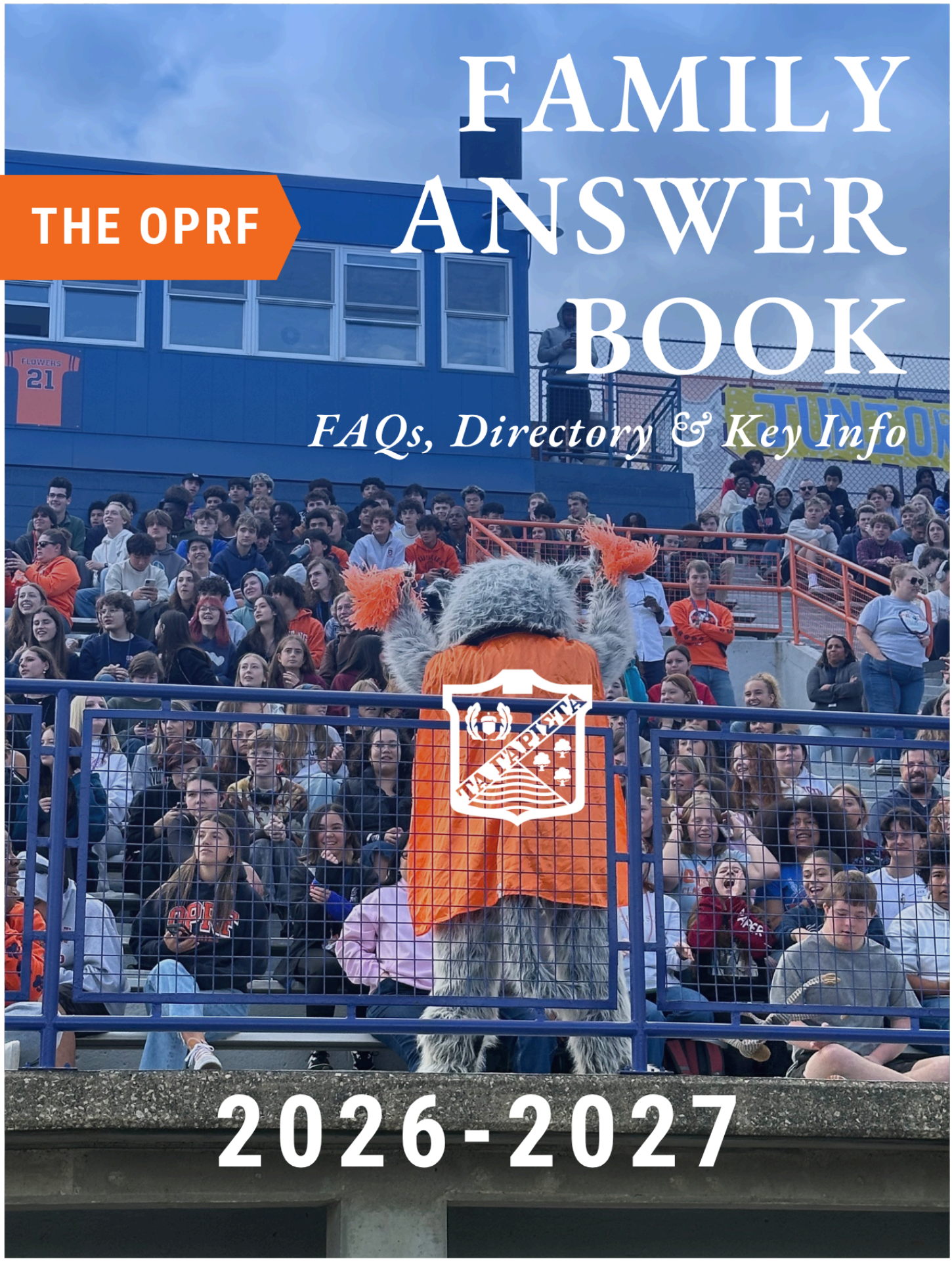
THE OPRF

FAMILY ANSWER BOOK

FAQs, Directory & Key Info



2026-2027

Welcome to OPRF!

Dear OPRF High School Families,
Learning the ins and outs of this big, busy place can be daunting—not only for new families but also for many who've been here awhile. We hope that this guide will make navigating the high school a little bit easier.

We often receive the same questions throughout the year—some are answered in the student handbook or on our website, others come from swapping tips with fellow families, and a few can be surprisingly hard to track down. This guide is here to help. The first few pages highlight the most frequently used information, and beginning on page 11, topics are listed alphabetically for easy reference. Can't find what you need? Feel free to contact the communications department at any time.

We hope that after reading all of the tips in this guide, you feel more prepared to navigate high school. May you have a rich and rewarding experience at
OPRFHS.

Best wishes for a great year!

Sincerely,
Karin Sullivan
Executive Director of Communications & Community Relations
ksullivan@oprfhs.org
708-434-3870

Olivia Schreiner
Communications & Community Relations Coordinator
oschreiner@oprfhs.org
708-434-3516

Register to Receive Text Messages
Families receive regular text messages from the district only if they set up their ParentSquare account. Simply register using the email address you use for district communications at parentsquare.com/signin. Learn more on our website: bit.ly/OPRFParentSquare.

Follow us on social media:

Student Handbook

@oprfhs_huskies

oprfhs.org

@oprfhuskies

Contact Us

OPRF School Main Number: 708-383-0700	**Attendance Office:** 708-434-3104, attendance@oprfhs.org
Welcome Center: 708-434-3125 • School year: Monday – Friday, 7:00 a.m. – 10:00 p.m. • Summer: Monday – Thursday, 7:00 a.m. – 3:30 p.m.	**Bookstore:** 708-434-3940, bookstore@oprfhs.org • School year: Monday – Friday, 7:30 a.m. – 3:30 p.m. • Summer: Monday – Thursday, 8:00 a.m. – 3:00 p.m.

