

# **New Family Information Packet**



***Character. Faith. Service.***



Welcome to O'Dea! In this packet you will find important information that you will need as you prepare for the 2021-2022 school year. O'Dea Administrators and Staff are always available to answer your questions. We are thrilled you have chosen to join the O'Dea Brotherhood!

### **Who's Who?**

- **James Walker**, Principal
- **Laura Weinand**, Chief Financial Officer
- **Lucas Dobbs**, Assistant Principal of Academics
- **Tim Greenan**, Assistant Principal of Student Services
- **Monte Kohler**, Athletic Director
- **Allie Thomas**, Advancement Director
- **Kristian Patterson**, Director of Admissions
- **Ke'Andre Magee**, Dean of Students
- **Linda Thornton**, Director of Financial Aid
- **Joan Moore**, Accounting Manager
- **Rory McNulty**, House Director

### **Counseling & Student Support Staff**

- **Kate Orizotti**, Director of Educational Support
- **David Olinger**, Director of Digital Strategy
- **Kit Soldato**, Counselor (Last Names A-E)
- **Lawrence Kight**, Counselor (Last Names F-M)
- **Erik Michels**, Counselor (Last Names N-Z)

A full email directory of all O'Dea staff and faculty can be found on the O'Dea website: [odea.org/about/faculty-staff/facultystaff-directory/](http://odea.org/about/faculty-staff/facultystaff-directory/)

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## 2021-2022 School Calendar

Below are important dates from the 2021-2022 School Calendar. If you have any questions regarding these dates, please direct them to Josie McDonell, Administrative Assistant, at [jmcdonell@odea.org](mailto:jmcdonell@odea.org).

<b>FIRST SEMESTER</b>	
Start of School for Freshman & Transfer Students	August 23
1 <sup>st</sup> Semester Begins	August 25
Labor Day (No Classes)	September 6
In-Service (No Classes)	October 18
Veterans Day (No Classes)	November 11
Thanksgiving (No Classes)	November 25-26
Christmas Break (No Classes)	December 18 – January 2
MLK Holiday	January 17
1 <sup>st</sup> Semester Final Exams	January 18 – 20
<b>SECOND SEMESTER</b>	
Grading Day (No Classes)	January 21
Start of Second Semester	January 24
Faculty Retreat (No Classes)	February 11
President’s Day (No Classes)	February 21
In-Service Day (No Classes)	March 11
Good Friday (No Classes)	April 15
Easter Holiday (No Classes)	April 18 - 22
Memorial Day (No Classes)	May 30
Class of 2021 Graduation	June 1
2 <sup>nd</sup> Semester Final Exams	June 6 - June 8
Possible Make-Up Days	June 9 - June 10

## **General Information**

### **Main Office**

The Main Office is open each school day from 7:30am to 3:30pm.

Josie McDonell, Administrative Assistant  
[jmcdonell@odea.org](mailto:jmcdonell@odea.org) or 206-622-6596

Joan Moore, Accounting Manager  
[jmoore@odea.org](mailto:jmoore@odea.org) or 206-923-7511

Ke'Andre Magee, Dean of Students  
[kmagee@odea.org](mailto:kmagee@odea.org) or 206-923-7521

### **Attendance**

Any student who is absent or tardy must have a parent or guardian call the O'Dea Attendance Line at 206-923-7550 or email [attendance@odea.org](mailto:attendance@odea.org) before 9:30am on the day of his absence.

### **Appearance Code**

Pants: Dress style pants must be worn on or above the hips. Jeans, workman, athletic or sweatpants are not permitted.

Shirts: Shirts with collars must always be worn and tucked in.

Shoes: Shoes must have soft soles. Gym shoes are permitted if they are clean, in good condition, and laced. Socks must be worn. Sandals, moccasins, house shoes and slippers are not permitted.

Jackets and Sweatshirts: Any item of O'Dea apparel (sweatshirt, jacket, etc.) is allowed. O'Dea logo-wear can be purchased through the Main Office during office hours.

