

# NEW FAMILY INFORMATION GUIDE



**O'DEA HIGH SCHOOL**  
— ODEA.ORG —



# WELCOME TO O'DEA!

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

## O'Dea Administrative Team

Jim Walker, Principal  
Laura Weinand, Chief Financial Officer  
Lucas Dobbs, Assistant Principal of Academics  
Tim Greenan, Assistant Principal of Student Services  
Monte Kohler, Athletic Director

## Who's Who? Helpful Names to Know at O'Dea!

Angie Gebhart, Educational Support Specialist  
Kai Bond, Freshman Counselor  
Kit Soldato, Counselor (Last Names A-E)  
Lawrence Kight, Counselor (Last Names F-M)  
Erik Michels, Counselor (Last Names N-Z)  
David Olinger, Director of Digital Strategy  
Janael Grosinger, Director of Information Technology

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

A full email directory of all O'Dea staff and faculty can be found on the O'Dea website.

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# YEAR-AT-A-GLANCE

FIRST SEMESTER	
Football Begins	August 21
Golf & XC Begin	August 26
9 <sup>th</sup> Grade & Transfer Orientation	August 28
Freshman Orientation Cont.	August 29
1 <sup>st</sup> Day of Classes - All Students	August 30
Labor Day (No Classes)	September 2
Back to School Night	September 17
In-Service (No Classes)	October 14
Homecoming	October 18
Veteran's Day (No Classes)	November 11
Winter Sports Begin	November 18
Family Conferences	November 25-26
Thanksgiving (No Classes)	November 28-29
Christmas Break (No Classes)	December 23 - January 3
MLK Holiday	January 20
1 <sup>st</sup> Semester Final Exams	January 21-23 (No School 1/24)
SECOND SEMESTER	
Start of Second Semester	January 27
Faculty Retreat (No Classes)	February 7
President's Day (No Classes)	February 17
Spring Sports Begins	March 3
In-Service Day (No Classes)	March 10
Celebrate O'Dea Auction	March 15
Good Friday (No Classes)	April 18
Easter Holiday (No Classes)	April 21 - 25
Memorial Day (No Classes)	May 26
Class of 2025 Graduation	May 28
2 <sup>nd</sup> Semester Final Exams	June 9-11

## 9TH GRADE ORIENTATION 2024

We have a very specific program planned to help get students started on the right foot with the school year. The first two days of the year include various workshops on topics such as academic success, executive functioning, reading a transcript, managing your workload, and being a part of the Brotherhood.

# GENERAL INFORMATION

**MAIN OFFICE**  
Open Monday-Friday, 7:30AM-3:30PM  
Alli Sweet, Administrative Assistant | [asweet@odea.org](mailto:asweet@odea.org), 206-622-6596

**ATTENDANCE**  
Ke'Andre Magee, Dean of Students | [kmagee@odea.org](mailto:kmagee@odea.org), 206-923-7511

Any student who is absent, tardy, or requires an early release must have a parent or guardian contact the O'Dea Attendance Line at 206-923-7550 or by emailing [attendance@odea.org](mailto:attendance@odea.org). Please report all attendance matters by 9:30AM.

**LUNCH**  
9th & 10th Grade: Required to bring a lunch to school & eat on campus  
11th & 12th Grade: Permitted to walk to lunch off campus.  
Food deliveries are not permitted to campus.

**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.

**SCHEDULE**  
O'Dea uses a block schedule. Schedules rotate between Maroon days and Gold days. Mentor Groups meet each day and will participate in social-emotional learning activities, House Games, service work, and more. Irish Block is reserved for study hall, club meetings, assemblies, Mass or other events that occur throughout the school day.  
Example:

MAROON 1	GOLD 1
MENTOR GROUP	MENTOR GROUP
MAROON 2	IRISH BLOCK
LUNCH	LUNCH
MAROON 3	GOLD 2
MAROON 4	GOLD 3

SCHOOL START: 8:10AM\*  
SCHOOL DISMISSAL: 2:25PM\*

\*School will begin at 9:10AM on Wednesdays for all students. Zero period runs every day but Wednesday and begins at 7:10AM. Early dismissals and schedule changes will be communicated in the Family Bulletin each week. A list of all bell schedules can be found on the O'Dea website.

# APPEARANCE CODE

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

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

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

**Jackets and Sweatshirts:** If a student needs additional warmth during the school day any item of O'Dea apparel (sweatshirt, jacket, fleece, etc.) is allowed. Students are allowed to wear solid colored, plain jackets, fleece, or sweatshirts.

**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, and out of the student's eyes. 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.

**P.E. Uniform:** Students will be given a P.E uniform on the first day of school.

**Spirit Fri'Dea:** If students are wearing a visible O'Dea branded top (t-shirt, polo, or sweatshirt), they may participate in Fri'Dea dress and wear jeans, O'Dea branded sweatpants, or O'Dea pajama bottoms instead of dress pants. If a student is not participating in Fri'Dea dress, they are expected to follow the regular appearance code.

## DRESS CODE EXAMPLES



L-R: Spirit Fri'Dea, Regular Dress Code, Regular Dress Code, Mass Attire



# ACADEMIC TOOLS & TECHNOLOGY

## SURFACE TABLET PROGRAM

Students use Microsoft Surfaces to access texts, complete in-class assignments, take tests, and collaborate with peers and faculty. Families are responsible for purchasing their own Surface devices. Families who receive financial aid may be eligible for financial assistance toward the purchase of a Microsoft Surface device through O’Dea. All students need to bring their fully-charged Surface to school every day.