Superintendent (Rm 2157)	Dr. Greg Johnson	gjohnson@oprfhs.org
Assistant Superintendent/Principal (Rm 2165)	Lynda Parker	ljparker@oprfhs.org
Assistant Superintendent for Business Services (Rm 2157)	Anthony Arbogast	aarbogast@oprfhs.org
Assistant Superintendent for Student Learning (Rm 2188)	Dr. Jennifer Hester	jhester@oprfhs.org
Executive Director for Equity and Student Success (Rm 2166A)	Dr. Lee Williams	lwilliams@oprfhs.org
Executive Director of Special Education (Rm 1141D)	Andrea Neuman	aneuman@oprfhs.org
Assistant Principal for Operations (Rm 2386A)	David Narain	dnarain@oprfhs.org
Director of Student Learning (Rm 3252)	Jennifer Brinkman	jbrinkman@oprfhs.org
Assistant Principal for Student Services (Rm 2286B)	Lauren Olson	laolson@oprfhs.org
Athletic Director (Temporary Rm)	Nicole Ebsen	nebsen@oprfhs.org
Student Activities Director (Rm 2151E)	Angie Hawkins	ahawkins@oprfhs.org
Director of Campus Safety (Rm 1133)	Kristen Devitt	kdevitt@oprfhs.org
D200 Board of Education		boe@oprfhs.org
Academic Division Heads:		
Career and Technical Education (Rm 3107A)	Matt Prebble	mprebble@oprfhs.org
English (Rm 3342)	Erika Eckart	eeckart@oprfhs.org
Fine and Performing Arts (Rm TBD)	Tom Ruzinok	truzinok@oprfhs.org
History (Rm 3332B)	Amy Hill	ahill@oprfhs.org
Mathematics (Rm 2288)	Dr. Julie Frey	jfrey@oprfhs.org
Physical and Driver Education (Rm 2301)	Brian Beyers	bbeyers@oprfhs.org
Science and Technology (Rm 2290)	Matt Kirkpatrick	mkirkpatrick@oprfhs.org
Asst. Dir. of Special Education (Rm 1141C)	Dr. Lesley Roberts	lroberts@oprfhs.org
World Languages (Rm 3344E)	Claudia Sahagun	csahagun@oprfhs.org
Other:		
Health Services/Nurses Office (Rm 2360)	708-434-3534	ddigioia@oprfhs.org
Library Circulation Desk (SRC 395B)	708-434-3495	librarygroup@oprfhs.org
Registrar's Office (Rm 2120)	708-434-3262 and 708-434-3260	Registrar@oprfhs.org

Student Support Teams (SST)

Team	Name	Title	Email
	Lauren Olson	Asst. Principal for Student Services	laolson@oprfhs.org
	Gabrielle Van Zant	Secretary	gvanzant@oprfhs.org
1	Brandi Ambrose	Counselor	bambrose@oprfhs.org
	Meghan Cahill	Counselor	mcahill@oprfhs.org
	Tia Campbell	Counselor	tcampbell@oprfhs.org
	Kermit Blakely	Dean	kblakely@oprfhs.org
	Nabiha Calcuttawala	Social Worker	ncalcuttawala@oprfhs.org
	Allison Butin	Social Worker	abutin@oprfhs.org
	Alexis Iliadhi	Psychologist	ailiadih@oprfhs.org
	Mary D'Avella	Secretary	mdavella@oprfhs.org
2	Carolyn Ojikutu	Counselor	cojikutu@oprfhs.org
	Katie O' Keefe	Counselor	kokeefe@oprfhs.org
	Darek Radziszewski	Counselor	dradziszewski@oprfhs.org
	Benjamin Marcial	Dean	bmarcial@oprfhs.org
	Jason Lee	Social Worker	jlee@oprfhs.org
	Lisa Makely	Social Worker	lmakely@oprfhs.org
	Rachel Elderkin	Psychologist	relderkin@oprfhs.org
	Tichina Gardner	Secretary	tigardner@oprfhs.org
3	Julie Fuentes	Counselor	jfuentes@oprfhs.org
	Pete Nixen	Counselor	pnixen@oprfhs.org
	Erica White	Counselor	ewhite@oprfhs.org
	Ellayne Watson	Dean	ewatson@oprfhs.org
	Jonathan Ecker	Social Worker	jecker@oprfhs.org
	Leena Granli	Social Worker	lgranli@oprfhs.org
	Becky Perez	Psychologist	bperez@oprfhs.org
	Christine Keyes	Secretary	ckeyes@oprfhs.org

Continued on next page

Team	Name	Title	Email
4	Alex Arbit	Counselor	aarbit@oprfhs.org
	Jacqueline Hanson	Counselor	jhanson@oprfhs.org
	Joe Herbst	Counselor	jherbst@oprfhs.org
	Marquita Thompson	Dean	mthompson@oprfhs.org
	Katherine Madock	Social Worker	kmadock@oprfhs.org
	Ramon Ovalle	Social Worker	rovalle@oprfhs.org
	Michelle Jiles	Psychologist	mjiles@oprfhs.org
	Ann Harmon	Secretary	aharmon@oprfhs.org
5	Claudia Holland	Counselor	cholland@oprfhs.org
	Esteban Medina	Counselor	emedina@oprfhs.org
	Scott Sponsler	Counselor	ssponsler@oprfhs.org
	Darryl Hobson	Dean	dhobson@oprfhs.org
	Khalida Himes	Social Worker	khimes@oprfhs.org
	Pat Woytek	Social Worker	pwoytek@oprfhs.org
	Kristen Sudnik	Psychologist	ksudnik@oprfhs.org
	Raphael Espinoza	Secretary	respinoza@oprfhs.org
	Ginger Bencola	Prevention/Wellness Coord.	gbencola@oprfhs.org
	Barbara Sutton	504 Secretary	bsutton@oprfhs.org
	Kandis Jernigan	Student Support Specialist	kjernigan@oprfhs.org

Every student is assigned to a **Student Support Team (SST)** that works together throughout their four years at OPRF. Each team includes a **counselor, dean, social workers, and a school psychologist** who meet regularly to identify student needs, coordinate support, and develop action plans.

