



RSU23 MEMO

Superintendent's Monthly Update

April 2026

A NOTE FROM MR. SUTTIE

Hi Everyone,

As we turn the calendar to April, the arrival of warmer weather brings with it longer days, fresh opportunities for learning, and the much anticipated start of our spring athletic season. Our student-athletes, coaches, and families are eagerly embracing the fields, tracks, and courts once again, and we look forward to a season defined by teamwork, perseverance, and school pride.

April is also a time of reflection and recognition. This month includes Earth Day, a reminder of our shared responsibility to care for the environment and model stewardship for our students. Here in Maine, we also observe Patriots' Day, a day that commemorates the opening battles of the American Revolution and encourages us to reflect on the values of service, sacrifice, and community. These moments provide meaningful opportunities for our students to connect classroom learning with the broader world around them.

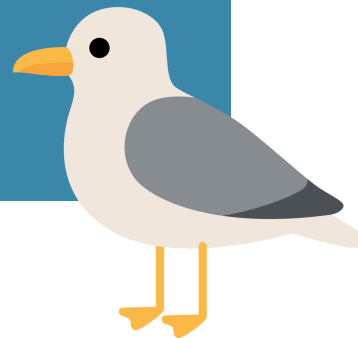
While there is much to celebrate in the present, we are also mindful of an important milestone on the horizon. We have officially begun the countdown to the graduation of our beloved Class of 2026, which will take place on Sunday, June 7th.

This remarkable group of students has left a lasting mark on our schools, and we look forward to honoring their achievements, growth, and contributions in the weeks ahead.

As always, the spring months are busy. From academic milestones and extracurricular events to community celebrations, our schools remain centers of learning and connection. Thank you for your continued support, partnership, and commitment to the success of every student.

HIGHLIGHTS

Officer of the Year
District News
Jameson Happenings
Loranger News
OOBHS Updates
Adult Education



DISTRICT NEWS

Congratulations to SRO Adam Tichy, Officer of the Year 2025!

We are proud to recognize Officer Adam Tichy as the Old Orchard Beach Police Department Officer of the Year for 2025.

Officer Tichy consistently demonstrates exceptional performance in both of his assignments — serving as a School Resource Officer (SRO) during the school year and working patrol during the summer months. No matter the role, he brings the same high level of commitment, teamwork, and reliability every single day.

He is always ready to assist his colleagues, especially when they have questions about SRO responsibilities, and he willingly shares his knowledge to help the entire team succeed. Officer Tichy has built outstanding relationships with school staff and students alike, earning their trust through his consistent presence, professionalism, and genuine care for their safety.

His initiative in implementing increased security measures and technology has significantly enhanced safety at our schools, giving students and teachers a renewed sense of confidence and respect for the work we do.



Beyond his assigned duties, Officer Tichy consistently goes above and beyond. He contributes willingly to patrol operations, demonstrates excellent investigative skills, and approaches every task with a strong work ethic and self-motivation. His leadership is evident not only in what he accomplishes but in how he elevates those around him.

For his professionalism, teamwork, initiative, and unwavering dedication to the safety and well-being of our community, we proudly name Officer Adam Tichy our Officer of the Year 2025.

Congratulations, Officer Tichy! Your hard work and dedication do not go unnoticed. Thank you for everything you do for the Old Orchard Beach community.

CONGRATULATIONS

DISTRICT NEWS

Scholarship Breakfast!

On Tuesday, April 14th, Old Orchard Beach High School hosted a scholarship breakfast for our scholarship representatives.

This breakfast lets us thank the scholarship representatives for supporting our graduating seniors. Without their support, some kids would not be going to college after graduating.

A big thank you to our RSU23 Food Service for providing the breakfast.

If you are interested in setting up a new scholarship in a loved one's memory or just want to donate to our scholarship trust account, please contact the high school.

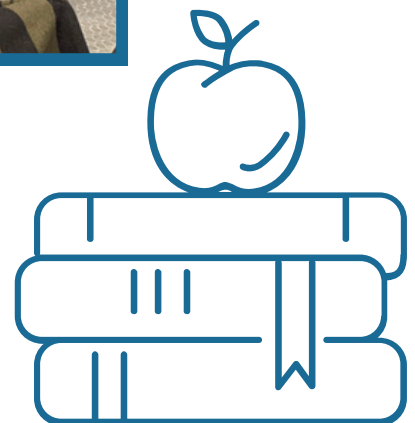


DISTRICT NEWS

RSU 23 at the Maine Inclusive Education Conference

On April 8, a group of staff members from RSU 23 attended the Second Annual Maine Inclusive Education Conference. Our educators joined professionals from across the state to discuss evidence-based strategies for fostering inclusive learning environments. The conference focused on practical approaches to Universal Design for Learning (UDL) and collaborative instructional models designed to support the diverse needs of all students within the general education classroom. We are proud of our staff's commitment to staying current with best practices that ensure access to learning for every student in our district.

