



# RSU23 MEMO

## *Superintendent's Monthly Update*

### *A Note From Mr. Suttie*

Hi Everyone,

As the leaves continue to fall and the weather turns colder, we are reminded that the busy fall season is wrapped up and winter activities are beginning. Our students have worked hard in the classroom and on the fields, and we are proud of all that they have accomplished.

In addition to all of the exciting winter events beginning to take place, I would like to highlight the success of our recent fall parent-teacher conferences. We held over 500 conferences, which provided an opportunity for parents and teachers to connect and discuss the progress of our students. It was wonderful to see such a strong turnout and we appreciate the support and involvement of our families in the education of our students.

As we look ahead to the upcoming Thanksgiving holiday, I would like to take a moment to express my gratitude for all that you do to support our schools and our students. Your commitment to education and to our community is truly inspiring, and we are fortunate to have such dedicated partners in this important work.

Thank you for all that you do, and please know that we are wishing you and your families a safe, healthy, and happy Thanksgiving holiday.

*Happy  
Thanksgiving*



**November  
2024**

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### *HIGHLIGHTS*

Snow Day Memo

New Shelter For Crossing Guard!

State Champions

Jameson School

Loranger School

High School

PTO - Boosters

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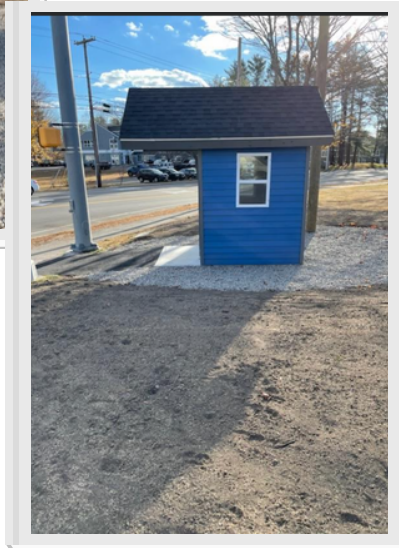
**[School Board Meeting Link](#)**  
(Meeting Tonight)

# District News



## New Shelter For Crossing Guard

Longtime crossing guard Sally Frongillo received an early holiday gift courtesy of Mr. Bowen's OOBHS Industrial Arts students and OOB Public works department. Sally has a brand new heated shelter to protect her from the elements while she safely helps our students walk home. Thanks to all that made this possible!



## State Champions!

Congratulations to the OOBHS Seagulls football team on their impressive victory in the 8-man small school state championship! This is the team's second title in three years, and their hard work, dedication, and talent have truly paid off. The Seagulls have represented our community with distinction, and we are incredibly proud of their accomplishments.



The amount of community support for the team during the championship game last Saturday was amazing, and it was inspiring to see so many people come together to cheer on our student-athletes. The coaches and players have worked tirelessly to achieve this level of success, and their efforts have been rewarded. We are grateful for their contributions to our school and community!

# Jameson Updates

During the morning of November 6th, Jameson held its first “**Parfait with Your Person**” event where students were given the opportunity to invite a special adult to have a yogurt parfait with them at school. Nonesuch Books also held a pop-up book sale during the event where 25% of the proceeds would go back to Jameson School! The book fair was well attended, Over 60 adults attended we sold 159 books! Thank you to Nonesuch Books in South Portland for being a great partner in this--we are looking forward to hosting more events with them!

