

# Olmsted Falls High School

September 2, 2024 | Volume 4 | Issue 2 |

[Leo Spagnola, Principal](#)

[Dorin Jackson, Assistant Principal](#)

[Pam Madak, Assistant Principal](#)

[Rob Coxon, Athletic Director](#)



 **26939 Bagley Road,  
Olmsted Falls, OH 44138**

 **440-427-6100**

 **[ofcs.net](http://ofcs.net)**

## [New Transportation Platform](#)

**Student bus information will be available through the new My Ride K-12 platform.** The My Ride K-12 platform will provide secure data for bus assignment, bus stop and schedule information for each OFCS student through a dedicated website portal and/or mobile app. The Transportation Department will also use the new My Ride K-12 app to provide custom notifications throughout the year regarding route delays and other updates regarding bus information. The My Ride K-12 app also provides parents and guardians with the ability to message the OFCS Transportation Department directly.

**All families will need to set up an account either through the My Ride K-12 website or My Ride K-12 mobile app in order to access their student's bus information for the 2024-2025 school year.** Please access the My Ride K-12 Parent User Guide with the link below for detailed instructions on how to set-up your new My Ride K-12 account:

### [My Ride K-12 Parent User Guide](#)

If you have any questions about accessing the new My Ride K-12 system, or have questions or notice something that needs to be corrected with your student's bus information once you have accessed and reviewed it, please contact the Transportation Department at (440) 427-6350 for assistance.

**PLEASE NOTE:** Updates to bus routes and schedules will continue to be made through the start of the school year as address changes and other adjustments continue to be processed. You will want to double-check the information for your student(s) in My Ride K-12 one more time just ahead of the first day of school to confirm final route/schedule information.

## [Main Office Hours & Contact Information](#)

7:00am - 3:00pm Monday thru Friday

**Attendance Line: 440-427-6111**

Main Line: 440-427-6100

Principal: Mr. Leo Spagnola 440-427-6101

Assistant Principal Grades 9 & 10 - Mr. Dorin Jackson 440-427-6109

Assistant Principal Grades 11 & 12 - Mrs. Pam Madak 440-427-6109

Director of Athletics - Mr. Rob Coxon 440-427-6115

## [Upcoming](#)

Labor Day | No School | 9/2

College & Coffee | 9/11  
Common App/Essay  
7pm HS Room #606

Presentation | 9/18  
7pm HS Room #606

Picture Day | 10/2

PSAT/NMSQT | 10/24  
All 9th graders & 10th & 11th  
graders that register

Senior Yearbook Photos  
Media Center | 10/25

## [Links](#)

[OFHS Handbook](#)

[OFHS Program Of Studies](#)

[Sports Schedules](#)

[OFCS District Blog](#)

[OFHS Clubs & Activities](#)

[OFHS Guidance Dept:  
Counselors' Corner](#)

[District Blog](#)

[2024 - 2025 School Calendar](#)

## **New Cell Phone Policy for All Students**

Research shows that student use of cellphones in schools has negative effects on student performance and mental health. Cell phones distract students from classroom instruction, resulting in smaller learning gains. Increased cell phone use has led to higher levels of depression, anxiety, and other mental health disorders in children.

Maintaining the integrity of the learning environment is our top priority and the use of cell phones has deteriorated the quality of classroom instruction. We understand that the last few years have been tough and students have gravitated to cell phone usage as a strong means of socialization. We need to get back to the basics of in-class instruction and one way is the elimination of our top distraction — our CELL PHONE. By implementing this policy, we aim to create a learning environment that fosters focus, engagement, and academic success while helping students develop important life skills.

### **Our rationale for implementing a new cell phone policy is for the following reasons:**

We understand that cell phones are an important part of your daily lives, and we want to reassure you that you will still have opportunities to use them. Cell phones may be used on school grounds before school, during lunch, study hall period and after school. Cell phone use is prohibited in classrooms, restrooms, and school offices. During the instructional day, cell phones must remain in silent mode.

At the start of each class period, students will turn in their cell phone into their assigned caddie slot. They will not remain in students' pockets or backpacks. The cell phone will remain in the caddie for the duration of the class period. Teachers will prompt students to turn in their cell phone and when it will be the appropriate time to collect their device.