Pictured L to R Beth Amaral, Kindergarten Teacher, Sandy Atkins, Special Education Ed Tech, Morgan Bassett, Special Education Teacher, Heidi Butler, Director of Special Education, Rebecca Decosta, Occupational Therapist, Bethany Rocheleau, JES Dean of Students



DISTRICT NEWS

School Nutrition News!

On Wednesday, April 8th, school nutrition teams from Old Orchard Beach, Gorham, Windham, Cape Elizabeth, and MSAD60 came together for an exciting, high-energy training in partnership with the Culinary Institute of Child Nutrition.

The session focused on bold, Asian fusion flavors, bringing fresh inspiration and new ideas that we know our students are going to love. It was a great day of collaboration, creativity, and culinary exploration!



School Board
Meeting
TONIGHT



JAMESON HAPPENINGS

Family Engagement Night!

The Jameson School hosted a Family Engagement Night on Thursday, March 26. The Jameson Gym came alive with families and students who participated in more than a dozen hands-on activities that could easily be replicated at home. Each grade level team of teachers provided a unique activity or shared valuable information to support learning beyond the classroom. This community-centered event highlighted the strong partnership between school and home, offering families meaningful opportunities to connect, learn, and engage together. The energy throughout the evening was positive and inspiring, reflecting our shared commitment to supporting every student's success.



JAMESON HAPPENINGS

Students in Library WIN groups learned about pollinators and the important role they play in pollination. They used Cheeto dust as "pollen" to show how pollinators transfer pollen from one flower to another.



Second Grade Update

Students in Second grade have been busy as April winds down. On April 3rd, students presented their informational research as a culminating activity for our writing unit. Each student selected an animal that they became an expert on. They independently researched that animal, and wrote an informational paragraph about their animal, as well as created posters to display the information they learned. Families were invited to see their hard work and we had a filled gymnasium!

On April 9th, the second grade students took a field trip to the Children's Museum and Theater of Maine. They watched the play "Shrek" as well as enjoyed playing in the museum. During this time they demonstrated the STAR quality of Jameson School.



Ms. Karen supports kindergarten students!



LORANGER NEWS

Our 2nd–5th Grade Unified Basketball Team had an incredible season filled with growth, teamwork, and fun. Unified sports bring together students with and without disabilities to play on the same team, creating meaningful opportunities for inclusion, friendship, and mutual respect. This model helps build empathy, confidence, and a true sense of belonging for all participants—both on and off the court. Throughout the season, the team practiced every week, focusing not only on basketball skills but also on putting inclusion into action. Players worked together to support one another, celebrate successes, and learn the value of teamwork. A highlight of the season was our exciting home game against Saco, which featured a special appearance from Sandy the Seagull, bringing extra energy and school spirit to the event.