How families can help: If you have academic, attendance, behavioral, or social-emotional concerns, please reach out to a member of your child's SST. We can best support students when we work together with families.

Team Members

- **Counselors:** Academic planning, graduation progress, college and career guidance, and social-emotional support.
- **Deans:** Student behavior, attendance support, restorative practices, and maintaining a safe learning environment.
- **Social Workers:** Individual and group support, crisis intervention, family outreach, and community resources.
- **School Psychologists:** Data analysis, intervention planning, and 504 Plan coordination.

I Have a Question About . . .

504 Plans and Accommodations	**Daniela Lukic-Cole**, 504 Coordinator: dlukiccole@oprfhs.org
Absences and Tardies	**Attendance Office,** 708-434-3104
Advanced Placement	**Student's teacher**; **Kim Asbury**, Testing Specialist: kasbury@oprfhs.org; **Jennifer Brinkman**, Director of Student Learning: jbrinkman@oprfhs.org; **Naybeth Moreno**, Secretary: nmoreno@oprfhs.org, **Carin Lucas**, SSD Coordinator: clucas@oprfhs.org
Assistive Technology	**Lisa Vincent**, Assistive Technology Coordinator/Occupational Therapist: lvincent@oprfhs.org
Athletics	**Nicole Ebsen**, Athletic Director: nebsen@oprfhs.org; **Julie Elmiger**, Secretary: jelmigher@oprfhs.org
Back-to-School Night	**Lynda Parker**, Assistant Superintendent/Principal: ljparker@oprfhs.org;
Board of Education Meetings	Visit **D200 Diligent Community** bit.ly/OPRFBoardofEducation; **Lisa Evans**, Clerk of the Board: levans@oprfhs.org
Campus Safety	**Kristen Devitt**, Director of Campus Safety and Support: kdevitt@oprfhs.org
Computer Proficiency Test	**Matt Prebble**, Division Head of Career and Technical Education: mprebble@oprfhs.org
Counseling and Social Work Services	**Lauren Olson**, Assistant Principal for Student Services: laolson@oprfhs.org; **Gabrielle Van Zant**, Secretary: gvanzant@oprfhs.org
Course Registration	**Student's counselor**
Curriculum	**Dr. Jennifer Hester**, Assistant Superintendent for Student Learning: jhester@oprfhs.org; **Anna Wise**, Administrative Assistant: awise@oprfhs.org
Daily Bulletin E-newsletter	**Angie Hawkins**, Student Activities Director: ahawkins@oprfhs.org; **Tichina Gardner**, Secretary: tigardner@oprfhs.org
Dances (Homecoming and Prom)	**Angie Hawkins**, Student Activities Director: ahawkins@oprfhs.org; **Tichina Gardner**, Secretary: tigardner@oprfhs.org
Disciplinary Issues	**Deans**
Dual Credit	**Jennifer Brinkman**, Director of Student Learning: jbrinkman@oprfhs.org; **Naybeth Moreno**, Secretary: nmoreno@oprfhs.org
Extracurricular Activities and Clubs	**Angie Hawkins**, Student Activities Director: ahawkins@oprfhs.org; **Tichina Gardner**, Secretary: tigardner@oprfhs.org
Facilities Reservations/School Calendar	calendar@oprfhs.org
Family Access (Skyward)	See the website: bit.ly/OPRFSkywardInfo
Fees	**Business Office:** businessoffice@oprfhs.org
Food Service Account	**Jennifer Porto,** Director of Food Service: jporto@oprfhs.org, **Kelly Diaz**, Assistant Director of Food and Nutritional Services: kediaz@oprfhs.org; **Jana Cannon**, Secretary: jcannon@oprfhs.org
Grades	For a specific class: **Student's teacher;** For multiple classes/questions:

	Student's counselor
Graduation	**Angie Hawkins**, Student Activities Director: ahawkins@oprfhs.org; **Tichina Gardner**, Secretary: tigardner@oprfhs.org
Homebound Tutoring	**Dr. Jennifer Hester**, Assistant Superintendent for Student Learning: jhester@oprfhs.org; **Anna Wise**, Administrative Assistant: awise@oprfhs.org
HuskiEmail E-newsletter	**Karin Sullivan**, Executive Director of Communications and Community Relations: ksullivan@oprfhs.org; **Olivia Schreiner**, Communications and Community Relations Coordinator: oschreiner@oprfhs.org
In-School Credit Recovery (ISCR)	**Dr. Jen Hester**, Assistant Superintendent for Student Learning: jhester@oprfhs.org
Incoming Freshman Events	**Angie Hawkins**, Student Activities Director: ahawkins@oprfhs.org; **Tichina Gardner**, Secretary: tigardner@oprfhs.org
Independent Study	**Jennifer Brinkman**, Director of Student Learning: jbrinkman@oprfhs.org; **Naybeth Moreno**, Secretary: nmoreno@oprfhs.org
Lockers	**Campus Safety**, lockers@oprfhs.org
Lost and Found	**Campus Safety**, 708-434-3125
Media Inquiries	**Karin Sullivan**, Executive Director of Communications and Community Relations: ksullivan@oprfhs.org
Medications and Physicals	medicalforms@oprfhs.org
Mental Health Services	**Lauren Olson**, Assistant Principal for Student Services: laolson@oprfhs.org; **Gabrielle Van Zant**, Secretary: gvanzant@oprfhs.org
Motivational Mentorship	**Dr. Lee Williams**, Executive Director of Equity and Student Success: lwilliams@oprfhs.org; **Brianna Burton**, Program Coordinator for Motivational Mentorship: bburton@oprfhs.org; **April Bell**, Program Coordinator for Motivational Mentorship: abell@oprfhs.org
Parent Outreach	**Ty Garland**, Community Outreach Coordinator: tgarland@oprfhs.org; **Melody Brown**, Administrative Assistant: mbrown@oprfhs.org
Parent-Teacher Conferences	**Lynda Parker**, Assistant Superintendent/Principal: ljparker@oprfhs.org
Racial Incident Reporting	**Dr. Lee Williams**, Executive Director of Equity and Student Success: lwilliams@oprfhs.org; **Melody Brown**, Administrative Assistant: mbrown@oprfhs.org
Report Cards	**Lauren Olson**, Assistant Principal for Student Services: laolson@oprfhs.org; **Gabrielle Van Zant**, Secretary: gvanzant@oprfhs.org
Sexual Harassment Complaints	Report about a student: **Student's dean** or the **Office of Equity**, Room 2166; Report about an adult: **Dr. Roxana Sanders**, Assistant Superintendent for Human Resources: rsanders@oprfhs.org
SILCs (Senior Instructional Leadership Corps)	**Jennifer Brinkman**, Director of Student Learning: jbrinkman@oprfhs.org; **Naybeth Moreno**, Secretary: nmoreno@oprfhs.org
Skyward	See the website: bit.ly/OPRFSkywardInfo

