



O'Dea High School

Strategic Plan 2016-2019





Background

In June, 2015 the O'Dea school board conducted a community-wide survey to determine the state of the school, learn what is important to our community and help the board decide on a course of action to move O'Dea forward. This was the beginning of the process that led to the creation of the O'Dea High School 2016-2019 Strategic Plan. This plan was ultimately formed by bringing together school employees, board members, and community members who worked in each of the seven areas of importance identified through the survey: Academics, Advancement, Alumni, Athletics, Catholic Identity, Co-Curricular Activities and Facilities. Members of these groups met throughout the 2015-2016 school year and the plan was formally adopted by the school board at our June, 2016 meeting. The plan will guide O'Dea over the next three years as we strive to enhance the experience of our students and the broader O'Dea community. Ultimately, it will help us advance our mission of educating young men and preparing them to be men of character, faith and service, while at the same time committing to maintain the O'Dea brotherhood for life.



Academic Vision and Priorities

Priorities

- Ensure excellent instruction guided by the Essential Elements of an Edmund Rice Christian Brother Education and the principles of character, faith, and service.
- Adopt curricular standards and vertical alignment of curriculum to provide an academic framework emphasizing learning for mastery.
- Create and support an effective technology-rich learning environment providing a rigorous, relevant, and engaging learning experience for all students.
- Foster the recruitment and retention of highly qualified faculty reflective of the cultural, ethnic and socio-economic diversity that exists within the school community.
- Integrate an informed appreciation for cultural competency into all instructional and learning practices.
- Formulate a strategy to create an educational environment to serve the appropriate range of diversified learners inclusively.

Vision

In the tradition of an Edmund Rice Christian Brother Education, O’Dea will advance a college preparatory program dedicated to the continuous academic improvement of all members of the school community. The academic program will value a collaborative, creative, and interdisciplinary approach to student-centered learning that responds to the technology-rich needs of the 21st-century learner with innovative, research-based instruction.





Advancement Vision and Priorities

Priorities

- Develop a comprehensive plan to cultivate each constituency group through annual campaigns and events.
- Develop a comprehensive plan to nurture personal relationships with existing and potential major individual donors and foundations.
- Identify school needs, both long term and short term, and present as exciting giving opportunities to donors and the broader O’Dea community.
- Begin early planning stage of a capital campaign to ensure our facilities will meet the needs of our academic, athletic, co-curricular, and faith based goals.
- Establish an infrastructure to include roles and responsibilities that will allow staff to establish, implement, and continuously evolve our advancement strategies.

Vision

Exceptionally cultivate, build, and maintain meaningful relationships with existing and potential donors to increase overall support for O’Dea. This will ensure we are able to sustain our mission to educate young men of diverse socio-economic backgrounds and prepare them to be men of character, faith and service.





Alumni Vision and Priorities

Priorities

- Build a robust alumni communications plan to help connect alumni to the activities at O’Dea and each other when they can not meet in person.
- Offer compelling events that bring many alumni together and offer renewed in-person opportunities to connect with O’Dea and each other.
- Establish high-impact professional connection opportunities between alumni and students to enable alumni to support current students and allow current students to learn from our alumni.
- Develop the infrastructure and support for alumni relations required for broad, ongoing engagement.

Vision

Build a dramatically more engaged alumni community, with alumni of all ages interacting regularly with one another, with current students, and with the school community overall. This increased alumni engagement will strengthen the alumni’s connection with O’Dea and cultivate a brotherhood that will last a lifetime.





Athletics

Vision and Priorities

Priorities

- Develop a comprehensive plan to consistently improve the facilities and equipment that O’Dea athletes compete with and on.
- Develop a plan to further market O’Dea’s long history of athletic success, as well as highlight current opportunities provided to O’Dea athletes.
- Develop a plan to continue to provide O’Dea coaches and athletic department staff the resources necessary to compete at an elite level.
- Develop an annual Fundraising plan specifically for O’Dea athletics.

Vision

Ensure O’Dea’s athletic program continues its storied tradition of winning with honor by bringing in the resources necessary to remain elite and compete at the highest level possible. Teach our athletes important values that will help guide them throughout the rest of their lives.





Catholic Identity

Vision and Priorities

Priorities

- Foster a deeper understanding of the mission of Blessed Edmund Rice.
- Foster and invigorate a community of faith by ensuring our students have opportunities to participate in retreats and the sacraments.
- Stand in solidarity with those marginalized by poverty and injustice through participation in a variety of service activities.
- Celebrate the value and dignity of each person and nurture the development of the whole person by providing programs that foster the spiritual life of all students.

Vision

Enhance our ability to engage students in their faith on a day to day basis, as well as foster a relationship with God and each other. Ensure that upon graduation each student will have a working knowledge of the Catholic Faith: its teachings and its principles, a basis for living a conscientious life of responsibility to community, and a dedication to service.





Co-Curricular Vision and Priorities

Priorities

- Strengthen synergy between clubs/co-curricular student leadership and faculty leads to encourage students to follow their passions with engagement and leadership in school organizations.
- Research and establish contact with outside entities that are interested in partnering with O'Dea to strengthen our programs through others' experience and expertise.
- Increase the visibility of the co-curricular activities at O'Dea to ensure all are aware of the opportunities available and encourage participation.
- Research connections between course offerings and co-curricular activities to provide students with the opportunity to see the relevance of the curriculum in other aspects of their current lives and potentially their future careers.

Vision

Maximize student participation in quality co-curricular activities in order to develop their individual talents and expose them to diverse areas of interest that are grounded in the Essential Elements of an O'Dea education. Ensure students value the connection between enjoyable co-curricular activities and rigorous academics, and grow as men who live lives grounded in character, faith and service.





Facilities Vision and Priorities

Priorities

- Maintain the existing facility in the most efficient and effective way possible to ensure we are providing an environment suitable for all school related activities and caring for the historical aspects of the building.
- Enhance the existing facility to meet the school's long term needs.
- Evaluate opportunities to expand the existing physical plant to meet the future needs of the school.
- Ensure student safety is a priority.

Vision

Ensure O'Dea has a facility that meets the current and long term needs of our students, faculty and extended community in order to provide the most appropriate level of academics, co-curricular activities, athletics, and faith based learning consistent with the school and Archdiocesan strategies.