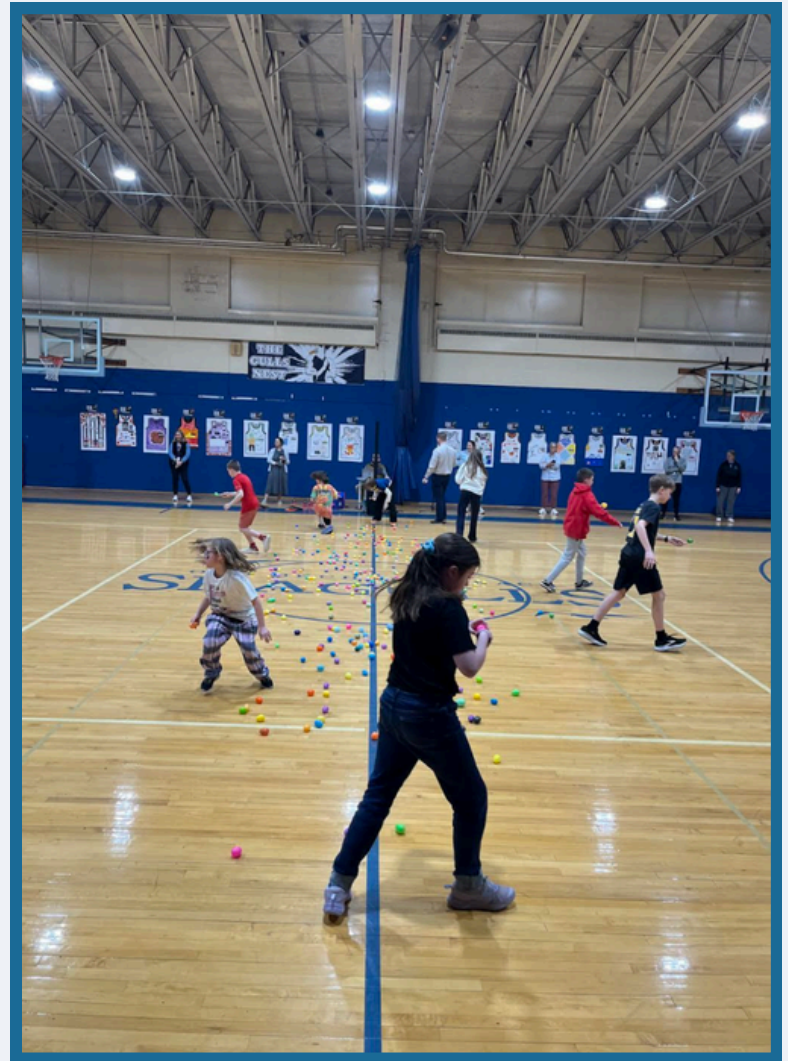
The season wrapped up with a round robin tournament at SoFive in Saco, where our team competed against Saco Unified and Yarmouth Unified teams. It was a fantastic way to celebrate all the hard work and progress made throughout the season. A heartfelt thank you goes out to all of the Jameson and Loranger Memorial School volunteers who dedicated their time and effort to make this season such a success!



LORANGER NEWS

March Madness

All of Loranger came together last week for an exciting March Madness assembly, celebrating the culmination of a month-long attendance campaign. Throughout March, homerooms earned points based on their daily attendance, building enthusiasm and school spirit along the way. Congratulations to our top contenders: third place went to Ms. Dennis' Snowgulls, second place to Ms. Boyer's Baddies, and first place honors were awarded to Mr. Shevory's Super Coopers for their outstanding attendance efforts. The assembly was filled with energy and fun, featuring games such as Seagull Nest Round-Up, bottle flipping, and musical chairs. Special advantages were awarded to homerooms with strong attendance records. We also celebrated creativity with awards for student-designed basketball jerseys. It was a fantastic event enjoyed by both students and staff, highlighting the power of teamwork, participation, and school pride.



LORANGER NEWS

March Science Madness!

The month of March brought March Mammal Madness to the sixth-grade science students! Students researched 65 combatants, and each filled out a bracket to make an educated guess on who would win this simulated tournament. Students learned about animal traits, biomes, individual positions in the food chain, and much more. Congratulations to Nasser, Jaxon, and Myles, the top three winners in the sixth grade, and a special shout-out to Nasser as he was the only sixth grader to correctly predict the MMM champion, the humpback whale!



Science Research Symposium

Seventh graders in enrichment science participated in the Findings Research Symposium in Portland on March 30. Unum hosted the event, which was organized by the Gulf of Maine Research Institute. Loranger students and Maine Forest Service entomologist Colleen Teerling were the presenters for Forest Health. Their presentations focused on hemlock and ash trees and invasive insects. Our students also participated in the poster session, which included a poster by LMS 5th graders. Over 120 students, educators, and scientists from Maine, New Hampshire, and Massachusetts attended the symposium. You can see our posters here: [Loranger Findings Symposium 2026 Posters](#).