Hair: A student's hairstyle should not detract from but enrich the O'Dea High School learning environment. A student's hair must be regularly maintained, be above the shoulder, out of the student's eyes, and remain the student's natural color. Students must be clean-shaven.

Adornments: Earrings are not allowed. Hats and sunglasses may not be worn indoors. Visible tattoos are not permitted. Any student with a tattoo must keep it covered by their clothing during school hours.

Mass: Approximately once a month we celebrate Mass together as a school. On these days, students are expected to wear a white dress shirt with an O'Dea tie and dress pants. Ties will be given to the students the first week of school during Mentor Group.

P.E.: Students will be given a P.E uniform on the first day of school. Additional shorts or shirts can be purchased through the Main Office.

Fri-DEA: To promote school spirit and build camaraderie, relaxed dress is permitted on Fridays. A visible O'Dea logo must be on the outer layer of clothing. Keychains, lanyards, bracelets, and other accessories do not qualify as logo wear. School spirit items can be purchased on the O'Dea website or in the Main Office.

## **Lunch**

At this time, all students eat on campus and bring their own lunch. No food deliveries are allowed.

## **Drop-Off / Pick-Up**

For the safety of all families it is important that drop-off and pick-up be done on Terry Avenue, not the parking lot. Our parking lot is very active with students going to and from the building before and after school and can be dangerous if there are moving vehicles.

## **Parking**

A limited amount of visitor parking is available in the school parking lot. Assigned parking spaces are applied for and are primarily given to seniors based on required criteria.

If you are visiting the school for any reason, please utilize the designated visitor parking spaces which are on the south end of the parking lot and adjacent to the building. Please refrain from parking in other reserved parking spots.

## **Academic Information**

### **Block Schedule / Irish Block**

O'Dea uses a block schedule. Schedules rotate between Maroon days (4 academic classes and Mentor Group) and Gold days (3 academic classes, Mentor Group, and Irish Block).

### **Bell Schedule**

A typical school day operates from 8:10am to 2:25pm, but there will also be days where there is an early release or late start. On Wednesday mornings, faculty and staff have a morning meeting and classes begin at 8:45am. The website calendar will always specify the bell schedule for each day. Please check the website for a complete list of bell schedules: [odea.org/student-life/bell-schedule/](http://odea.org/student-life/bell-schedule/)

### **Class Schedule**

Your student's class list will arrive in a packet sent out in early July. The class list will include course names and numbers but not teachers or class periods. Class schedules will be handed out to each student on the first day of school.

### **Surface Tablet Program**

The Surface Tablet Program advances O'Dea's educational mission by enhancing our students' experience of discovery, connection, and collaboration. All O'Dea students are required to have a *Microsoft Surface* and digital inking stylus as part of their academic materials each day. The device will be used to access texts, complete in-class assignments, take tests, collaborate with peers and faculty, and deepen our educator's ability to individualize student instruction.

Required items for the Surface Tablet Program:

- A Microsoft Surface Pro 6 or 7 or Microsoft Surface Book 2 or 3
- Microsoft Surface Pen or Compatible Digital Stylus
- Protective Case that attaches to the tablet
- Headphones
- A spills and breaks warranty on the device

## **eSchool**

In the event of inclement weather or other event that requires O'Dea to close, we will run eSchool to avoid interruptions to the academic calendar and active learning.

## **Text Books**

As a part of our Surface Program, students primarily use eTextbooks which will be delivered to the student's Surface on the first day of school. A \$225 book fee will be charged through your FACTS account on July 1.

**Please check the website for more information regarding the Surface Program at [www.odea.org/academics/surface-program](http://www.odea.org/academics/surface-program).** Direct any questions to David Olinger, Director of Educational Technology at [dolinger@odea.org](mailto:dolinger@odea.org).

## **Educational Support Program**

The Educational Support Program strives to ensure that all students are provided the tools and support they need to access educational programs. Students with diagnosed disabilities or physical impairments that affect learning may be eligible for an O'Dea Educational Support Plan (ESP).

