

# WELCOME Back-To-School

SKD 101



ST. KATHARINE  
DREXEL  
ELEMENTARY

# **Parental Covenant**

Since as parents you are the primary educator of your children, you will participate in the education of your children by:

***...recognizing that all that we are and have is a gift from God***

***...promoting positive attitudes toward school at home and in the community***

***...bringing concerns about your child directly to the teacher***

***...showing respect for the teacher as a professional person working for the well-being of your child***

***...following the policies of the school***

***...attending Mass on weekends and holy days with your children (Catholics)***

***...promoting family prayer at home and faith traditions at home***



**Who:**

All SKD Students and Parents

**What:**

Meet your teachers, drop off school supplies, shop the used uniform sale

[2024-2025 School Supply List](#)

**When:**

Monday, August 12th from  
5:00pm-6:00pm

**Where:**

SKD Classrooms

**Why:**

We can't wait to see everyone back!



**OPEN HOUSE**

## **Kindergarten-6th Grade**

- Wednesday, August 14th
- Supervision on the playground begins at 7:30am
- First bell rings at 7:40am and students line up by grade
- Class begins at 7:45am



**FIRST DAY OF SCHOOL**

## **Preschool 3 (T/Th)**

- Thursday, August 15th
- Drop off at the classroom between 7:30am-7:45am
- 10:45am Dismissal

## **Preschool 4 (M/W/F)**

- Wednesday, August 14th
- Drop off at the classroom between 7:30am-7:45am
- 10:45am Dismissal

## **Preschool Plus**

- Wednesday, August 14th
- Drop off at the classroom between 7:30am-7:45am
- Students enrolled all day will transition between PS & PS Plus at lunch time
- 2:45pm Dismissal

## **Preschool 5 (M/T/W/Th/F)**

- Wednesday, August 14th
- Drop off at the classroom at 11:45am
- 2:45pm Dismissal



# Begins on Wednesday, August 14th

## Before School Care:

- 6:45am-7:30am
- Check in with Mrs. Green at the north breezeway.
- Breakfast is not served, but students may bring a small breakfast to eat.

## No School Day Care:

- Held at Holy Spirit Elementary
- Once enrollment opens, sign up promptly as these days tend to fill up.

**Contact Information:** If you know your child/ren will not be attending or have different plans for pick-up, please call or email the school office as soon as possible. If you need to contact the After School Care Staff between 2:45pm-6:00pm, please call 605-940-4986.



**BEFORE & AFTER SCHOOL  
CARE PROGRAM**

## After School Care:

- 2:45pm-6:00pm
- Students are REQUIRED to be signed out using the attendance binder located inside the gym doors.
- A snack is provided daily.

**\*\*\*At this time, the After School Care Program is at capacity. We will not be taking drop-ins during the Fall Semester. This will be re-evaluated at semester break.**



## **ARRIVAL & DISMISSAL PROCEDURES**

### **Arrival:**

- Kindergarten-6th grade students may be dropped off between 7:30am-7:45am.
- There is NO outside supervision before 7:30am.

### **Dismissal:**

- Kindergarten-6th grade students may be picked up between 2:45pm-3:00pm.
- Students not picked up by 3:05pm will be sent to the After School Care Program (\$15 drop-in fee).

### **Preschool Students:**

- Enter through the front doors and walk your child/ren to their classroom.
- Teachers and children will meet parents outside by the flagpole at dismissal time.

### **Student Safety:**

- PS-4th grade students are NOT allowed to walk to or from the parking lot to the sidewalk unless accompanied by an adult.
- Students can enter the vehicle, curb-side only, once it has pulled into the circle drive.
- Students biking to and from school must WALK their bike once on school grounds.

## Bottoms:

- Navy blue pants must be hemmed, appropriately sized, & worn at the natural waistline
- Navy blue walking shorts must be **no shorter** than the fingertips with arms at the side
- Navy blue skorts/skirts must be **no shorter** than the fingertips with arms at the side
- Black, white and navy blue leggings and/or stretch pants can be worn with the skirt or jumper
- Plaid jumpers and/or skirts **MUST** be purchased through Dennis Uniform Company

\*A used uniform closet is located in the office. Items can be purchased year long.



