

Class of 2026
Family Information Packet



Character. Faith. Service.



Welcome Class of 2026! In this packet you will find important information that you will need as you prepare for the 2022-2023 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
- **Eamon Sylvester**, Director of Financial Aid
- **Joan Moore**, Accounting Manager
- **Rory McNulty**, House Director

Counseling & Student Support Staff

- **David Olinger**, Director of Digital Strategy
- **Kai Bond**, Freshman Counselor
- **Kit Soldato**, Counselor (Last Names A-D)
- **Erik Michels**, Counselor (Last Names K-P)
- **Lawrence Kight**, Counselor (Last Names R-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/

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2022-2023 School Calendar

Below are important dates from the 2022-2023 School Calendar. If you have any questions regarding these dates please direct them to Alli Sweet, Administrative Assistant, at asweet@odea.org.

FIRST SEMESTER	
Start of School for Freshman	August 24
1 st Semester Begins	August 26
Labor Day (No Classes)	September 5
In-Service (No Classes)	October 17
Veteran's Day (No Classes)	November 11
Thanksgiving (No Classes)	November 24-25
Christmas Break (No Classes)	December 19 – January 2
MLK Holiday	January 16
1 st Semester Final Exams	January 17 – 19
Grading Day (No Classes)	January 20
SECOND SEMESTER	
Start of Second Semester	January 23
Faculty Retreat (No Classes)	February 10
President's Day (No Classes)	February 20
In-Service Day (No Classes)	March 10
Good Friday (No Classes)	April 7
Easter Holiday (No Classes)	April 10 - 14
Memorial Day (No Classes)	May 29
Class of 2022 Graduation	June 1
2 nd Semester Final Exams	June 5 - June 7
Possible Make-Up Days for	June 8 - June 9

General Information

Main Office

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

Alli Sweet, Administrative Assistant
asweet@odea.rg or 206-622-6596

Joan Moore, Accounting Manager
jmoore@odea.org or 206-923-7511

Ke'Andre Magee, Dean of Students
kmagee@odea.org or 206-923-7521

Attendance

Any student who is absent or tardy must have a parent or guardian contact the O'Dea Attendance Line at 206-923-7550 or by emailing attendance@odea.org before 9:30am on the day of his absence. Additionally, please contact the Attendance Line if you need to pick your student up early.

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 Friday's. 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

All freshmen and sophomores are required to bring a lunch to school and eat in the Cathedral cafeteria. Juniors and seniors may walk to lunch off campus.

Drop-Off / Pick-Up

For the safety of all families, it is important that all 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 a dangerous situation 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). Irish Block is built-in study hall time reserved for club meetings, assemblies, Mass or other events that occur throughout the school day.

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 8:50am. 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/

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.

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 7+ or 8 or Microsoft Surface Laptop Studio
- Microsoft Surface Pen or Compatible Digital Stylus
- Protective Case that attaches to the tablet
- Headphones
- A spills and breaks warranty on the device

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

Instruction at O'Dea

All courses will use tools such as Teams and OneNote to deliver instruction and assignments. Families can follow along and support students by checking these platforms to help them manage their workload. In the event of inclement weather or other event that requires O'Dea to close, we will run eSchool, (synchronous learning through Teams) 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. Some classes at O'Dea may include books other than textbooks, that families will purchase on their own. Those costs are minimal.

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 for an ESP, please contact Katie Orizotti, Director of Educational Support, at 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 mid to late June.

PowerSchool

The PowerSchool Parent Portal is where parents can check their student's grades and attendance. All parents are provided with initial login information prior to 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 regarding how to open their accounts.

Summer Mailing

In 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, 2022. 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 dates below. Dates are subject to change as the WIAA guidelines change.

Football:

- First Frosh Football Practice – August 17th

Golf:

- Golf Tryouts - August 22nd

Cross Country:

- Practice Starts – August 22nd
- Note: For those interested in participating in Cross Country, there will be a summer running program with Coach Bazzi (dbazzi@odea.org) and Coach Odem (jodem@odea.org).

Please direct any questions regarding O’Dea’s Athletic Program to Monte Kohler, Athletic Director, at odad@odea.org or 206-624-2068. As we approach these dates, more information will be provided via email and the Family Bulletin.

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.

The Arts

Our 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. Club offerings are subject to change due to popularity, interest, and moderator availability.

Campus Ministry

Service Requirement

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

Christian Service Learning Requirements are as follows:

- 25 hours per school year between the first day of summer and June 1st of the following year
- Additional hours may go toward House points, but may not rollover to the following year

Freshman 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/ to learn more about what sort of service counts towards the required hours, and which agencies are acceptable. Service opportunities are communicated to students and families throughout the year through Microsoft Teams and the Family Bulletin.

Freshman Welcome Retreat

In September, the freshman class will have an opportunity to participate in a one-day welcome retreat. This retreat is part of the O’Dea experience and serves to introduce the new brothers to one another, the O’Dea culture, and provides an opportunity to further incorporate our diverse freshman class into the O’Dea community.

Advancement Office

The Advancement Office raises necessary funds to:

1. *Bridge the Gap* between tuition and the actual cost to educate a student at O'Dea. (This year, that gap is \$5,638 per student.)
2. *Provide Financial Aid* to assist families who would not otherwise be able to afford a Catholic education.
3. *Fund Capital Projects* that include building improvements, technology, and other educational needs.

All these items are keys to providing the O'Dea experience for our students. Here's how we ask our families to help:

- Annual Giving Campaign – The Annual Giving Campaign is the foundation of our fundraising program. Pledges made during registration can be paid anytime during the 2022-2023 school year. Every family is asked to contribute, and gifts of any amount are appreciated. We strive for 100% participation.
- Celebrate O'Dea Auction – The Celebrate O'Dea Auction will be held on Saturday, March 18, 2023 and raises money for financial aid and specific projects. The required minimum donation per family is \$300 through sponsorship, item procurement, or outright cash donations.
- Wall of Honor Celebration – The Wall of Honor celebration is in the fall and celebrates the achievements of past student athletes and coaches while supporting our current athletic programs. Families are encouraged to attend this important fundraising event.

There are several committees to join to support Advancement Office work:

- **Annual Giving** to support the overall direction of this campaign.
- **Advancement Committee** to help lead the strategic direction of O'Dea's fundraising activities.
- **Celebrate O'Dea Auction** to help guide the auction.

For questions about our fundraising efforts or to find out how you can get involved, contact Allie Thomas, Advancement Director, athomas@odea.org.



Welcome to the Brotherhood!