courses Offered for Personal Enrichment)

The remainder of our grade seven students who did not attend Survival took advantage of many educational opportunities in the South Coast. Our newly redesigned program provides students the opportunity to select from a wide variety of valuable and interesting, “hands-on activities” and educational field trips.

**Opening Day Orientation:**

Students in Grade 7 were introduced to the junior high by attending a revised 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 and 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 2009 to May 2010. The School Council reviewed the FY 10-11 budget and received updates on the budget process. Information on MCAS was provided and parents and council members were kept abreast of latest State of Massachusetts Department of Education updates. The council created the School Improvement Plan for the 2010-2011 school year as well as reviewing and updating our student handbook.

**Old Rochester Regional Junior High to Senior High Transition:**

Grade 8 students were given the opportunity to tour 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 October students in Grade 8 had the opportunity to visit Upper Cape Vocational (Marion Students) and Old Colony Vocational (Mattapoisett and Rochester Students). Interested students also had the opportunity to visit Bristol Agricultural School.

**Student Transition:**

Students in Grade 6 in Marion, Mattapoisett and Rochester were bussed to the Junior High School in June to visit the junior high and talk to teachers and students about student life and to become familiar with the layout of the building. In addition, in May 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.

**Initiatives:**

- Common summer reading book. All students read Three Cups of Tea by Greg Mortensen.
- “Coffee with the Principal” was held three times during the school year.
- A new anti-bullying plan was created in conjunction with the new state law.
- Monthly assemblies recognizing positive behavior (with a character education component) were held.
- Essential understandings were identified in all subject areas and work began on creating common assessments

### **Student Assemblies:**

- School-wide MARC (Mass Aggression Reduction Center) Assembly regarding bullying.
- All junior high students attended Greg Mortenson’s dramatic one-man production of Three Cups of Tea at the Zeiterion Theater in New Bedford.

Respectfully Submitted,

QuickTime™ and a  
TIFF (Uncompressed) decompressor  
are needed to see this picture.

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Kevin T. Brogioli, Principal