## SCHOOL UNIFORMS

### Shoes/Socks:

- **ONLY tennis shoes** (leather or canvas) are allowed
- Socks with no color restrictions are required

## Tops:

- White shirt of any style and sleeve length with a collar
- No decorations, logos, contrasting colors, t-shirts, undershirts or tank tops
- Navy blue cardigan
- School issued navy blue fleece jackets, royal blue sweatshirts, &  $\frac{1}{4}$  **zip pull-over**
- O'G sweatshirts may be worn over the polo on **Fridays ONLY**

**There will be a USED  
UNIFORM SALE following  
Masses on July 27-28 and at  
Open House!!!**

\*Please refer to the [Elementary Website](#) for the full uniform policy.





**SCHOOL LUNCH**

## Meals:

- The school lunch program begins on Thursday, August 17th.
- Lunch includes a choice between two entrees, along with an unlimited fruit and vegetable bar, and milk.
- Students may choose to bring a “home lunch” if they prefer.
- No fast food, soda, or candy can be brought into the lunchroom.
- A link to the monthly lunch menu can be found on the weekly school updates.

## Cost:

- Elementary student-\$3.60
- Milk only-\$0.55
- Adult-\$4.90
- 4th-6th graders have the opportunity to get ‘seconds’ at an additional cost
- Free and reduced price meals are available. Contact the school office if you need the application form.
- Checks can be turned into the office or payment can be online with MySchoolBucks. Log in or create your free account visiting [MySchoolBucks.com](https://www.myschoolbucks.com).

## Allergies/Intolerances:

- Students with food allergies/intolerances must have a medical form (signed by a doctor) on file at the school.
- Please contact the school office if you need this form OR if changes need to be made to your child’s previous form.



## **Weekly Mass:**

- School Mass is held every Wednesday at 8:00am.
- Classes leading the Mass rotate each week.
- All parents are welcome and encouraged to attend this special part of our week.
- Preschool students begin attending Mass following Labor Day.

## **Mass Mingles (K-6th Grade):**

- Following your child's FIRST assigned class Mass of the year, we invite parents and other family members to join the students for donuts in their classroom.

## **Virtues:**

- We are virtue seeking professional learners.
- Each month there will be a focus virtue highlighted during morning messages, classroom lessons, behavior management and daily prayer time.

## **Retreats:**

- Every grade participates in either a mini-retreat at SKD or full retreat at the Cathedral with the PES Sisters.

## **Catechesis of the Good Shepherd:**

- This year, we are thrilled to be continuing the CGS journey through 2nd grade. Through this experience, children are helped to form an authentic, faithful relationship with God.



**FAITH FORMATION**

## From the Office:

- Weekly Updates are emailed to all families each Friday of the year.
- The updates highlight important pieces of information and upcoming school-wide functions, volunteer links, lunch menu and the school calendar.
- If you do not receive these updates, please let the office know.
- Please do not UNSUBSCRIBE from any Bishop O'Gorman System emails. This will remove you from all distribution lists, including the school.



## SCHOOL COMMUNICATIONS

### Follow Us!

- Instagram: @stkatharinedrexelelementary
- Twitter: @SKD\_Elementary
- Facebook: @stkatharinedrexelelementary

**Keep up to date with our school calendar:**

**[2024-2025 SKD](#)**

## From the Teacher:

- Weekly classroom newsletters will provide class specific information such as focus skills of the week, spelling words, special events, volunteer opportunities, and more.
- **School Connect (formerly ClassTag)** is the platform that **ALL CLASSES** will use this year. More information about School Connect to come!

\*If you have not received an email from School Connect, check your SPAM folder.

## **Meet the Priests on the Block!**

Please welcome and pray for these priests, as they serve our school this year.



**Fr. Andrew**



**Fr. Nick**



**Fr. Tyler**



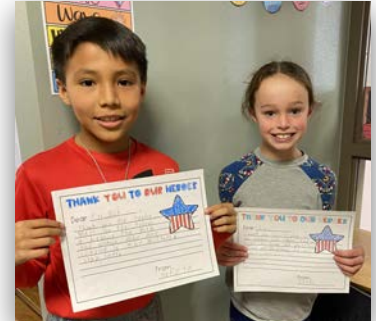
## Service Opportunities

- It is understood that students are children of God and there is a responsibility to guide each into becoming an upstanding member of the school community and in society. In order to inspire students to help those in need, the school participates in Christian service projects during Thanksgiving, Advent, Catholic Schools Week, and Lent. Examples include: making cards for soldiers overseas, donating food items and diapers to the parish pantry, collecting toys for the Children's Home Society, random acts of kindness calendars, and bringing in toiletries and baby items to be sent to a local organization or reservation.
- Students in 4th-6th Grade serve the parish by being altar servers at school, weekday, and weekend Mass, as well as during funerals.
- Students in 4th-6th Grade serve the school by being lunchroom helpers: scraping trays and washing tables between each lunch period.



