



# OLD TOWN HIGH SCHOOL

*School Board Report - December 2021*

*Scott Gordon, Principal*

## **Pooled Testing Numbers/Update**

Our pooled testing numbers continue to grow each week. We are now over 300 students, plus many staff members who participate in testing each Monday. We have been very pleased - all of our pools have tested negative since the Thanksgiving holiday, when we expected to have one or more pools show a positive. Good news!

Our student-athletes are 100% involved in pooled testing and the vaccination rate amongst our student-athletes is very high, with multiple programs being at 100%. These two layers of protection have already saved us from a disruption in the season due to situations in two different sports - and it is only mid-December. Again, thank you for your support regarding the requirement for our student-athletes to be in pooled testing. We are doing all that we can to ensure as normal a winter season for our student-athletes as possible.

## **Drama**

This past weekend, our theater team put on their first show in almost two years, when they performed three shows of "Dorothy in Wonderland." The cast was composed of 35 students of varying levels of experience. Dakota Cates-Wright and Eric Dewley directed the 90 minute production and really deserve a ton of credit for rejuvenating a great deal of interest in students getting back on the stage. Each of the three showings drew a nice crowd and our students did a fantastic job. It was great to see so many of them back performing and I think we have every reason to believe that we will see this program continue to grow and flourish with Mr. Wright's and Mr. Dewley's energy and guidance. Soon after the holidays, preparation will begin for the One Act Festival, which is an MPA competition held in March. I will encourage them to do a public performance sometime just before or just after the festival.

## **Band/Music**

On Monday evening, our Jazz band performed their first concert in almost two years. The 35-minute show, performed in MacKenzie Gymnasium, featured seven holiday jazz tunes. We chose not to limit the number of participants, because our jazz band only has about thirty participants and we get very few "walk-ins" for a band concert, therefore the number of people in our gym for that event was pretty easy to predict. I expect that we will return to Hauck Auditorium at U-Maine in the near future as it is a venue that is much better for both our performers and our audience.

## **Winter Sports Numbers/Update**

Our winter sports programs are all up and running. Most teams have now had their first game/contest and I have included a list of some of the upcoming home games below. Tickets are a bit harder to come by as we have limited the number of fans for each event, in effort to be as cautious as possible. Student-athletes have received vouchers for family/friends to present at the front window which allows the holder to buy a ticket to the event. Ice hockey presents a pretty unique problem, given the fact that we cannot go over 250 people in the arena - which includes players, coaches, officials - etc. It does not take long to get to that number when you include all of the personnel that are officially involved in a game.

## **Upcoming Home Games**

Tuesday, December 14th  
Wednesday, December 15th  
Saturday, December 18th  
Saturday, December 18th  
Wednesday, December 22nd  
Thursday, December 30th  
Thursday, December 30th  
Thursday, December 30th  
Monday, January 3rd  
Thursday, January 6th  
Friday, January 7th

Girls' basketball vs. Presque Isle  
Boys' basketball vs. Presque Isle  
Ice Hockey vs. John Bapst  
Indoor Track Meet @ UMaine  
Wrestling @ Mattanawcook  
Indoor Track Meet @ UMaine  
Boys' Basketball vs. Brewer  
Girls' Basketball vs. Brewer  
Ice Hockey vs. Houlton/Hodgdon  
Boys' Basketball vs. Hermon  
OT Swim vs. Ellsworth

## **Enrollment**

Grade 9 -	132
Grade 10 -	130
Grade 11 -	130
Grade 12 -	132
<b>TOTAL -</b>	<b>524</b>

Thanks so much for all of your on-going support and have a great holiday season!



Principal, OTHS