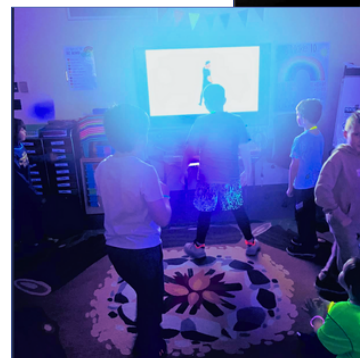
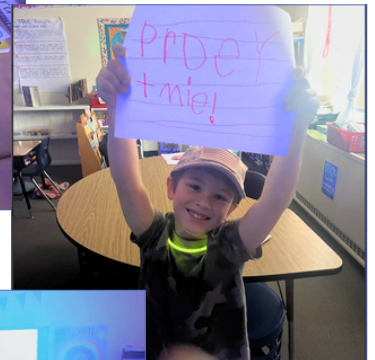


Jameson’s month-long STOCKtober event was incredibly successful! School is now well-stocked with classroom snacks, extra clothes, consumables and winter gear. Our Backpack Program is also supplied for the next several months! Five classrooms earned glow dance parties for gathering the most donations each week. Thank you to our school community for their ongoing support!



Ms. Sansonetti’s **second grade** classroom earned a glow dance party for contributing the most food during “stock-tober”.

During Library, Jameson students read and voted for their favorite Halloween Book. The *Hallowiener*, by Dav Pilkey, was the winner!



# Loranger Updates

Loranger is deeply grateful to all the families who made time to attend our fall parent teacher conferences on October 29 and November 6. With 163 conferences booked, these meaningful conversations help strengthen our school community and support student success. A special thank you to the 12 wonderful OOBHS Helpers students who volunteered their evening to provide childcare on November 6 - their service made it possible for many parents to attend who might otherwise have faced challenges. We hope to continue this partnership with the OOBHS Helpers into the spring to support even more families' attending a conference. Parent partnership and engagement in their children's education means the world to us.

## Third Grade

Recently, third graders experienced two field trips! First, we visited the Merrill Auditorium to see a performance of Cirque Afrique. Students acted respectfully as we were awed by the performers' thrilling abilities! The field trip gave our students a deeper understanding of the culture in Africa. Mrs. Shaw joined us to learn about the kora, djembe and traditional African music. Mrs. Hurteau also connected her curriculum to this field trip as students designed acrobats in art! You can see how students were inspired by the performance in their final products.

The very next day, students went to the Maine Warrior Gym. Our hearts were warmed by the respect and acceptance our students received from each other as they took on extreme physical challenges like a warped wall, parkour equipment and swinging monkey bars!



## Fourth Grade

The entire fourth grade has been exploring measuring length, mass, and capacity using the Metric System. They have also started Flex Groups two times a week to practice targeted reading skills based on grade-wide data. In addition, Ms. Steven's class visited third grade classes to teach them some fun dice math games to practice addition and subtraction fluency.



# Sixth Grade

In October, sixth graders had the opportunity to spend a week at The Leadership School at Camp Kieve! They were immersed in experiential learning, practicing teamwork, self-confidence, communication skills and reflection. Students participated in an outdoor ropes course, indoor rock climbing, beautiful nature walks, and many team-building activities. This program allows students to build leadership skills they can take back and apply to our classrooms, school and beyond. It was an amazing week watching students challenge themselves and support each other.



**Fifth grade** and the **6-8 science enrichment group** participated in year two of the Ash and Hemlock Stewards Project. A fifth grade group held a bake sale during conferences to raise money to buy predator beetles to eat hemlock woolly adelgid (HWA), an insect that attacks hemlock trees. The science enrichment group created a poster about native trees for the kiosk at the new parking lot on Portland Ave for the Milliken Mills Woods conservation area.



As part of the Ash Protection Project, students had a unique opportunity to participate in a weaving workshop with local basketmaker, Minsis Sapiel. She helped them weave brown ash and sweetgrass to make bookmarks.

# Loranger Community Science News

Seventh grade science students conducted a crab investigation at Pond Cove in Cape Elizabeth. Following protocols from the Gulf of Maine Research Institute (GMRI), they collected data on each crab they found in their quadrats, then submitted the data to GMRI.