Special Education/Diverse Learners	**Andrea Neuman**, Executive Director of Special Education: aneuman@oprfhs.org; **Dr. Lesley Roberts**, Assistant Director of Special Education: lroberts@oprfhs.org; **Shdata Redmond**, Administrative Assistant: sredmond@oprfhs.org
SRC - Library	**Louise Brueggemann**, Librarian: lbrueggemann@oprfhs.org; **Amber Hooper**, Librarian: ahooper@oprfhs.org
SRC - Makerspace	**Joseph Battaglia**, Instructional Technology Coordinator: jbattaglia@oprfhs.org
SRC - Tutoring	**Tammy Winkler**, SRC/Tutoring Center Monitor: twinkler@oprfhs.org
Student Parking	**Marian Gerena**, Educational Technology Administrative Assistant: mgerena@oprfhs.org
Student Travel	**Angie Hawkins**, Student Activities Director: ahawkins@oprfhs.org; **Tichina Gardner**, Secretary: tigardner@oprfhs.org
Summer School	**Meghan Cahill**, Director of Summer School: mcahill@oprfhs.org
Teacher Issues	**Student's teacher** first. If no resolution, **Division Head**.
Tech Support	Students, faculty, and staff can also submit a help ticket through Incident IQ (oprfhs.incidentiq.com). Parents need to access the Parent Portal for Incident IQ (bit.ly/OPRFIncidentIQParentPortal) to create an account in order to submit a help ticket or by calling 708-434-3737, option 2.
Testing Center	**Tim Hasso**, Testing Center Supervisor: thasso@oprfhs.org; **Tammy Winkler**, SRC/Testing Center Monitor: twinkler@oprfhs.org
Testing/Assessment	**Kim Asbury**, Testing Specialist: kasbury@oprfhs.org; **Carin Lucas**, SSD Coordinator: clucas@oprfhs.org
Theatre and Performing Arts Events	**Tom Ruzinok**, Fine & Performing Arts Division Head: truzinok@oprfhs.org
Transcripts	registrar@oprfhs.org
Transgender Student Support	**Student's counselor**
Work Permits	**Counselor's secretary**

Key Dates for 2026-2027

Mon., Aug. 10	Fall Sports Tryouts	**NOTE:** This date is determined by the Illinois High School Association (IHSA). Late/makeup tryouts are NOT permitted.
Thurs., Aug. 20	Institute Day	No School for Students
Fri., Aug. 21	Staff Development Day	No School for Students
Mon., Aug. 24	Huskie Kickoff Day	Freshmen in Attendance
Mon., Aug. 24	Freshman Parent Meeting	
Tues., Aug. 25	First Semester Begins+	All Students in Attendance
Mon., Sept. 7	Labor Day	No School/Building Closed
Thurs., Sept. 10	Back-to-School Night	Parents/Guardians Attend
Fri., Sept. 11		No School/Building Closed
Mon., Sept. 21		No School/Building Closed/No School Functions
Mon., Oct. 12	Indigenous People's Day	No School/Building Closed
Thurs., Oct. 29	Parent-Teacher Conferences	No School for Students
Fri., Oct. 30	In-Service Day	All Faculty and Staff in Attendance, No School for Students
Tues., Nov. 3	Election Day	No School/Building Closed
Wed., Nov. 25 - Fri., Nov. 27	Thanksgiving Break	No School/Building Closed
Mon., Dec. 21 - Fri., Jan. 1	Winter Break	No School/Building Open Dec. 21 and 22
Mon., Jan. 4	Classes Resume	
Mon., Jan. 18	Martin Luther King Jr. Holiday	No School/Building Closed
Tues., Jan. 19 - Thurs., Jan. 21	First Semester Final Exams	
Fri., Jan. 22	Institute Day	No School for Students
Mon., Jan. 25	Second Semester Classes Begin	All Students in Attendance
Mon., Feb. 15	Presidents' Day	No School/Building Closed
Mon., March 1	Staff Development Day	No School for Students
Mon. March 15	Parent-Teacher Conferences	No School for Students
Fri., March 26		No School/Building Closed/No School Functions
Mon., Mar. 29 - Fri., April 2	Spring Break	No School/Building Open
Mon., May 31	Memorial Day	No School/Building Closed
Tues., June 8 - Thurs., June 10	Second Semester Final Exams	
Thurs., June 10	Last Day of Student Attendance+*	
Fri., June 11	Staff Development Day	No School for Students
Sun., June 13	Graduation	
June 11, 14-17	Emergency Days	

