

Olmsted Falls High School

September 9, 2024 | Volume 4 | Issue 3 |

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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.

[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.

[Upcoming](#)

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

College & Coffee | 9/18
7pm HS Room #606

PTA Mtg | 9/23
7:00 PM - Media Ctr

Picture Day | 10/2

Homecoming Dance | 10/5

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](#)
[IN THE LOOP](#)
[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 caddy slot. They will not remain in students' pockets or backpacks. The cell phone will remain in the caddy 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 caddy for each instructional class period. Teachers will review their procedure for collecting cell phones as well as where the caddy 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.

Vote for the our Lady Bulldog Volleyball Players

Who is the best high school girls volleyball player in Northeast Ohio? Cleveland.com is running a poll and they are turning to you to find out. The seven-county cleveland.com coverage area in Northeast Ohio is full of volleyball talent. Who is the best? There will be a clearer answer once the season is done. But for now, what is your vote? Check out the poll to vote. The poll will close Sept. 17. [VOTE HERE](#)



Rotary Youth Leadership Awards

Congratulations to Dominic DiFillipo for being selected to represent OFHS this summer at Rotary Youth Leadership Awards (RYLA) training. The Berea Rotary Club sponsored 1 student from Berea and one from Olmsted Falls. It was a great program with students from all over Northeast Ohio! He is speaking along with the student from Berea at the Rotary Club meeting next week.



PLC Day - Senior Meeting Update and Link

On Wednesday, September 4th the senior class had the opportunity to participate in the first PLC of the school year. The topics presented by the Guidance Department were The College Application Process and Transitioning to Work and Military. Seniors were able to select the topic that fits their post high school plans. The seniors who attended the Work/Military session had a meet and greet with recruiters and representatives from Polaris Career Center. The lesson for The College Application Process was recorded and can be found [here](#). A comparable presentation on College Applications is available for parents! Join us for College and Coffee on Wednesday, September 11th at 7 PM in room 606.

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



OLMSTED FALLS HIGH SCHOOL

Homecoming Gathering

Join us for our 3rd Annual Alumni Homecoming Gathering at the Olmsted Falls High School cafeteria before the Bulldog football game. This will be a free social event with refreshments, tours of the school & mingling with other Alumni.

October 4
5pm-6:30pm

Once a Bulldog Always a Bulldog

PICTURE DAY!

Easy as 1-2-3

1

Picture Day Dates



OFHS (9th-11th) - 10/2

OFMS - 9/24

Falls-Lenox - 9/20

OFIS - 9/27

ECC - 10/1

2

Online Ordering



cavanaughphoto.com/order

Store is open now & will remain open for 48 hours after picture day.

Cash or Check Ordering

Print out the flyer that the school emailed you. Place the flyer, EXACT cash or check (made out to Cavanaugh Photography) in an envelope & send it in with your student on picture day.

3

Picture Day!



Pick out your favorite clothes that make you want to SMILE! And if you're buying pictures, make sure you ordered online or bring in your downloaded form & payment!



CAVANAUGH
PHOTOGRAPHY
classic, contemporary, creative.

Questions? Call 440.973.4390

OFHS Late Start - Student PLC's Schedule

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 9:30 am. The second round of buses will leave the bus garage at 8:45 am. This is the same process of transportation we do on our late start state testing days. Only the students in the left column will report to school for 8:10 am start.

<u>Dates</u>	<u>Bell Schedule</u>
<u>September 4th - Seniors</u> College Applications, Career Focus, and Military	1st Period 9:30am - 10:05am (35)
<u>October 7th - Freshman & Sophomores</u> TBA	2nd Period 10:09am - 10:44am (35)
<u>November 4th - Sophomores (Counselors)</u> Career Assessment and Exploring Careers that match personalities	3rd Period 10:48am - 11:22am (34)
<u>January 13th - Juniors</u> Junior Pathways - Looking Ahead to beyond OFHS	4th Period 11:26am - 12:00pm (34)
<u>February 3rd - Freshman</u> Career Assessment and Exploring interests	5th Period 12:04pm - 12:38pm (34)
<u>March 3rd - Juniors</u> Communicating Your Strengths / Preparing for College Applications and Job Interviews	6th Period 12:42pm - 1:16pm (34)
<u>April 29th - Seniors</u> Senior Class Meeting	7th Period 1:20pm - 2:01pm (41)
Note: No PLCs in December and May	8th Period 2:05pm - 2:46pm (41)

Reminders

Polaris Seniors will need to leave at the end of 2nd Period and will not be present for 3rd Period.	Off campus CCP students may have conflicts due to the schedule shift.	Lunch periods cannot be moved any later in the day due to staffing/contract this is why 7th & 8th periods are longer.
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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

- 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

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 elialbert@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.