## Unified Soccer

This fall, Loranger students in grades 3-5 had the opportunity to collaborate with Burns School in Saco to participate in Unified Soccer! Unified Sports join people with and without intellectual disabilities on the same team with the idea that training together and playing together is a quick path to friendship and understanding. Students from Old Orchard and Saco met to play soccer together 2x per week with a common goal of inclusion and character building. With the success of this program, we are hopeful to partner with Saco in the future to give more opportunities like this to our students!



## High School Updates

### Robotics Club Competition

The OOBHS Robotics Club competed at their first tournament of the season in York on Saturday, November 16th. In a field of 36 teams, Old Orchard's two teams advanced to the finals as the 7th ranked alliance! They also completed several skills challenges and went through several interviews with judges throughout the day. Both teams advanced their strategies and improved their robotics skills throughout the day! The next competition will be in Cape Elizabeth on Saturday, January 18th.



### Maine High School Quiz Show

The OOBHS team has qualified to compete in the Maine High School Quiz Show which will officially air in March on PBS. Team members: Evan Schneider, Gibson Villanueva, Charlotte Thompson, Ransom Randall and alternate, Colby Pulk. Michael Brennan and Andrea Johnson are the coaches.



## Art

Mrs. Gillis' Drawing, Advanced Art and AP Art classes visited the Isabella Stewart Gardner Museum in Boston this month. They had a guided tour of the museum that focused on the history of the museum and Isabella Stewart Gardner herself. Drawing and Advanced art are working on portraits and figure studies in class, so the tour also focused on significant portraits and figure studies in the museums. They ended their visit with time to sketch in the museum courtyard garden.

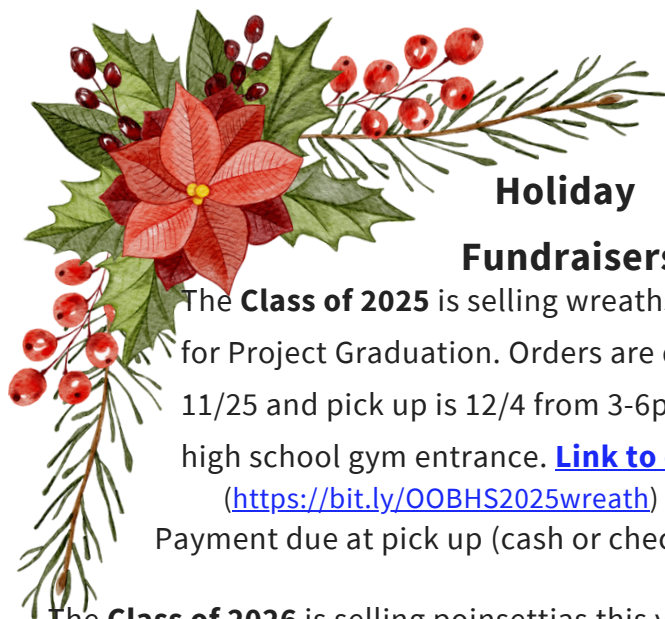


Art 2 spent an afternoon in Portland visiting the Portland Museum of Art. They toured the museum, engaged in discussion and interpreted pieces selected by the museum educator. The tour concluded with a visit to the museum's current exhibit titled, As We Are, which is a show of fourteen contemporary artists who all have ties to Maine.



## Salem Field Trip

October 30th marked the 8th annual Salem field trip for the sophomores in Mrs. Artes' English class. They traveled to Mass in style on a Custom Coach bus. While there, the group went on a historical guided walking tour of the town, experiencing the places they read about in *The Crucible* in today's time. They were then able to travel around town and experience shops, street performers, and enjoy the beautiful architecture. It was another successful trip, and we can't wait to do it again next year!



## Holiday

## Fundraisers

The **Class of 2025** is selling wreaths this year for Project Graduation. Orders are due by 11/25 and pick up is 12/4 from 3-6pm at the high school gym entrance. [Link to order:](https://bit.ly/OOBHS2025wreath) (<https://bit.ly/OOBHS2025wreath>) Payment due at pick up (cash or check).

