



# RSU23 MEMO

## *Superintendent's Monthly Update*

### *A Note From Mr. Suttie*

Hi Everyone!

As we embark on another exciting school year in RSU 23 Old Orchard Beach schools, we extend a warm welcome to all students, families, faculty, and staff. This time of year is filled with the energy and anticipation of fresh beginnings, new opportunities, and the promise of continued growth and learning for all. Whether your child is just starting their educational journey in Pre-K or is preparing for their final year of high school, we are committed to providing a supportive and inclusive environment where every student can thrive.

The fall season brings with it a variety of exciting activities and events that showcase the diverse talents and interests of our student body. From athletic competitions and marching band performances to academic and artistic endeavors, we encourage all students to explore their passions and

get involved in the vibrant life of our school community. As the seasons change and the beauty of autumn surrounds us, let us embrace this time of new connections and shared experiences.

We are proud of the dedication and commitment of our teachers, staff, and administrators who work tirelessly to ensure the success of every student. Together, we will continue to build on the strong foundations of our district, promoting a culture of excellence and innovation in everything we do. We look forward to a productive and enjoyable year ahead, as we strive to empower every student to reach their full potential and achieve their goals. Welcome back, and let's make this year one to remember!

*Welcome  
Back!*



**August  
2024**

---

### *HIGHLIGHTS*

Facilities Report

Summer Food Service Report

Multilingual Summer Program

Summer Transitions Hike

BARR Program at Loranger  
Memorial School

---

**[School Board Meeting Link](#)**  
(Tonight)

# *District News*

## **Facilities Report**

We are very thankful for the hard work of our maintenance and custodial staff for all they have done to improve our buildings and get them ready for staff and students to return. Physical plant updates include paving of the JES parking lot, new dishwashers in the kitchens of JES and LMS, new scoreboards at our playing fields, an additional district outdoor pavilion, new tennis courts, installation of a new high school roof and new internet server upgrades district-wide.

## **Summer Food Service Report**

RSU 23 Food & Nutrition Services provided free summer meals from June 17- August 9. Breakfasts and lunches were offered at no cost to children 18 and under at Loranger Memorial School and Libby Library. A huge thank you to our dedicated staff members of Jean Merrill, Kimberly Schildroth, Karolina Pierko, and Gina Barone who made 5,944 summer meals!

We are excited for the upcoming school year when we will once again be ready to serve tasty and nutritious breakfasts and lunches daily at all of our schools at no cost. Please check our website for August and September menus, and email [ctrinder@rsu23.org](mailto:ctrinder@rsu23.org) with any questions regarding food services.

## **Extended School Year**

It Takes a Village! Extended School Year Services ran from July 8th - August 1st at Loranger and Jameson. Students participated in instruction to maintain their academic, speech/language, fine motor, and gross motor skills. A HUGE thank you to Kayla Fotheringham, Paige Marshall, Nicole Johnson, Michelle Hiltz, Dawn Hall, Jackie Mullen, Casie Levesque, Lisa Spencer, Molly Walrath, Shelby Gilleo,

Barb Huntress-Rather, Katie Delcourt, Gregory Downs, Bill Robbins, Jenn Heath, Tanya McAlevey, Amanda Nason, Olivia Kleiner, Miranda Shepard, and Richard Flanagan for taking time out of their summer to provide fun learning activities for students.

## **Multilingual Summer Program**

Over the summer, elementary-aged multilingual learners in RSU 23 had the option to attend a grant-funded program to support their English language development. The program included a combination of individualized and group instruction in academic and social language. ESOL Coordinator, Sasha Kantro, Jameson Dean of Students, Beth Rocheleau, and English Language Arts Teacher, Jacquie Palmer, collaborated in the design and delivery of instruction to our youngest multilingual learners.

Units of study included gardening, nutrition, community, and financial literacy. This language learning opportunity was greatly enhanced by field trips to the fire station and the candy store! We sincerely hope to be able to offer the program again next year.



## Summer Transitions Hike

Mr. Santamore, the Dean of Students at OOBHS, took a small group of freshmen to Grafton Notch State Park to hike Table Rock Trail. They pushed through a tough hike and then enjoyed a cold swim at Screw Auger Falls in Newry, Maine.



## Jameson Elementary School Summer Program

Jameson School was a buzz this summer with over 20 students participating in the Summer School Jump Start program. According to one father, the program was "amazing, absolutely amazing." This family has "seen a huge improvement" in their child's reading. The child can now read street signs when they are out and is excited to read. Thanks to Jumpstart their child's "skills have skyrocketed". A shout out to all the staff who dedicated 5 weeks of their summer to make the first year of the program a success!

## BARR Program Being Implemented at Loranger Memorial School

BARR (Building Assets, Reducing Risks) is a proven intervention model that improves the education system predicated on two pillars – relationships and data. It is designed to create strong schools and communities by empowering students, teachers, and

families with data, so that schools can realign existing resources to nurture a unified and personalized culture of support and success for every student, both inside and outside of the classroom. BARR advances evidence-based strategies that result in students imagining a sustainable, choice-filled life; and possessing the skills, behaviors and attitudes that propel them toward that life. This past Tuesday and Wednesday we had 60 LMS and RSU 23 staff members participate in two full days of BARR training



## School Construction Update

We have completed our application to the Maine Department of Education for state construction funding which is due August 30th. LMS/JES ended up being number one on the list of school construction projects that did not get funded. We are now entering a new cycle and we could remain at the top or fall further down depending on the needs of other schools in Maine. The DOE will schedule a site visit to our schools either this fall or spring and we should find out by the end of 2025 where we are on the updated list. In the meantime we have been preparing different project options that could be funded by local taxpayers if the state funding cannot occur. We will keep you updated as we get more information.

Old Orchard Beach Schools

# SEAGULL FOUNDATION

*Investing in our students*



# Welcome BACK to SCHOOL

## Introducing The Seagull Foundation

The Seagull Foundation's mission is to enhance the experience of students in Old Orchard Beach Schools by expanding opportunities beyond those provided through public funding. The Seagull Foundation is a 501(c)3 non-profit organization created to allow individuals and corporations with a means to provide tax-deductible financial and in-kind support to the Old Orchard Beach Schools. We will be working in collaboration with community partners. More information to come!

### *School Board Meetings*

Our school board meetings normally take place on the third Thursday of every month at 6 PM. You can watch the meetings with the link below, on local access television live; or on video replay.

Link for meeting:

<https://www.townhallstreams.com/towns/>

[oob\\_maine](https://www.townhallstreams.com/towns/oob_maine)

## CALENDAR

August 22nd - TONIGHT  
Town Hall 6 PM

**School Board Meeting**

August 26th and 27th  
Professional Development Days

August 26th- 5:30pm to 6:30pm  
Jameson School Open House

August 28th  
Grades 1-9 First Day of School

August 29th  
Grades 10-12 First Day of School

September 3rd  
Kindergarten First Day of School

September 5th  
Pre-K First Day of School