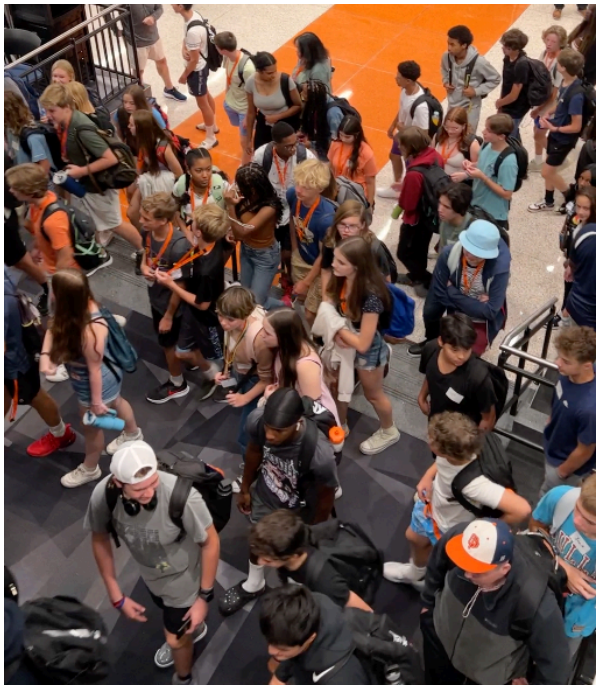
+First and last school days of the year are full days.

**__NOTE:__ This is the __earliest__ school may end and __only__ if no Emergency Days are used. If Emergency Days __are__ used, depending on the number, the last day of student attendance could be as late as June 17. Families and staff should keep this in mind when making summer vacation plans.*

High School, Year by Year

Here are some of the key things to know about each of your student's four years with us.

FRESHMAN YEAR FOCUS



- Make a successful transition from middle school.
- Create a four-year plan for high school.
- Continue/develop excellent study habits.
- Get involved in at least one activity, club, or sport.
- Take the PreACT 9 Secure to start the standardized testing sequence for college admission.

Key Events:

- From mid-September to mid-October, counselors meet with each of their freshmen one-on-one to establish rapport and connection, to get a sense of the student's strengths and interests, and to identify an activity or club the student is interested in trying.
- **Progress monitoring:** Once mid-quarter reports are posted in Skyward, five weeks into the school year, counselors meet with students who are failing any classes.
- **Four-Year Plan meetings:** Counselors meet with freshmen individually to look at first semester grades and build a plan for the remaining three years' worth of courses. This is a working document and can change as a student's goals change.
- **Introduction to SchooLinks:** This software tool enables students to build a profile that helps identify college and career options that are a good fit for them. SchooLinks is the best one-stop place to search for colleges and majors suited to a particular student.

SOPHOMORE YEAR FOCUS

- Deepen involvement in extracurriculars. The level of involvement and accomplishment is more important than the number of activities.
- Become familiar with SchooLinks, the school's online tool for matching students' strengths and interests to particular careers and colleges.
- Build your student portfolio.
- Take the PreACT Secure to continue the standardized testing sequence for college admission.

Key Events:

- **Individual conferences:** Counselor check-ins as needed, particularly with students who are struggling in school.
- **Adjustments to Four-Year Plan:** In the winter, students meet one-on-one with their counselors to review and, if needed, update their plan.
- **Sophomore Group Meetings:** In the spring, counselors present information about seeking summer enrichment opportunities, using SchooLinks to prepare a resume, and pursuing job and/or volunteer opportunities.
- **Sophomore Parent Night:** Counselors present to parents about using SchooLinks to start researching colleges and careers, and exploring resources to prepare for standardized testing.

JUNIOR YEAR FOCUS

- Take the PSAT to be considered for National Merit Scholarship Qualification and prepare for a national SAT, if desired.
- Earn excellent grades. Grades are important throughout high school, but junior year grades are particularly key. They indicate to colleges how well a student does in advanced courses, and they are used to determine scholarship and grant eligibility.
- Identify potential college major and/or post-secondary career options, and explore career pathways.
- Begin the college search process. Attend college fairs, visit College Callers (see below), tour prospective colleges/universities.
- Prepare to apply for college. Draft application essays, collect writing samples, assemble portfolio or audition tapes.

Key Events:

- **College visits:** This is the year students typically begin making visits with their families to prospective colleges.
- **Financial Aid Meeting:** A college financial aid officer is invited to give a thorough presentation on the process of applying for financial aid.
- **Junior Parent Post-Secondary Night:** Counselors detail the college search process.
- **Small Group Post-Secondary Meetings:** Counselors discuss with students how to conduct a thorough college search to find a good match and how to explore post-secondary options.
- **Post-Secondary Planning "Booster Shots"** Individual meetings as needed to discuss the college search process, career exploration, SAT/ACT prep, etc.
- **ACT:** OPRFHS administers the school-day ACT for juniors in April.

SENIOR YEAR FOCUS

- Apply to colleges or research other post-secondary options.
- Apply for financial aid. Visit the OPRFHS Scholarship Foundation page at www.scholarships4oprfhs.org/to learn about locally funded scholarship opportunities.
- Continue exploring career pathways.
- Stay on track for graduation.
- Graduate!



Key Events:

- **Senior Group Meetings:** Focuses on finalizing college lists, establishing safety/match/reach schools, and discussing the intricate steps of the college application process.
- **Senior College Parent Night:** Learn the nuts and bolts of the college application process.
- **Individual meetings:** One-on-one meetings with counselors to discuss each student's post-secondary plans, whether applying to college or preparing for other options.
- **Financial Aid Meeting:** A college financial aid officer is invited to give a thorough presentation on the process of applying for financial aid.

