ORONO HIGH SCHOOL'S CORE PROGRAM **ACADEMIC MOTIVATION**

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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 usually10th-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.

PERSONAL LEARNING PLAN EXAMPLE **COURSES PAGE:**

Learning Experiences for 2018-2019

Learning Experiences- Courses, internships, job shadows, co-curricular experiences etc.	What documentation and/or product will I show to prove I've completed this learning experience?	Time Frame	Subject	Grades	Credits
English 11	CORE Book Group	Semester 1 and 2	English	Q1:99; Q2:99	1
AP Computer Science	OHS	Semester 1	Elective	Q1:98; Q2:98	1
Honors Chemistry	OHS	Semester 1 and 2	Science	Q1:99; Q2:99	1.5
Pre-Calculus	CORE- Odysseyware	Semester 1 and 2	Math	Q2: 100	1
Social Studies	CORE- Current Events	Semester 1 and 2	Social Studies	Q1:100; Q2:100	1
Spanish 2	CORE- Odysseyware	Semester 1 and 2	Elective	Q1:94; Q2:94	1
Algebra 2	**Completed in quarter 1**		**Math**	**Q1:99**	**.5**
P.E.	CORE/Rec Center	Semester 1 and 2	Elective	Q1:98; Q2:98	1
					Total: 8

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

PERSONAL LEARNING PLAN EXAMPLE
GOALS PAGE:

Personal Goals

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

Post Secondary Plans/Goals

Post Secondary Goal	What steps will I take to reach my goal?	Who do I need help from to reach this goal?
EMBARK and/or Aspirations at UMaine	Take a college class or two at EMCC or UMaine	Cami and Hope (from EMCC)
Pursue a degree in Computer Hardware Engineer or Electrical Engineer Attend a 4 year college: UCLA, UC San Diego, UC Berkeley, UC San Jose, UC San Francisco		Cami will aid with Fafsa and tours if needed. Mom will help with setting up some tours

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.