

Senior Portrait Photo Session FAQs

- **Official Senior Photography Company:** [Upstate Images](#) is the only authorized photography company contracted to take Senior Portraits at O'Neill High School. Please use caution with any emails received from any other photography company claiming to be our photography company and please report this to the Administration at O'Neill immediately.
- **Emails from Upstate Images:** You may have already started receiving emails/texts directly from them. Please Note: If you do not start receiving emails or texts from their company by the end of August 2026, *please reach out to Upstate Images Customer Service* so you can be added to their system. This way, you are continually receiving updates on senior portrait dates/sessions. Their customer service # is (855) 773-3321.
- **Summer Senior Portrait Date:** Upstate Images will be at the O'Neill Library on **August 24th** for summer senior portrait sessions! We encourage you to take advantage of these summer appointments—your senior can arrive fresh, relaxed, and ready for the camera. Once school starts, scheduling becomes much trickier around class schedules.
- **Studio Sessions Available:** We understand that the summer is a busy time for families and August 24th may not work for your family. Upstate Images wants you to know that you can always book a senior portrait session at their New Paltz, NY studio on a summer date that works best for your family as an alternative if you would still like to get the senior portrait photos done in the summer. Otherwise, there will be one fall senior portrait date at O'Neill as well.
- **Fall Senior Portrait Sessions Available:** There will be one fall senior portrait date on **October 26th** as an alternative in case the summer session date does not work for taking your senior portrait. However, by taking the photos in the summer, you will have the opportunity to retake photos in the fall if needed. By waiting til the last fall date to take the senior photo, you will lose the opportunity to schedule retakes at O'Neill and will have to utilize one of their other locations for retakes.
- **Free Seniors Yearbook Photo Session Available:** We have arranged with Upstate Images to have a "free" portrait session available to any student that does not wish to purchase a portrait package. In order to only have the free yearbook session, you must call Upstate Images at 1-855-773-3321 to book this session. It will not appear as an option when using the platform to schedule an appointment.
- **Session Fees for Upstate Images:** When you choose your Upstate Images Session (other than the free yearbook session), the fee that they charge is for the *session*, not for the actual photos. Purchasing photos is an additional charge based on what size photos you purchase, the quantity you purchase, etc.
- **Using Other Photographers for Senior Portraits:** If your family would like to have senior portraits taken by a different photographer, you may do so. However, in order to have your child's portrait in the yearbook, we require your daughter/son to have a photo taken with the same color background as Upstate Images, as well as with your child wearing the traditional black drape or tux. Please have your photographer reach out to Sheri.mcnaair@hffmcsd.org so that she can coordinate the details with them including where to send the completed yearbook photo and the background color. *Please Note:* Any portrait taken with an outside photography company must be received by **January 15th** in order to be placed in the yearbook.

- **Traditional Drape/Tuxedo Requirement:** The Yearbook Pose that is featured in the yearbook for females: the traditional black drape and for males: the traditional black tuxedo. We also require the photo to be a color photo, not a black and white photo. If your daughter/son does not wish to wear the traditional drape/tuxedo for their yearbook senior portrait, your child can wear a *plain* black shirt to their photography session. No writing or images on the shirt may appear in the photo.
- **Senior and Pet Sessions:** Photo sessions with pets are prohibited at O'Neill High School sessions. However, you are welcome to book an appointment at one of Upstate Image's Studios to have this done. The nearest studio is in New Paltz, NY.
- **Choosing the Yearbook Pose:** Due date is **January 15th** for choosing the yearbook pose. Once your daughter/son has completed their portrait session with Upstate Images, you will receive an individualized code to access the session proofs. Specific instructions on choosing the yearbook pose can be found here. We encourage you to do this as early as possible so you don't miss the deadline.
- **Missed the January 15th Deadline for Choosing a Pose?:** If your child has completed an Upstate Images session, but no yearbook pose was chosen by **January 15th**, then the yearbook staff will utilize the pose that Upstate Images has starred as the primary pose. *This will not be changeable.*
- **No Senior Yearbook Photo Taken by January 15th?:** If your child has not completed an Upstate Images session or has not submitted a yearbook photo from an outside photography company by January 15th, then your child's name will be listed in the yearbook senior portrait section as "Not Pictured." Any senior entering O'Neill after January 15th will not be listed in the yearbook.
- **Senior Name Changes:** Name changes for seniors have two distinct deadline dates based on yearbook page submittal dates. A name change finalized and reflected in SchoolTool **on or before December 31st** will be reflected on all pages of the yearbook in which your child's name appears (clubs, sports, senior portraits, baby picture, etc.). However, any name change finalized and reflected in SchoolTool **after December 31st** and up until **January 15th**, can only be changed on the senior portrait page. By that date, other pages in the yearbook have already been submitted to the publisher for printing. No name change can be completed in the yearbook after January 15th. Please make sure to reach out to Sheri.mcnaair@hffmcsd.org to let the yearbook club know that a name change is in process for your child. This way we are aware of it and can flag it in the system for change.