### **Supports and Accommodations Might Include:**

- Progress monitoring of academic achievement
- Testing accommodations
- Standardized testing accommodations
- Classroom/environmental accommodations
- Academic accommodations
- Educational consulting

If your son has, or you want to explore options of an ESP, please contact Kate Orizotti, Director of Educational Support, at [korizotti@odea.org](mailto:korizotti@odea.org)



## **Parent Communications**

It is our goal to communicate with families in a timely, succinct and efficient manner. Below are ways that you can expect to receive important information throughout the school year:

### **O'Dea Family Bulletin**

The O'Dea Family Bulletin is a weekly news publication, emailed to parents every Thursday. It provides O'Dea families with the upcoming weekly school schedule, event dates, announcements, and other important information from throughout the school. New families will begin to receive the Family Bulletin in July prior to the start of the school year.

### **PowerSchool**

The PowerSchool Parent Portal is where parents can check their student's grades and attendance. All parents are provided with initial login information at the start of school.

### **SwiftK12**

SwiftK12 is O'Dea's mass communication system and is used to send important and emergency messages. The system generates voice, email and text alerts.

### **Naviance**

Naviance is a web-based program that is an essential component of our College Counseling program. Each student has his own account and each parent has a parent account. The counselors can send direct emails to both the students and parents through this program. Students will be given instructions from their counselors at the beginning of the school year for how to open their accounts.

### **Summer Mailing**

In late July, you will receive a packet that will include your son's course list, summer reading requirements, and the information necessary to access Magnus Health. Magnus Health is an online system accessed through PowerSchool where all required school and sports forms are to be completed.

# **Athletics**

## **Participation Forms**

All students must complete the following forms in order to participate in sports and/or P.E. at O'Dea High School:

- Physical Form
- Parental Approval & Student Information Form
- Student Emergency Information & Disaster Form
- Concussion Information & Sudden Cardiac Acknowledgement Form

All forms must be completed online through Magnus Health by August 1, 2021. Information regarding how to access these forms will be provided in the summer mailing. All students must have an updated physical within the last 13 months.

## **Fall Sports**

Below are some important dates to remember for those student-athletes interested in playing sports this fall. Please note that all participation forms must be completed before the below dates.

Dates are subject to change as the WIAA guidelines change.

### Football:

- First Football Practice - August 18<sup>th</sup>

### Golf:

- Golf Tryouts - August 23<sup>rd</sup>

### Cross Country:

- Practice Starts - August 23<sup>rd</sup>
- Note: For those interested in participating in Cross Country, there will be a summer running program with Coach Bazzi ([dbazzi@odea.org](mailto:dbazzi@odea.org)) and Coach Odem ([jodem@odea.org](mailto:jodem@odea.org)).

Please direct any questions regarding O'Dea's Athletic Program to Monte Kohler, Athletic Director, at [odad@odea.org](mailto:odad@odea.org) or 206-624-2068. As we approach these dates, more information will be provided via email.

## **Student Life**

### **House System – *Four Houses, One Brotherhood!***

The House System at O’Dea has been designed to support the academic and social growth of our students and fulfill our mission of developing them into men of character, faith, and service. Some key aspects of the House include providing student leadership opportunities, organizing and promoting student events and activities, and promoting positive competition through the Irish Cup competition.

When a student enters O’Dea, he is assigned to one of four Houses: Limerick, Kilkenny, Dublin, or Waterford. In addition, each student is assigned to a Mentor Group and Mentor Teacher with students from their House. Mentor Group time is designed to intentionally integrate "the social" into the curriculum. This dedicated time fosters connectedness with both peers and members of the faculty and staff. Mentor Group meets every day throughout the school year.

All incoming students will be assigned to a House and given a House t-shirt during a special House Welcome Event on the first day of school. They will also be introduced to the Mentor Teacher with whom they will remain for all four years while attending O’Dea.