-A-

Absences and Tardies

Why is it important for students to attend school regularly?
A growing body of research shows that chronic absenteeism (defined as missing 10% or more school days per year for any reason) can have a significant impact on a child's learning experience. A Johns Hopkins University study concluded that chronic absenteeism is associated with lower academic performance, a decline in high school graduation rates, and increased achievement gaps for students of color. A Policy Analysis for California Education study found that chronic absenteeism negatively affects test scores, impacts vulnerable students more frequently, and leads to decreased social-emotional learning outcomes for students.

In addition to the academic impact, students who are chronically absent miss out on other benefits that derive from being present in a classroom: developing strong relationships with peers and with teachers, learning teamwork and collaboration skills, engaging in community building in the classroom and school communities, developing time management and executive functioning skills, learning conflict resolution strategies, and practicing decision-making skills.

What are OPRF's attendance guidelines?
Because being present and engaged in the classroom will lead to better student learning outcomes and more robust social-emotional learning and executive function skills. OPRF attendance guidelines are as follows:



- Students can have up to **12 absences in a class period per semester.** More than 12 absences in a class puts them at risk of potentially losing credit for that class.
- Both excused and unexcused absences count toward the total of 12 absences.
- Absences that **do NOT count** toward the total of 12 are:
    - Five Mental Wellness Days *per school year*
    - Hospitalizations
    - Religious holidays
    - Death of an immediate family member
    - In-school meetings with school support staff (counselors, social workers, deans, Special Education, school nurse, etc.)
    - IEP or 504 Meetings
    - School-sponsored field trip
    - In-School Reflection (ISR) or Out-of-School Suspension (OSS)
- **Tardies** can potentially count as an absence. Tardies occur when a student is less than 10 minutes late to a class period.
    - Five tardies to a class equal one unexcused absence.
    - A student who enters class with a pass from faculty or staff would not be penalized.
    - Tardies cannot be excused by a parent or guardian.
- **Partial absence** occurs when a student misses more than 10 minutes of class by arriving late, leaving in the middle of the class, or leaving early and not returning to class. One partial absence equals one-half of a missed period.

How will I know if my child is in danger of reaching 12 absences?

- An automated phone call is made each time a student is absent from a class without notice. Skyward attendance is in real-time, so parents/guardians are encouraged to log in and check attendance if their child is struggling with attending or being on time to their classes.
- As students begin to accrue absences in a class period, the teacher will address the issue with the student directly and will also make contact with the student's parent/guardian. A member of the student's Student Support Team will reach out to the parent/guardian to offer suggestions and possible interventions.
- Once a student has hit their 13th absence, the student's dean will make live contact with the parent/guardian and will set up an Attendance Improvement Plan for the student. *As the state of Illinois allows for up to five Mental Wellness Days, the contract could be put into place as late as the 18th absence in a semester.* The contract will establish the attendance parameters for the student for the remainder of the semester.
    - At the end of the semester, the Student Support Teams will review the student's attendance under the direction of the assistant principal for operations.
    - If the student meets the parameters in their Attendance Improvement Plan and is passing the class, credit will be earned.
    - If the student does NOT meet the parameters set forth in the Attendance Improvement Plan and has a passing grade, an N-Grade (no credit earned) will be issued for the class.
    - If a student is failing a course, that failing grade will be given and it will override the N-Grade.
- OPRF faculty, in partnership with your child's Student Support Team, will work diligently to support your child if they begin struggling with attending school. We will also work to support parents/guardians with tools and resources to encourage school attendance.

How will the school let me know if my child shows up late or doesn't arrive first period?
Skyward is updated in real time, so you can log into Skyward anytime for up-to-the-minute information. A robocall will also go out every evening informing parents of their students' unexcused classes for the day. Parents/guardians will also receive a nightly email notification of ANY attendance notation (excused, unexcused, and otherwise) recorded for their student. *Note: Not all attendance notations are absences; some are an indication of a student's whereabouts during a particular period.*

The student handbook and website say I have to excuse my child's absences via Skyward. How do I do that?
If you are a desktop user, visit bit.ly/SkywardDesktop for step-by-step instructions on how to report a student absence in Skyward. If you are using the Skyward Mobile App, step-by-step instructions can be found at bit.ly/SkywardMobile. While submission through Skyward is preferred, you may also call the office at 708-434-3104 or send an email to attendance@oprfhs.org to excuse your student's absence as well.

We've streamlined our absence reporting so that parents select from just one of four reasons when they notify the school:

- Parent/Guardian Excused Absence
- Mental Wellness
- Religious Holiday
- Bereavement

How long do I have to excuse an absence?
Absence requests can always be submitted in advance. Otherwise, requests must be submitted by 9 p.m. on the same day of the absence for full-day absences and prior to the end of the first period missed for partial-day absences.

My child texted me saying they're sick and need to come home. Why do they have to see the nurse before being excused? Why can't I just call Attendance to say I'm picking them up?
We are still responsible for the student and need to be sure they don't require more serious care. Also, we track the reasons students leave school sick to be aware of any trends, particularly with communicable illnesses.

Why can't a person listed as an emergency contact call my student in?
A parent or guardian is the party responsible, so only one of these family contacts may call in a student as absent.

My student needs to leave in the middle of the class period for an appointment. Can they just get a pass from the teacher?
No. Teachers may write hall passes but not dismissal passes. If a student is planning to leave the building during a class, they should go to the Attendance Office before that class to get a dismissal pass.

My student is 18. Why can't they call themself in as late or absent?
Unless a student is emancipated and living on their own, we consider the parent or guardian still to be responsible.

My child needs some extra study time for a big test. How do I let the Attendance Office know that I am allowing them to go to the library and study during another period?
You may not excuse your child from one class to study for another class in the library or Student Resource Center. Please encourage your child to prepare adequately for tests, quizzes, and major assignments, or to work with their teacher if they need an extension.