The **Class of 2026** is selling poinsettias this year for Project Graduation. Orders are due by 12/1 and pick up is 12/3 from 3-6pm at the high school gym entrance. [Link to order:](https://bit.ly/OOBProjGrad2026) <https://bit.ly/OOBProjGrad2026> Payment by credit card; due at time of ordering.

If wreaths and poinsettias are not your thing...  
Donations are happily accepted!  
Please email [lartes@rsu23.org](mailto:lartes@rsu23.org) with any questions.

# OOBHS Quarter 1 Honor Roll

## Grade 12

**Highest Honors:** Elwood Gray, Charlotte LaSalle, Jesse Rowland, Charlotte Thompson

**High Honors:** Sara Alemtsehay, Evan Alivizatos, Spencer Cook, Chloe Drown, Ryan Giguere, Thatcher Gilchrest, Zoena Plourde, Riley Provencher, Emily Simpson

**Honors:** Brennan Amsden, Thomas Daudaras, Brayden Mansur, Joana Massanga, Kylie Mininni, Ethan Pendleton, Brady Plante, Colby Thomas, Nicole Tsicouleas, Charlotte Yoho

## Grade 11

**Highest Honors:** Olivia McInnis, Zachary Musto, Kayla Townsend

**High Honors:** Samantha Darling, Wesley Gallant, Ryan Oliver, Colby Pulk, Ransom Randall, Kiley Reynolds, Gibson Villaneuva

**Honors:** Gaige Barrett, Maria Caron, Megan Dow, Ella Febbi, Kooper Gervais, Anthony Hutchins, Trot Moody, Gavin Needham, Aidyn Panizo, Tom Pierko-Perry, Mathew Stevens, Isla Tweedie, Hannah Webber

## Grade 10

**Highest Honors:** Lea Alivizatos, Chloe Cushna-Leonard

**High Honors:** Liliana Albair, Vanessa Alley-Thayer, Robert Dion, Aiden Hodgkins, Rebeca Massanga, Mia Perez, Arianna Ramirez, Alayna Robichaud, Alexis Sweeney

**Honors:** Methos Barna, Geno Criado, Brianna Crone, Caleb Dupee, Madison Duplisea, Emmaline Ellison, Calum Flaherty, Giana Goodell, Sierra Herrick, Davina Kita, Talan LaChance, William McKenzie, Jordyn Methot, Sierra Ordway, Dexter Orifice, Wyatt Raymond, Davio Richards, Lily Shaw, Ailish Tucker, Kaydence Turner

## Grade 9:

**Highest Honors:** Corinne Androkitis, Daniel Cashman, Ian Cook, Aidan Henderson, Jaival Patel, Shaelynn Sanderson, Samarra Winn

**High Honors:** Kamryn Arey, Justin Gorham, Brooklyn Mansur, Lilah Morris, Eve Tweedie

**Honors:** Caleb Aube, Noah Kullson, Emelia Michaud, Evan Moody, Vivienne Provencher



**PTO-BOOSTERS** have been hard at work supporting students and staff in all three of our schools. Our group has opened the football snack shack for all of the home games, providing tasty

treats for the fans, hosted a Halloween dance at LMS for grades 3-5, as well as a fun “black & white” dance for grades 6-8, and funded the production of “Elephant & Piggie we are in a play” performed by the Children’s Theatre of Maine for Jameson. We were proud to be able to provide all our teachers dinner on conference night and are now excited for our upcoming Craft Fair on Dec. 7th at LMS from 9:00-2:00. Hope you can come shop with us!

## CALENDAR

Thursday, November 21st -  
TONIGHT  
Town Hall 6 PM  
[School Board Meeting](#)

Wednesday, November 27th-  
Friday, November 29th  
Thanksgiving Break

Wednesday, December 11th  
Early Release

Monday, December 23rd -  
Wednesday, January 1st -  
Holiday Break