Cell phones must be placed in the cell phone caddie for each instructional class period. Teachers will review their procedure for collecting cell phones as well as where the caddie is located within the classroom. Students will not take their cell phone with them if they have permission to leave the class; ie - bathroom break, called to the guidance office or main offices. If students are leaving the school day early, they can collect their cell phone by alerting the teacher before they leave the classroom. If students need to place an emergency phone call during the day, they should request to go to the main office to use an office phone.

Students may be subject to disciplinary action if their use of their cell phones disrupts the school's educational environment. Examples of this include, but are not limited to: cheating, bullying, harassment, unlawful recording or photographing, refusing to follow teacher procedures, and violating other school rules.

## **Masquers - Upcoming Important Dates**

Masquers informational meeting is September 10th from 3:00-3:30. Please attend this important meeting. Also, auditions for the fall play are September 16th and 17th after school in the Auditorium.

## **Seniors - Breakdown for 9/4/24 PLC Day**

Auditorium - A-K (College)

606 - L-Z (College)

Media Center - All (Work/Military)

## **PSAT/NMSQT Important Information**

### **FOR 10TH & 11TH GRADERS**

The digital PSAT/NMSQT will be administered on Thursday, October 24, 2024 from 8:10 AM to 11AM at OFHS. College bound 10th and 11th grade students are encouraged to test. Students should bring their chromebook, fully charged, and are allowed to bring their own calculator.

#### **Deadline to register is Friday September 13th, 2024**

Students are dismissed from school upon completion of the PSAT test. Buses will be available and will run at normal times before and after school. Any student needing a ride home will be placed in a study hall until bus dismissal after school. Students who receive testing accommodations will receive additional communication with specific testing information and approximate end times. Optional lunch will be provided at the conclusion of the test.

**\*\*10th and 11th grade students** who do not register to take the PSAT/NMSQT **DO NOT** need to report to OFHS on Thursday, October 24, 2024. Polaris students who choose not to take the PSAT/NMSQT will still need to report to Polaris on Thursday, October 24, 2024. We will notify Polaris of the Polaris juniors who are registered for the test and are excused from Polaris. Any Polaris junior not taking the PSAT/NMSQT does not report to the high school but will still report to Polaris.

#### **Reasons to take the PSAT**

- Practice for college admissions tests.
- Score indicates how your student would perform on a college admission test.
- Results indicate areas of strength and improvement.
- Free test prep is provided after the test results are released.
- Juniors test for entrance into the National Merit Scholarship Competition as well as millions of dollars in other scholarship opportunities.

#### **How to sign- up**

Students will bring a Check or Cash to Mrs. Kaminski in the Main Office. The cost of the test is \$18.00. Students need to bring **exact change** if paying with cash. Checks can be made out to Olmsted Falls High School. The cost of the test can also be applied to your student's school fees for those that need to pay via credit card, however you **MUST** still come to the Main Office to register before the 9/13 deadline.

**\*\*If you applied this year and were approved for free/reduced lunch, please have your child contact Mr. Alex Lintner in the OF Guidance Department for help with registering for the PSAT/NMSQT prior to registration deadline. **Deadline to register is Friday September 13th, 2024****

**CollegeBoard does not accept late registrations**

### **12TH GRADE STUDENTS**

12th grade students will NOT report to the building on Thursday, October 24, 2024. Seniors are encouraged to use this time to visit college/university campuses and explore career opportunities.

### **PSAT FOR 9TH GRADERS**

9th grade students will report to the building on Thursday, October 24, 2024. 9th grade students will be given the PSAT 8/9 on October 24th. There is no pre-registration or cost to take the PSAT 8/9. A detailed schedule and outline for the day will be sent, via an eblast, to all 9th grade families. Students are dismissed from school upon completion of the PSAT test. Buses will be available and will run at normal times before and after school. Any student needing a ride home will be placed in a study hall until bus dismissal after school. Students who receive testing accommodations will receive additional communication with specific testing information and approximate end times. Optional lunch will be provided at the conclusion of the test.

[More information on PSAT 8/9](#)



**Fall 2024 PSAT Approved Calculator List**

## **Congratulations to Officer Hare**

The Silver and Gold organization presented our SRO, Patrolman Ryan Hare, with the prestigious "Humanitarian Award" for his exceptional efforts in using a drone to locate a missing elderly man a few months ago utilizing the newest technology available. Congrats Officer Hare!



## **Free Gift from Cavanaugh**

Cavanaugh has an exciting FREE gift for students and parents! To celebrate their 22nd year in business – they are giving away hi-res downloads of all our sports candids this year! Please contact them directly!