If your child is excused for a one-period absence, they may not remain elsewhere in the building during that period and will be required to leave campus for the duration of the excused absence.

Questions about attendance guidelines?
Reach out to David Narain, assistant principal for operations, dnarain@oprfhs.org.

Academic Support

What kinds of academic support do you offer for struggling students?
Students who need extra help in a particular subject can visit the Student Resource Center - Tutoring (Room 2315) before and after school, during study hall or lunch, and in the evening Monday - Thursday until 7 p.m. and until 4:30 p.m. on Friday. See *Student Resource Center - Tutoring* for more information.

We also offer the programs listed below. More detailed information is available in the online Academic Catalog at www.oprfhs.org/academics.



- **Special Education courses:** Math, English, writing, health, recreation and leisure, study and organizational skills, social and basic life skills.
- **Reading and Literacy Programs:** Classes for recommended freshmen, sophomores, and juniors.
- **Academic Learning Program:** Includes the Academic Enrichment class, where students receive support in developing and applying positive academic behaviors, and In-School Credit Recovery, which provides students who need to make up credits with hands-on support in completing online courses.

Activities and Clubs

How do we find out about the different clubs?
Visit the Student Activities office (Room 1332) across from the big curving staircase in the Student Commons. You can also find the list online at www.oprfhs.org/activities or on the 5Star Student app.

How can my student find out about the first meeting of a particular activity or club?
Check the Daily Bulletin newsletter, our website under Student Activities, or the 5Star Student App. Start dates for all clubs will be posted on both sites. Students can also visit the Student Activities Center (Room 1332) to find out more information.
The official kickoff for our activities and clubs is the lunchtime Activities Fair, which takes place annually after school begins. During their lunch period, students can visit tables for various clubs and activities and hear from other students about what each club is all about.

If my student didn't join a club in the fall or first semester, is it too late?
Not at all. Most clubs and activities are open to students all year.

ACTs

When do students take SATs and/or ACTs?
Typically, students take these college admissions tests in the spring of junior year. Juniors have a chance to take the ACT at no cost in April, during the regular school day. This school-day test is required for graduation from a public school in the state of Illinois. Most colleges accept both tests and some don't require either. Additional SATs and ACTs taken at other times require pre-registration and a fee.

How do I register my student?
You can use the SAT (sat.collegeboard.org) and ACT (actstudent.org) websites to register for additional test. Keep in mind that registration deadlines are as many as five weeks before the test date.

Note: You will receive advance notification via email about the school-day ACT that juniors take during the school in April.

Athletics

How do I get my child signed up for a sports team?

- **Step 1: Complete the online registration for the 2026-2027 season.** Registration can be done on SNAP Manage (bit.ly/OPRFSNAPManage). **You must be an active OPRF student to register for a sport.** Registration is required for each season. If you have previously registered for a sport, use the same login to register again. See the registration time periods on the next page for each season.
- **Step 2: Schedule your annual physical exam.** The optimal date for a physical exam is after May 1st to ensure it remains valid throughout the school year (the physical exam is valid for 395 days). **All returning athletes** must submit the IHSA Physical Exam form or have a physical on file that covers them for the entire competition season. **Freshman athletes** may use their school entry physical as their athletic physical.
- **Step 3: Students or parents must hand-deliver or email the annual physical exam forms directly to the Athletic Office.** Do not mail the forms or leave them at the Welcome Center. Forms can be emailed to jelmiger@oprfhs.org

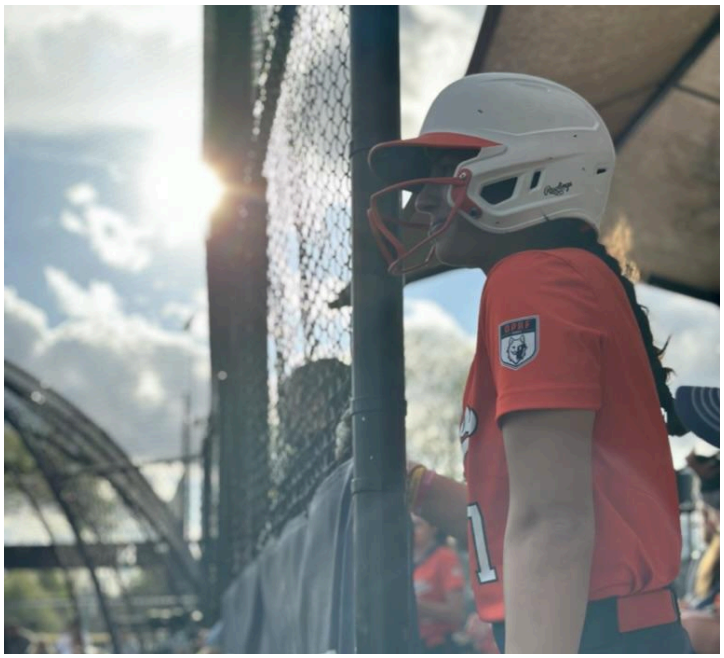
When do I register my child for sports for 2026 -2027?

2026 - 2027 Seasonal Sports Registration Dates	
Fall Sports: Registration begins early July for the following sports:	
First Day of Tryouts	**Sports**
August 5	Football
August 10	Boys & Girls Cross Country, Field Hockey, Boys & Girls Golf, Boys Soccer, Girls Tennis, Girls Volleyball, Girls Flag Football
August 17	Girls Swimming/Diving
NOTE: Drill and Cheer tryouts were held in Spring 2026. For more information contact Head Drill Coach Carly Tarantino-Spoor, CTarantinospoor @oprfhs.org or Head Cheer Coach Brianna Burton, BBurton@oprfhs.org	
Winter Sports: Registration begins early October for the following sports:	
First Day of Tryouts	**Sports**
November 2	Girls Basketball
November 9	Boys Basketball, Girls Gymnastics, Boys & Girls Wrestling
December 1	Boys Swimming/Diving
January 19	Boys & Girls Track – NOTE: Registration for Track begins in early December
Spring Sports: Registration begins in early February for the following sports:	
First Day of Tryouts	**Sports**
March 1	Badminton, Baseball, Boys & Girls Lacrosse, Girls Soccer, Softball, Boys Tennis, Boys & Girls Water Polo
March 8	Boys Volleyball

What if we are on vacation that week?
We do not accommodate late tryouts for athletic teams.