## Club Opportunities

- Based on parent survey feedback, there is a desire for after school clubs to be offered at SKD. **In order to make clubs possible, PARENT VOLUNTEERS are needed to commit to organizing, leading, and supervising the club.** Possible ideas include: Knights for Life, chess, Spanish, art, robotics/coding, etc. If this is something that you'd like to discuss in more detail, please contact the school office.
- **2024-2025 Clubs:**
  - Lego Club (K-6th Grade)



## What is the School-Family Organization?

- By enrolling in the Bishop O’Gorman Catholic Schools, ALL elementary families are automatically part of the School-Family Organization (SFO).

### Meetings:

- There will be three SFO Parent Advisory meetings in addition to our Parent University Night.
- The meetings are one hour in length.
- Watch the weekly updates for dates and times.
- All parents are invited to attend, with the goal of at least one parent from each grade level present.

### Functions:

- Advisory to administration.
- Planning and executing guest speakers/topics for parent education nights.
- Planning and executing community building functions for students and their families: Pastries with Parents, Grandparents Day, “Let’s Glow” Dance, etc.
- Helping with our annual fundraiser: Walk-A-Thon.
- Networking for parents.
- Positively promoting our school in the broader community.





## Daily Snacks and Water Bottles:

- Preschool-6th Grade students are allowed a daily snack break to help get them through the morning hours.
- Students are responsible for bringing their own snack.
- Please keep snacks healthy and single portion sized.
- Suggested snacks: popcorn, cheez-its, goldfish, granola bar, banana, trail mix, beef stick, fruit snacks, string cheese, etc.
- Kindergarten-6th Grade students are allowed to bring a spill-proof water bottle into class.
- Preschool students are provided water cups with during snack time.



## SNACKS & BIRTHDAYS

## Birthdays

- To help celebrate your child's birthday, students may dress down on their birthday. If they have a summer birthday they may dress down on their half birthday.
- **IMPORTANT POLICY...**All treats must be store bought and individually packaged.
- Acceptable treats: fruit snacks, candy bars, suckers, popsicles, ice cream bars, granola bars, chip bags, Hostess or Little Debbie snacks, donuts, etc.
- Please do not send cakes and/or cookie cakes.
- Please check with your classroom teacher for any food allergies and/or intolerances.



## Screen Time Monitoring (for kids of ALL ages)

Just as we prepare our kids for life in the real world, we should prepare them for life in the online world. Here are some tips every parent should keep in mind:

~ **Monitor the pictures your child posts and the messages they are sending/receiving.**

\*This tip is specifically important for children who have access to Messenger Kid, SnapChat, Instagram, TikTok, texting, and email.

\*Even if your child is not posting, just being a part of the thread, can expose them to a variety of material.

\*Inappropriate/degrading language, mistreatment of others, and inappropriate content are areas that must be addressed.

\*Encourage your child to speak up if they are concerned about any of the above.

~ **Have your child TURN IN their phone at night.**

\*Nothing good happens online after hours.

~ **Monitor the online games they play.**

\*Even if the title of the game seems harmless, be sure to look into it and read the parental reviews. For example, Rainbow Friends on Roblox.

\*In recent years, we have seen an increase in 'violent play, language, and/or drawings' among our younger students this year. They are reenacting characters that are in common online 'kid' games.

\*Children have a difficult time separating reality from make-believe, and then knowing what is appropriate for school, daycare, etc.

\*Even if your younger child isn't playing the game, if they are watching an older sibling play, this affects them and can trickle into their social development.



**TECHNOLOGY**

## **Student Absence:**

- Please call the office by 7:30am if your child is going to be late or absent.
- Please leave a message on the answering machine if you call outside of school hours.
- Planned absences need to be communicated by the parent to the teacher as soon as possible.



## **ATTENDANCE MATTERS**

### **Why Is Attendance Important?**

- Attendance is an essential component to a student's academic and social success, regardless of the student's age and grade level.
- Unexpected events or illnesses are likely to occur during the course of a school year. So, please try to schedule planned events, such as doctor's appointments and family trips, outside of school hours/days.
- Make sure your child arrives at school on time. School begins promptly at 7:45am.

