ORONO HIGH SCHOOL’S CORE PROGRAM

ACADEMIC MOTIVATION

Cami Carter and Jon Hawley
WHAT IS OHS’ CORE PROGRAM?

- CORE is the alternative education program of Orono High School.
- CORE has roughly 15-17 students each year.
- CORE students are usually 10th-12th graders.
- CORE is housed off-campus on the second floor of a church about 1/4 mile from Orono High School.
- CORE students come from Orono and sending area towns - Veazie, Milford, Bradley, Glenburn, Greenbush, Greenfield Township, Alton.
ACADEMIC MOTIVATION SUCCESS #1: THE PERSONAL LEARNING PLAN

- Meet twice a year.
- Parent/Guardian must attend this meeting.
- What engages and interests the student?
- Where does the student see themselves after high school?
- Have student set post secondary plans and personal goals, even as a freshman (rare) or sophomore.
- Build a learning plan based on the student’s responses.
## Learning Experiences for 2018-2019

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Learning Experiences - Courses, internships, job shadows, co-curricular experiences etc.</th>
<th>What documentation and/or product will I show to prove I’ve completed this learning experience?</th>
<th>Time Frame</th>
<th>Subject</th>
<th>Grades</th>
<th>Credits</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>English 11</td>
<td>CORE Book Group</td>
<td>Semester 1 and 2</td>
<td>English</td>
<td>Q1:99; Q2:99</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>AP Computer Science</td>
<td>OHS</td>
<td>Semester 1</td>
<td>Elective</td>
<td>Q1:98; Q2:98</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Honors Chemistry</td>
<td>OHS</td>
<td>Semester 1 and 2</td>
<td>Science</td>
<td>Q1:99; Q2:99</td>
<td>1.5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pre-Calculus</td>
<td>CORE- Odysseyware</td>
<td>Semester 1 and 2</td>
<td>Math</td>
<td>Q2: 100</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Social Studies</td>
<td>CORE- Current Events</td>
<td>Semester 1 and 2</td>
<td>Social Studies</td>
<td>Q1:100; Q2:100</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Spanish 2</td>
<td>CORE- Odysseyware</td>
<td>Semester 1 and 2</td>
<td>Elective</td>
<td>Q1:94; Q2:94</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Algebra 2</td>
<td>Completed in quarter 1</td>
<td></td>
<td>Math</td>
<td>Q1:99</td>
<td>.5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>P.E.</td>
<td>CORE/Rec Center</td>
<td>Semester 1 and 2</td>
<td>Elective</td>
<td>Q1:98; Q2:98</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Next year plans: AP Physics, AP Calc., class at UMaine
### Personal Goals

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Personal Goal</th>
<th>What documentation of my progress will I show at the end of the semester?</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Work on positive thoughts towards yourself</td>
<td>Cami will remind LOTS :)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Allow myself to be a human and not perfect all of the time.</td>
<td>Cami/Jon will remind LOTS :)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Learn how to play one song on the guitar.</td>
<td>Paul will help with this on the weekends, we'll check back to see how that's going.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Post Secondary Plans/Goals

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Post Secondary Goal</th>
<th>What steps will I take to reach my goal?</th>
<th>Who do I need help from to reach this goal?</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>EMBARK and/or Aspirations at UMaine</td>
<td>Take a college class or two at EMCC or UMaine</td>
<td>Cami and Hope (from EMCC)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pursue a degree in Computer Hardware Engineer or Electrical Engineer</td>
<td></td>
<td>Cami will aid with Fafsa and tours if needed.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Attend a 4 year college: UCLA, UC San Diego, UC Berkeley, UC San Jose, UC San Francisco</td>
<td></td>
<td>Mom will help with setting up some tours</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
ACADEMIC MOTIVATION SUCCESS #2: RELATIONSHIPS
(TINY THINGS THAT HAVE WORKED FOR US!)

- Plan team building activities and field trips.
- Positive environment- positive quotations, pictures, reminders, and student work etc. around the classroom.
- Show up—at jobs, sporting events, concerts, competitions....
- Celebrate birthdays, little successes, and quietly recognize difficult days!
- Be a little silly! Okay, sometimes we’re a LOT silly.
ACADEMIC MOTIVATION SUCCESS #3: COMMUNITY CONNECTIONS

- “Is There Life After High School?” program.
- Connect students with mentors in their field of interest.
- Tour college campuses as a group.
- Encourage (and then support) students in taking a college class their senior year through Husson, UMaine or EMCC.
- Support students in getting a job, internship or job shadow in their field of interest during their senior year.
ACADEMIC MOTIVATION SUCCESS #4: PROVIDE COLLEGE APPLICATION, FAFSA & SCHOLARSHIP HELP

• Every senior creates a plan before their senior year for their “life after high school”.
• Parents/Guardians are included in the creation of the plan and given a role to play, if possible.
• We help every senior apply to at least one post-secondary college or program.
• We help every senior (and parent) complete the FAFSA.
OHS’ CORE STATISTICS

• Class of 2019
  • 2 of our 6 seniors are taking college classes.
  • 4 of our 6 seniors have jobs.
  • 5 of our 6 seniors have committed to attending a college or technical program in the fall of 2019.
  • 5 of our 6 seniors have the financial aid and/or scholarships needed to pay for their post-secondary schooling plans.
  • 5 of our 6 seniors have made honor roll or high honor roll this year.
  • 100% of our seniors are on track to graduate.

• Class of 2020
  • 5 of our 6 juniors are set to be enrolled in a college class next fall.
  • 1 of our 6 juniors has been inducted into National Honors Society.
  • All 6 of our juniors have made honor roll or high honor roll this year.
  • 100% of our juniors are on track to graduate.
CHALLENGES & BARRIERS

• Attendance. A few things have worked well for us:
  • Calling/Texting parents/guardian/student as early as possible (8:05 a.m.) if their student isn’t at school.
  • Showing up (with admin approval) at a student’s house if they’ve been truant for over four days.

• Getting discouraged. Sometimes students fail a course (college, AP etc.) or life happens, but we try to get them to recognize that failing is providing them a huge learning opportunity so really it’s a success.
OUR FUTURE GOALS

• **Create an Alumni Program**
  - Consistently support and communicate with alumni.
  - Provide monthly alumni “support sessions” for academic and general “adulting” needs post high school.

• **Continue to Create More Program Opportunities**
  - Continue to partner with more post-secondary programs for early exposure.
  - Continue to partner with more area businesses and organizations to deepen our internship and job shadowing opportunities.