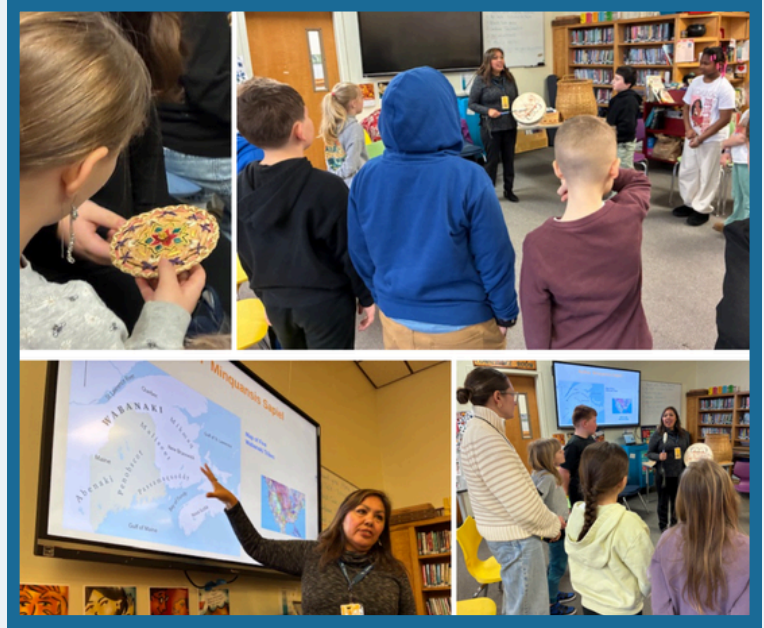


LORANGER NEWS

Wabanaki Studies

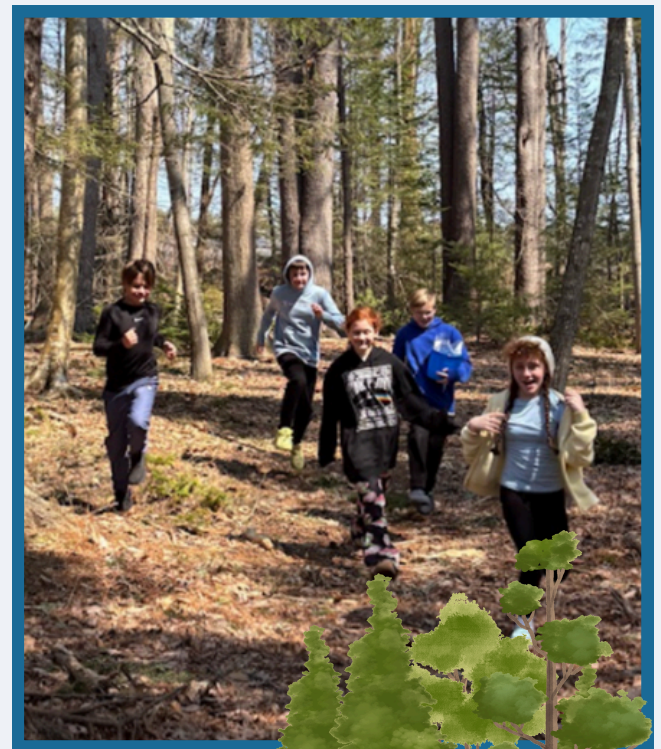
Minquansis Sapiel, a Wabanaki educator, Old Orchard Beach resident, and children's book author, visited Loranger on April 3 to introduce our third graders to Wabanaki culture. She told Wabanaki stories, showed students a variety of ash baskets, and taught them two simple songs accompanied by drumming. Her visit was funded by a grant from the Maine Environmental Education Association.

Ms. Sapiel's visit helped prepare students for the Wabanaki Stories performance at Merrill Auditorium on April 10. Third, seventh, and eighth graders all attended the performance, which included six storytellers and musical artists from several different Wabanaki nations.



Forest Helpers

Mrs. Seaver's WIN group, Forest Helpers, dashes into Jameson Woods on their weekly mission: gathering samples of Hemlock Woolly Adelgid to send to Maine Forest Service entomologist Colleen Teerling. On the way back, they pause on the bridge for a moment of reflection and peace in the forest.



OOBHS UPDATES

The OOBHS Coast Program went on a fun field trip to the Kennebunk Animal Welfare Society. We delivered donated pet food and the hand-crafted cat toys we made in our Independent Living Skills class. Thank you to everyone that donated pet food for our food drive! The pet food was appreciated by the shelter. And, a big thank you to James for our shelter tour and for teaching us about the animals. We had a great visit! The highlight was meeting "Judy Hopp", a rabbit, and "Jed", a newly arrived puppy.





OOB/Saco Adult Education

Learning for Better Living

Old Orchard Beach/Saco Adult Education's spring/summer semester registration is open! We have a wide range of academic, enrichment, and professional learning opportunities for adults ages 18+. Our enrichment program includes classes in creative & culinary arts, technology, dance, languages, music, personal finance, recreation, travel, wellness, and workforce training. Our free academic program includes a high school diploma program and HiSET as well as courses in college prep, English for multi-lingual learners, and citizenship prep. Visit our website at oobsaco.maineadulted.org for more information.

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

Important Upcoming Dates:

April 16, 2026

TONIGHT

Town Hall 6 PM

School Board Meeting

Friday, April 17 - Friday, April 24

April Vacation

Wednesday, May 13

Early Release Day

Monday, May 25

Memorial Day

Sunday, June 7

OOBHS Graduation