### Approved Devices:

- Microsoft Surface Pro 9 or 10
- Microsoft Surface Laptop Studio 2

### Additional Required Items:

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



Students will communicate with faculty, staff, and fellow students primarily on Microsoft Teams. Homework assignments, club meetings, House and Student Services information will also be shared on Teams.

### All O’Dea students will be provided with:

- An O’Dea email address
- An Office 365 account
- Access to Office applications (ie. Outlook, Word, OneNote)
- Access to the Adobe Creative Cloud (ie. Adobe InDesign, Premiere)
- Access to Canva
- Digital Textbooks

## INDEPENDENT LEARNERS

One of our primary goals with your student is to build them to be strong, capable, and independent learners when they leave O’Dea. We will expect them to be accountable for due dates, manage communication, and seek help. As you prepare for next school year, please give them responsibilities and expect them to follow-through. This will help them get ready for next year.



# PARENT COMMUNICATION

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:



### FAMILY BULLETIN

- Emailed every Thursday to all parent/guardian email addresses.
- Provides the upcoming weekly school schedule, event dates, announcements, and other important information.
- New families will begin to receive the Family Bulletin in mid to late June.



### POWERSCHOOL & MAGNUS HEALTH

- Student & parent portal to check grades & attendance.
- All parents are provided login credentials prior to start of school year.
- Magnus Health portal accesible via PowerSchool.
- All school health, physical, and athletic form requirements available in Magnus Health.
- O’Dea Family Directory accesible in Magnus Health.



### SWIFTK12

- Mass communication system used to send important and emergency messages, such as Mass Attire reminders, weather delays/closures, or emergencies on campus.
- System generates voice, email, and SMS text alerts to all parent/guardian phones.

## FOLLOW US!



O’DEA HIGH SCHOOL



@ODEAHIGHSCHOOL

## SUMMER MAILING

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

**ALL FORMS ARE DUE TO O’DEA BY AUGUST 1, 2024.**



# HOUSE SYSTEM

When a student enters O’Dea, he is assigned to one of four Houses: Dublin, Waterford, Kilkenny, or Limerick, and will remain in that House his whole time at O’Dea.

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.

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.



# 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 put their faith into action.

## CHRISTIAN SERVICE LEARNING REQUIREMENTS

- 25 hours per school year, to be completed by June 1st of the following year
- Service completed in the summer (prior to the start of school) can count towards 25 hour requirement of the upcoming school year.
- Additional hours will go towards House points but may not rollover to the following year.
- Up to 10 hours of the service requirement can be completed at O’Dea. The remaining hours must be completed outside of O’Dea.



# ATHLETICS

## FRESHMAN STRENGTH & CONDITIONING

July 8-August 7, Mondays & Wednesdays

All freshman are welcome and encouraged to attend!

## SUMMER CROSS COUNTRY PROGRAM

O’Dea XC will meet 3x/week at Lower Woodland in June & July. Please reach out to Coach Bazzi (dbazzi@odea.org) if you are interested in participating.

## ELITE BASKETBALL CAMP

June 3-June 20, Tuesdays & Thursdays

## FOOTBALL CAMP

June 25-27

## FROSH FOOTBALL BEGINS

August 21

## GOLF & CROSS COUNTRY BEGIN

August 26

# OFFERINGS

## FALL (AUG-NOV)

- Golf
- Football\*
- Cross Country\*

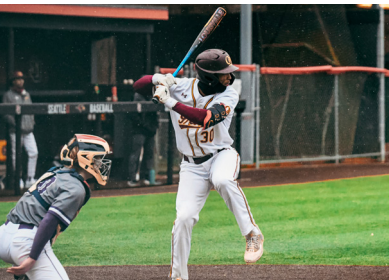
## WINTER (NOV-FEB)

- Basketball
- Wrestling\*
- Swim & Dive\*

## SPRING (FEB-MAY)

- Lacrosse
- Baseball
- Tennis
- Soccer
- Track & Field\*

\*Denotes non-cut sport



# ALL PARTICIPATION FORMS DUE AUGUST 1, 2024

THE FOLLOWING FORMS MUST BE COMPLETED TO PARTICIPATE IN SPORTS AND/OR P.E. AT O’DEA. FORMS CAN BE FOUND IN THE MAGNUS HEALTH PORTAL.

- PHYSICAL FORM
- PARENTAL APPROVAL & STUDENT INFORMATION FORM
- STUDENT EMERGENCY INFORMATION & DISASTER FORM
- CONCUSSION INFORMATION & SUDDEN CARDIAC ACKNOWLEDGEMENT FORM



# 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.
- 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 (The O’Dea Fund) is the foundation of our fundraising program. Every family is asked to contribute, and gifts of any amount are appreciated. We strive for 100% participation.

### Celebrate O’Dea Auction - Saturday, March 15, 2025

The required minimum donation per family is \$300 through sponsorship, item procurement, or outright cash donations.

### Wall of Honor Celebration - Fall 2024

The Wall of Honor celebrates the achievements of past student athletes and coaches while supporting our current athletic programs. Families are encouraged to attend this important fundraising event.

For questions about our fundraising efforts or to find out how you can get involved, contact **Allie DeLong Thomas, Advancement Director** at [athomas@odea.org](mailto:athomas@odea.org).



## MEET THE ADVANCEMENT TEAM

(Back Row L-R) Ethan Greenberg - Advancement Associate, David Mazzeo '99 - Alumni Director  
(Front Row L-R) Laura Weinand - Chief Financial Officer, Allie DeLong Thomas - Advancement Director, Lauren Andrews - Advancement Manager

# THE O’DEA FUND





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