## **Student Check-In and Check-Out:**

- If your child arrives later than 8:00am, please walk them into the school and sign them in.
- If your child leaves during the school day, a parent or designated adult **MUST** sign the student out. If they return, the student **MUST** also be signed back in.
- The check-in/out binder is located at the table in the foyer.

## Family Picture:

- All families are asked to bring a **current family photo** for our SKD Family Tree display in the main school hallway.
- If possible, the photo size needs to be 3x5 or 4x6.
- Please label with your names on the back.
- Your family photo can be dropped off in the office on Open House night or your child may bring it in the first week of school.



## God Made Us A Family

We need one another  
we love one another  
we forgive one another  
we work together  
we play together  
we worship together.

Together we use God's word  
together we grow in Christ  
together we love all men  
together we serve our God  
together we hope for heaven.  
These are our hopes and ideals.  
Help up to attain them, O God.  
Through Jesus Christ our Lord,  
Amen.



# PARENT COMMUNITY...OPPORTUNITIES TO MAKE CONNECTIONS

## Watch out for these events during the year:

- \*Popsicles at the Playground-summer
- \*SKD Day at the Canaries-summer
- \*Open House-Monday, August 12
- \*Parent University-Thursday, August 29
- \*Dakota Bowl-Saturday, August 31
- \*Walk-A-Thon-Friday, September 27
- \*O'Gorman Homecoming-Friday, September 27
- \*Pastries with Parents-Friday, October 18
- \*Grandparents & Special Guests Day-Wednesday, November 27
- \*SFO Advisory Meetings-Tuesday, September 10; Thursday, November 14; Tuesday, March 11
- \*Mass Mingles-Following the grade's FIRST led Mass
- \*Catholic Schools Week Kick-Off Mass Donut Social-Sunday, January 26
- \*Bishop O'Gorman Extravaganza-Saturday, February 22
- \*"Let's Glow" Dance-TBD
- \*Volunteer Drivers/Field Trip Chaperones-TBD
- \*Field Day Volunteer-TBD



**WALK-A-THON**

# Bishop O'Gorman Catholic Schools System Information

## HEAD BACK TO SCHOOL

WITH  
THE  
KNIGHT  
LOCKER



The Knight Locker will be open for a limited time for our back to school sale!

**AUGUST 5TH - 9TH**

MONDAY, TUESDAY, THURSDAY, AND FRIDAY: 8AM - 4PM

WEDNESDAY: 8AM-6PM

O'Gorman High School Front Foyer and Cafeteria

Always open online:  
[theknightlocker.square.site](http://theknightlocker.square.site)



*Purchase the gift cards that give back!*

Fundraise while you shop through the purchases you make on a weekly basis—like gas, groceries and more!

1. Just fill out the form on the right with your order.
2. Put in an envelope with a check or cash.
3. SEAL the envelope and send with your child to school

Your order will be filled and ready for you to pick up at school or be sent home with your child.

Participating businesses return on average, a 5% rebate for every dollar of gift cards purchased—with 50% of that rebate going back to our schools, and you get to choose where the remaining 50% of the earned rebate will be applied.



You can also use the convenient mobile app RaiseRight to purchase electronic gift cards (eGift Cards) and to receive 50% of the rebates that those businesses offer through the program. That means, if the business offers a 15% rebate through the eGift Cards, you'll get 50% of that rebate and Bishop O'Gorman Catholic Schools gets 50% of the rebate.

Visit [www.ogknights.org/giving/gift-card-program](http://www.ogknights.org/giving/gift-card-program) for instructions on how to sign up.

### Questions?

Email [giftcards@ogknights.org](mailto:giftcards@ogknights.org) or call 605.335.6557



Purchaser's Name: \_\_\_\_\_  
Address: \_\_\_\_\_  
Home Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Make all checks payable to **Bishop O'Gorman Catholic Schools**