For any questions regarding the House System, please email Rory McNulty, House Director at [rmcnulty@odea.org](mailto:rmcnulty@odea.org).

## **The Arts**

Our Visual and Performing Arts Program showcases the many artistic talents of the young men at O’Dea, and allows our students to explore, understand, and appreciate the importance of artistic expression. Opportunities to participate are offered both as classes and after school activities.

Choral Music: The choral music program at O’Dea includes the O’Dea Men’s Choir.

Instrumental Music: The instrumental music program at O’Dea includes the O’Dea Band.

Drama: The purpose of O’Dea Drama is to help students discover leadership, language, public speaking, analytical, and teamwork skills in the context of an authentic, structured, theatre production experience. There are typically two productions a year and O’Dea often partners with Holy Names Academy students for performances.

## **Clubs**

There are a variety of clubs available for students to participate in while attending O’Dea. A Club Fair will take place in the fall introducing students to all club offerings.

General Interest: Knowledge Bowl, National Honor Society (NHS), Service Club, Chess Club, O’Dea 100 Club, Student Ambassadors, Finance & Investment Club, Junior State of America

Cultural: Black Students United for Excellence (BSUE), Latino Cultural Club, Asian/Pacific Islander Cultural Club, Korean Club

Arts/Technology: Rhythm & Poetry, E-Sports Club, Technology Ambassadors , O’Dea Design Club

For more information, please contact Tim Greenan, Assistant Principal for Student Services, at [tgreenan@odea.org](mailto:tgreenan@odea.org).

# **Campus Ministry**

## **Service Hours**

Christian Service Learning (CSL) connects O'Dea's classroom curriculum with community issues and needs. CSL engages students in projects that serve the community and puts their faith into action.

Service Learning Requirements are as follows:

- 25 hours per school year between the first day of summer and May 1<sup>st</sup> of the following year
- Additional hours may go towards House points, but may not rollover to the following year

Service hours completed over the summer may be manually tracked prior to receiving a service orientation at the beginning of the school year. During orientation, students will sign up for an X2vol account and learn how to enter hours through that system.

Visit our website: [www.odea.org/faith-service/service/christian-service-learning/](http://www.odea.org/faith-service/service/christian-service-learning/) to learn more about what sort of service counts towards the required hours.

## **Advancement Office**

Each year our families are required to contribute in a variety of ways to help O'Dea High School provide the best environment for students to learn and grow. During the school year, we ask you to participate in these campaigns:

Annual Giving Campaign – The Annual Giving Campaign is the foundation of our fundraising program. The pledge you made during registration can be paid anytime during the 2021-2022 school year. Every family is asked to contribute, and gifts of any amount are appreciated.

Celebrate O'Dea Auction – The Celebrate O'Dea Auction is held on a Saturday in mid-March and raises money for financial aid and specific projects. Be an auction sponsor, procure an auction item, or make an outright cash donation. The required minimum donation per family is \$300.

Wall of Honor Celebration – The Wall of Honor celebration is the Thursday evening before the Homecoming football game and celebrates the achievements of past student athletes and coaches while supporting our current athletic programs. All alumni and current families are encouraged to attend this important fundraising event.

### **Volunteering**

Here are a variety of ways you can help the Advancement Office:

- **Annual Giving Campaign:** Support the overall direction of annual giving or help with phone campaigns.
- **Advancement Committee:** Join this committee which will help lead the strategic direction of O'Dea's fundraising activities.
- **Celebrate O'Dea Auction – March 19, 2022:** Join the committee or fill coordinator roles throughout the year to help guide the auction.
- **Golf Tournament – June 2022:** Help with sponsorship, logistics, and attendance.
- **Office Duties:** Assist with data entry or mailings

For questions about our fundraising efforts or to find out how you can get involved, contact Laura Weinand, CFO at [lweinand@odea.org](mailto:lweinand@odea.org). Allie Thomas, our Advancement Director, is out on leave. Upon return, she can be reached at [athomas@odea.org](mailto:athomas@odea.org).



**Welcome to the Brotherhood!**