## **1st Annual "Tackle Breast Cancer" Car Wash**

The Olmsted Falls High School Football Team joined the Team Mauro Foundation in hosting the 1st Annual "Tackle Breast Cancer" Car Wash. Their efforts raised \$2,110.00, which was donated to Southwest General's "Fitness is Power" Program. This program is designed to assist local Breast Cancer Survivors!





## Polaris News

Congratulations to your students who were recently selected as a Polaris Career Center student ambassador for the 2024-25 school year! These students will represent Polaris at recruitment-related events and help promote Polaris to potential students. Student ambassadors must meet the following requirements: maintain a B or above in all Polaris classes; maintain 95% attendance; have no excessive tardies or major discipline issues; and an instructor recommendation.



## Olmsted Falls High School Polaris Career Center 2024-2025 Student Ambassadors



Daniel Kuebler, Aeronautics  
Stephania Kaput, Aeronautics  
John Graver, Automotive Technology  
Ryan Caso, Business & Office Technology  
Aidan McDaniel, Criminal Justice  
Avery Miller, Criminal Justice  
Gavin Range, Criminal Justice  
Gerald Jackson, Criminal Justice  
Gian Ortiz, Criminal Justice  
Sophia Krall, Criminal Justice  
Haiden Rupert, Cosmetology  
Gabriel Paletta, Culinary Arts  
Amelia Barris, Dental Assisting  
Aubrey Bosak, Dental Assisting  
Mason McDiffett, Dental Assisting

Jeremiah Beshears, Digital Art & Design  
Abby Pirnat, EMT/Fire  
Chase Borgia, EMT/Fire  
Joey Monyak, EMT/Fire  
Ryan Roberto, EMT/Fire  
Tarryn Rybak, EMT/Fire  
Ryan Habert, Precision CNC Machining  
Abby Kub, Pre-Nursing  
Allyson White, Pre-Nursing  
Elizabeth England, Pre-Nursing  
Emma Vidlicka, Pre-Nursing  
Heidi McCullar, Pre-Nursing  
Elizabeth Goal, Pre-Veterinary Science  
Gabriella Hanna, Pre-Veterinary Science  
Ressi Buttolph, Pre-Veterinary Science  
Sydney Busser, Pre-Veterinary Science



## **REPEATING INFORMATION FROM OUR OPENING SCHOOL YEAR NEWSLETTER**

### **Free and Reduced Lunch**

For those who are income-eligible for free or reduced priced meals please complete the application process. The Application Form for Free or Reduced Lunch Plan is available via this [Link](#). By doing so this can help with fee waivers as well. Please use this link to view the lunch menus - [Link](#)

### **Attendance**

**The High School attendance line number is: 440-427-6111.** A parent/guardian must call the Attendance Line each & every day his/her student(s) will be absent from school no later than 9:00 am.

The following information must be provided:

Student name, reason for absence, and parent/guardian contact phone number. Students will be considered truant from school if parent/guardian contact is not received. In the event a parent/guardian neglects to notify the Student Office of an absence, a written note must be provided upon return to school. All written verification must be received in the Student Office immediately upon the student's arrival to school. Please refer to the student handbook posted on our website for specific information regarding excused and unexcused absences.

### **Important Dates to Remember**

- October 2nd - Underclassmen Picture Day
- October 5th - Homecoming Dance (details to follow)
- November 7th and 14th - Parent / Teacher Conferences (5:30pm - 8:30pm)
- November 22nd & 23rd - Masquers' Fall Play
- March 11th - ACT Testing (Juniors).

### **No School for Students**

- September 2nd - Labor Day
- October 10th - Staff Professional Development Day
- October 11th - NEOEA Day
- October 24th - PSAT/NMSQT - Only Freshmen and upperclassmen that register attend
- November 5th - Election Day / Staff Professional Development Day
- November 27th-29th - Thanksgiving Break
- December 23rd - January 5th - Winter Break
- January 17th - Staff Professional Development Day / Records Day for Semester I
- January 20th - Martin Luther King Day
- February 14th - Staff Professional Development Day
- February 17th - Presidents Day
- March 14th - Staff Professional Development Day
- March 31st - April 4 - Spring Break
- April 18th-21st - Easter Break
- May 6th - Election Day / Staff Professional Development Day
- May 26th - Memorial Day