\$	Applebee's	\$25
\$	Bagel Boy	\$5 \$20
\$	Barnes & Noble	\$10
\$	Bath & Body Works	\$10
\$	Buffalo Wild Wings	\$25
\$	Century Theatres	\$25
\$	CherryBerry	\$5
\$	Circle K	\$25 \$100
\$	Culver's	\$10
\$	DSW (Designer Shoe Warehouse)	\$25
\$	Fareway	\$25 \$100
\$	Fazoli's	\$25
\$	Get-n-Go	\$50 \$100
\$	HyVee	\$25 \$50 \$100
\$	iTunes/ Apple App Store	\$15
\$	Juice Stop	\$5
\$	Kohl's	\$25
\$	Kwik Trip/ Kwik Star	\$25 \$100
\$	Lewis Drug	\$25
\$	Look's Market	\$25
\$	Menards	\$25 \$100
\$	Minervas/Grille 26	\$25
\$	Panera	\$10
\$	Papa Murphy's	\$10
\$	Pizza Ranch	\$25
\$	Pizza Ranch Fun Zone (41st St. Location Only)	\$20
\$	R Wine Bar	\$25
\$	Scheels	\$25 \$50
\$	Scooter's Coffee	\$10 \$25
\$	Sioux Falls Ford	\$50
\$	Starbucks	\$10
\$	Subway	\$10
\$	Target	\$25 \$50
\$	TC Referee	\$25
\$	Texas Roadhouse	\$25
\$	TJMaxx/Marshall's/Home Goods	\$25
\$	WalMart/Sam's Club	\$25 \$100
\$	West Mall 7	\$7 (admission only)
\$	TOTAL	
	Send home with child	
	\$30 charge on returned checks.	

# Get Involved with Bishop O'Gorman Camps



## 2024 Bob Burns DAKOTA BOWL XLVI FOOTBALL CAMP



Join this year's O'Gorman football players and coaches for a skills-camp designed for Knights!

- Spend the evening Kicking, Passing, Running, and Blocking with the Knight Football Team!
- Top 2 of each grade level will participate in the Skills Camp Awards during the pregame!
- All participants will receive limited edition Senior Player Cards, camp t-shirt, FREE entrance to the Dakota Bowl, and be part of the High-Five Tunnel that greets the team as they take the field for the 46th Annual Bob Burns Dakota Bowl!

**Who:** Students in grades K-6<sup>th</sup>

**When:** Friday, August 30 • 6-7pm  
(Check in begins at 5:30m)

**Where:** O'Gorman High School/McEneaney Field

**Cost:** \$45 per participant

**Deadline:** Registration and payment due online by Sunday, August 18th to guarantee shirt size.  
(Walk-up registration also available (shirt sizes will be limited))

Questions: email Liz Myscofski at [lmyscofski@ogknights.org](mailto:lmyscofski@ogknights.org)

This event supports the Bishop O'Gorman Catholic schools and the OGHS Football program!

Register and pay online at  
MySchoolBucks!  
Sign into your [myschoolbucks.com](https://myschoolbucks.com)  
account and go to SCHOOL STORE!  
Or SCAN the QR code!



BISHOP  
O'GORMAN  
CATHOLIC SCHOOLS

## CHEER CAMP 2024

**SPEND THE EVENING WITH THE O'GORMAN CHEERLEADERS!**



The Dakota Bowl Cheer Camp is on Friday, August 30th at O'Gorman High School/McEneaney Field. Come spend the evening with the O'Gorman Cheerleaders and learn cheers, a dance, practice jumps, and how to stunt! If you attend the camp, you will learn a special cheer and dance that you get to perform with the OG cheerleaders at the Dakota Bowl pregame.

This event is run by the O'Gorman Cheerleaders. All proceeds go to fund the cheerleading program at OGHS. Your support of this event is greatly appreciated!

**Who:**

Students in grades K-6<sup>th</sup>

**When:**

Friday, August 30th: 5:30pm-7:30pm  
(check-in begins at 5pm)

**Where:**

O'Gorman High School/McEneaney Field

**Cost:**

\$45 per participant\*

(T-shirt, bow, shaker pom, and game ticket)

\* Camp shirt is your student's ticket to enter the game.  
Additional OG Cheer Bows are available for \$15

## DEADLINE:

Registration and payment due online  
on Sunday, August 18th to guarantee  
T-shirt size.

Walk-up registration also available (shirt sizes will be limited.)

Register and pay online at MySchoolBucks!  
Sign into your [myschoolbucks.com](https://myschoolbucks.com) account and go to SCHOOL STORE!

Questions: email Tara Tobin at  
[ttobin@ogknights.org](mailto:ttobin@ogknights.org)







**LET'S HAVE A GREAT YEAR!!!**