



Old Town High School
School Board Report
May, 2019

US Presidential Scholar

We received some great news last week. Emma Hargreaves, a member of the Class of 2019 and a former RSU 34 School Board member was named one of two US Presidential Scholars in the state of Maine. The Scholars have all demonstrated leadership, scholarship, contribution to school and community, and outstanding accomplishments in the arts, sciences, humanities and other fields of interest. While the honor is wonderful for both Emma and Old Town High School, her trip to Washington D.C. in June will likely be the highlight of the whole thing for her. We are immensely proud of her and this accomplishment. The Bangor Daily News is preparing a piece to do on her and I have been in contact with Greg Fish to get the word out in the Penobscot Times. Emma has had a fantastic four years at OTHS and she will be attending Bowdoin College in the fall.

Spring Awards Ceremony

On Tuesday, May 14th, we will honor 175 students for their academic, co-curricular, and even some extra-curricular achievements from throughout this entire school year. We have several staff who will present awards, in addition to a representative from UTC to honor our students. This annual event typically brings a great crowd, and it is something that we look forward to each year. The 7pm ceremony will be held in MacKenzie Gymnasium.

Just before the awards ceremony, our JROTC program will do their annual “Change of Command” exercise. The responsibilities of Battalion Commander will pass from Kyra Armitage (Class of 2019) to Gracie Sanborn (Class of 2020). We saw many positive changes with Kyra at the helm, and I am very confident that Gracie will be outstanding, as she is very excited about the challenge of leading her peers during the next school year.

Spring Sports Update

As I was contemplating what to write in this section, I almost made the decision to cut/paste what I wrote last month. While we have played some games, the wet extended forecast for this week and next is certainly going to force some decisions as we have a “last playable game” date of May 23rd for tennis and May 29th for baseball, softball and track. Our baseball team is currently in 3rd in Class B and our softball team is in 4th in Class B. While I expect that both of those teams will qualify for post-season play, they each have half of their schedule remaining to play in the upcoming two weeks.

AP Exams

Over the course of last week and through this week, we have administered a total of 91 AP exams to about 70 different students. These year-long classes, taught by OTHS staff culminate with a high stakes test during the month of May, with an opportunity for students to earn college credit if they score a 4 or a 5 (out of 5) on the AP test. Students receive their test results during the month of July.

Differentiated Bussing

I would add my support to the differentiated bus discussion. While I know there have been challenges for us to overcome and there are still a handful of questions left to answer, I am completely confident that we will clean those up. Most of the challenges have been at this level, and center around athletics, but again, I remain confident that what we have in place will work. Further, I believe that most schools know this is the right direction to go in and will, in time follow us. Sometimes I chuckle, in the grand scheme of things – we are only talking about 30 minutes. There is nothing magical about 8:00 versus 8:30, outside of the fact that this is what has been done in school systems for the last century. I certainly don’t mean to minimize the impact that it may have on some, but I also believe that folks tend to lean toward the worst possible outcome when they consider any change. No matter which way you decide to vote, I am proud that we have taken this on. The easiest route is not necessarily the correct route.

Student of the Month

Grade 9	Max Chapman
Grade 10	Nate Regan
Grade 11	Claudia Damboise
Grade 12	Alexandra Chamberlain
Staff	Officer King

Schedule of Events

May 13th – 17th	AP Exams	
May 13	Varsity Tennis vs. MDI	4pm
May 13	Varsity Softball @ John Bapst	5pm
May 14	JV Tennis vs. Hampden	4pm
May 14	Varsity Tennis @ Wash. Acad.	4pm
May 14	Varsity Baseball @ John Bapst	5pm
May 14	Spring Academic Awards	7pm
May 15	LMS Track Meet	3pm
May 16	Tennis vs. Ellsworth	4pm
May 16	Baseball/Softball vs. Wash. Acad	4:30pm
May 17	JV - Baseball/Softball vs. Presque Isle	4pm
May 17	JV Tennis vs. Hampden	4:30pm
May 18	JV Tennis @ Orono	11am
May 18	HOME Track Meet	12-Noon
May 18	Varsity Baseball/Softball @ PI	12-Noon
May 18	Tennis @ Caribou	1pm
<i>*** ATHLETIC SCHEDULING INFORMATION – can be found on the RSU 34 app ***</i>		
May 20	OTHS Jazz Concert	6:30pm
May 21	OTHS Spring Band Concert – UMAINE	7:30pm
May 23	Honors Diploma Exhibition	7:30pm
May 29	RSU 34 Annual Budget Meeting	7pm
June 6	Class of 2019 Scholarship & Awards	7:30pm
June 7	Class of 2019 - Graduation	7:30pm

Enrollment Numbers

Grade 12	117
Grade 11	122
Grade 10	135
Grade 9	131
Total	505
UTC Numbers	45

Respectfully Submitted,

Scott Gordon

Scott Gordon
Principal