## Student Professional Learning Communities / Late Starts

Oftentimes, grade level meetings are held for students during the school day, disrupting the learning environment and educational process. To solve this issue we are conducting seven late starts to conduct required and or meaningful grade level meetings. **Attendance is mandatory.** This will allow us to maintain the 8 period school day and conduct grade level meetings. In the table below is the list of dates that students will report to school at 8:10 am. The grades not listed on each day will officially start their school day at 9:30 am. Topics will include internet/social media safety, college application process, career exploration/Naviance and Polaris. Transportation on PLC days will be provided for both the 8:10 am and 9:30 am start times. Normal bus runs will occur for the students that are reporting at 8:10 am for their PLC then a secondary bus run will occur for students starting the day at 9:30am. This is the same process of transportation we do on our late start state testing days.

<u>Dates</u>	<u>Bell Schedule</u>
September 4th - all Seniors report by 8:10 am	PLC 8:10 am - 9:20 am
October 7th - Freshman & Sophomores report 8:10 am	1° 9:30am - 10:05am (35)
November 4th - Sophomores only report by 8:10 am.	2° 10:09am - 10:44am (35)
January 13th - Juniors only report by 8:10 am.	3° 10:48am - 11:22am (34)
February 3rd - Freshman only report by 8:10 am.	4° 11:26am - 12:00pm (34)
March 3rd - Juniors only report to school by 8:10 am.	5° 12:04pm - 12:38pm (34)
April 29th - Seniors only report by 8:10 am.	6° 12:42pm - 1:16pm (34)
	7° 1:20pm - 2:01pm (41)
	8° 2:05pm - 2:46pm (41)

## Late Arrival & Early Dismissal Privilege

All students in grades 9-12 that have study hall first period are eligible for late arrival and will report to school second period. All students in grades 9-12 that have study hall 8th period are eligible for early dismissal and may exit the building at the end of 7th period. This is a privilege and may be revoked at any time for disciplinary reasons and/or excessive tardiness reporting to school as well as academic concerns.

Please click on the following link to open the form:

[Underclassmen Late Arrival/Early Release AGREEMENT](#)

Note: Parent permission is required for this privilege. Students may not participate in late arrival or early dismissal unless the form is completed and turned in to the student services office. Parent permission form may be turned into the student services office prior to the start of the school year.

### **PLEASE NOTE:**

**You can turn the forms in prior to the first day of school. If you turn in prior to the start of the school year you can start early dismissal and or late arrival the very first day.**



## Senior Open Campus During Lunch

Only seniors have the privilege of leaving the building during their assigned lunch period. If a senior has an assigned study hall period that is prior to or following their lunch period they may leave during the two periods. Any underclassman student that leaves the building midday will receive office discipline for "cutting" lunch. Please click on the following link to open the form:

[SENIOR PRIVILEGE OPEN CAMPUS](#)

Note: Parent permission is required for this privilege. Students may not participate in Senior Privilege Open Campus unless the form is completed and turned in to the student services office. Parent permission form may be turned into the student services office prior to the start of the school year.

### **PLEASE NOTE:**

***You can turn the forms in prior to the first day of school. If you turn in prior to the start of the school year you can start early dismissal and or late arrival the very first day.***

## Fees

Fees for the 2024-25 school year will be posted to your students accounts within the first few weeks of school. A notification will be sent that new school fees have been added to your child's account. Please plan to review and promptly pay your students school fees upon receiving the notification. Fees can be paid using this [link](#).

Seniors: All school fees must be paid prior to purchasing prom tickets and or participating in commencement ceremonies. This includes any and all fees associated with time spent at Olmsted Falls City Schools. If you would like to make arrangements for payment plans, please contact Eileen Albert within the high school student services office. Payment plans can be arranged, please contact Mrs. Albert at [éalbert@ofcs.net](mailto:éalbert@ofcs.net)

## Student Pickup and Dropoff

During the morning arrival, all students should be dropped off at the athletic entrance at the side of the building. During dismissal all students will be picked up at the athletic entrance at the side of the building. During dismissal students will not be permitted to exit the building via the front doors. Only bus riders will enter and exit the building via the main entrance doors. **THIS IS FOR STUDENT SAFETY** and to allow our buses a safe passageway in our narrow driveway. New signs are posted to help remind parents of the proper drop off and pick up of students. The far west drive is a one way street for entering the parking lot only. At no times should this be used as an exit. Students caught using this to exit school grounds may have their parking privileges revoked.

