



OLD TOWN HIGH SCHOOL

School Board Report - August 2021

Scott Gordon, Principal

Summer Experiences at Old Town High School

We had 30 students take advantage of our online credit recovery program this summer (PLATO). This number is down a bit from a typical summer.

We also had 56 incoming grade 9 students attend a 1-day workshop hosted by our Alternative Education teacher, Bryan Murphy. Students took a tour of the building, met a few staff members, heard from an administrator and had an opportunity to ask questions. Our hope is that this will alleviate some of the anxiety that comes with starting a school year in a bigger new school.

Curriculum Work

We had a number of departments get together for curriculum work this summer. One that really stands out for me is the math department. Math can be a tough hurdle for some of our students. We have divided Algebra I into Algebra 1A and Algebra 1B.

Algebra 1A will be more like a pre-Algebra for students who really struggle and don't yet have a solid foundation for what algebra. History has shown us that a shaky foundation can really cause problems if it is not addressed. This should help.

At the other end of the spectrum is Algebra 2, which is typically the 3rd math taken in sequence by a high school student. Some of the concepts in Algebra 2 are not truly necessary for someone to graduate from high school and move on to a very productive career, but it still poses a barrier for graduation. Our math department recognizes that and has created a class called - "Math in Society" - which is designed to secure concepts that students need to be successful post-high school.

This should address gaps in math that exist due to COVID and pre-COVID.

Dugout Do-Over

If you have not driven past the baseball/softball side of Victory Field this summer, you likely have not seen some of the action that is going on. We are in the process of replacing the softball field 3rd base side dugout and the baseball field 1st base side dugout. In both instances, years of use and time have worked against them to create unusable situations. At this point in the process, all old materials have been removed, the area has been prepped and the new cement forms have been poured. They are ready

to be built and we are looking at a late fall completion date. In the end, we will not only have two new dugouts, but all of the roofs on all of the buildings on Victory Field will be replaced.

Fall Sports

Hard to believe - fall sports are off and running!

We will have regular season games starting in the very near future. Please check our web-site and/or our app for more details.

Thanks so much for all of your on-going support as we embark on what looks to be yet another interesting year! :)

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be "J. J. Smith", written over a faint, illegible printed name.

Principal, OTHS