Is there a fee to try out?
No, with the exception of off-campus sports such as golf and tennis, in which case fees are communicated with all registered participants prior to tryouts. All student athletes must pay a $55 athletic participation fee for each sport in which they participate. Once tryouts are complete, students who have made teams will be billed for this fee.

My incoming freshman had a physical in April. Can that count for the physical they have to have for sports?
Yes. However, for student athletes, the best date for a physical is between May 1 and August 1. The physical exam is good for 395 days, so you want to avoid it expiring and then having to schedule a second physical



during the next school year. See *Health Physicals* for more information.

Can I mail in the annual physical?
No. These must be hand delivered to the Athletic Office during the appropriate registration dates for each sport, which begin on the following schedule:

- **Fall sports** (football, cheerleading, cross country, drill, field hockey, golf, boys soccer, girls swimming/diving, girls tennis, girls volleyball): *Mid-July.*
- **Winter sports** (basketball, girls gymnastics, boys swimming/diving, track, wrestling): *First week of October, except track, which is first week of December.*
- **Spring sports** (badminton, baseball, lacrosse, girls soccer, softball, boys tennis, boys volleyball, water polo): *First week of February.*

Note: Do *not* upload your physical examination forms to your Snap account. The athletic department *cannot* access them there.

-B-

Bell Schedule

When does the school day begin and end?
On regular school days, classes begin at 8:00 a.m. and end at 3:10 p.m. Regular school days (primarily Mondays, Tuesdays, Thursdays, and Fridays, as well as some Wednesdays), class periods are 49 minutes long.

On Late Arrival Wednesdays, classes begin at 9:12 a.m. and end at 3:10 p.m. Class periods are generally 40 minutes long. See Late Arrival Wednesdays for more information.

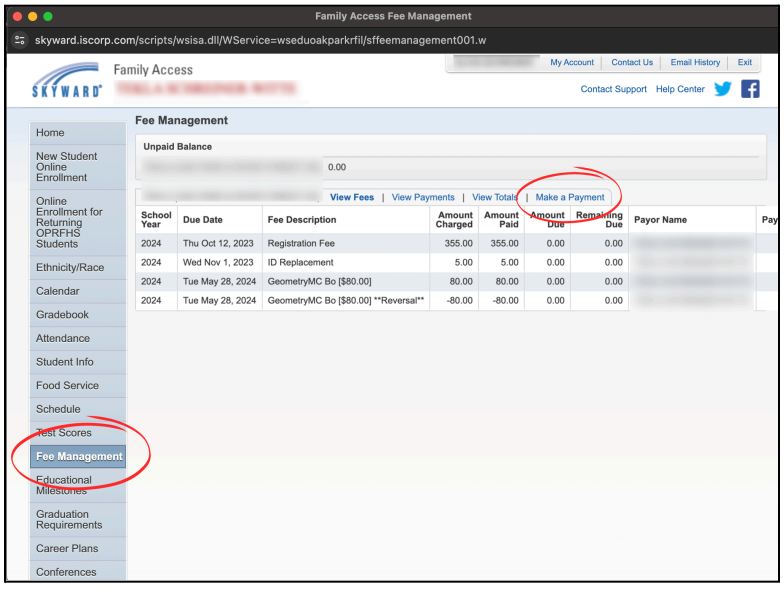
The bell schedule may occasionally change due to assemblies, wellness workshops, or other special events.

Bikes

Any tips to prevent bike theft?
Lock your bike with a U-lock! If our Campus Safety staff spots an unlocked bike, they bring it to the Welcome Center for safekeeping.

Bills, Surprise

My kid couldn't get their schedule because they had obligations I didn't know about. How did that happen?
School year fees need to be paid in full or a payment plan needs to be put into place in order for a student to pick up their schedule on Book and Schedule Pick-Up Day. You can check your current obligations by clicking Fee Management in



your Skyward account. Log in can be found here: bit.ly/OPRFSkyward

Bookstore

Which of my student's books can I get at the Bookstore?
All textbooks, which are distributed during Schedule Pickup Week. Novels, workbooks, and initial art kits covered by the Instructional Material Fee are handed out by classroom teachers.



Can I buy a parking permit at the Bookstore?
No. Optional purchases, such as band uniforms, parking permits, etc., can be purchased via our online store. Go to oprfhs.revtrak.net.

What else does the Bookstore sell?
The TI Nspire calculator ($135.50), PE uniforms ($5/shirt, $10/shorts), locks, replacement copies of novels and workbooks, and miscellaneous school and art supplies at cost. The Bookstore does not charge sales tax. Note that students receive one PE T-shirt at Schedule Pickup each year.

Is it true I can pay fees in the Bookstore?
Yes. The preferred payment method is through Skyward. If you pay in person, the Bookstore accepts cash, credit/debit, and checks. Credit card payments will not be accepted over the phone.

Can I set up a payment plan for Instructional Materials or calculator fees in the Bookstore?
The Bookstore can assist you with setting up a payment plan through the OPRFHS Business Office for the Instructional Materials, District Class, Technology, and Driver's Ed fees, and the TI Nspire graphing calculator. Or you can simply submit the payment plan form at bit.ly/OPRFPaymentPlans.

Can I add money to my Food Service account in the Bookstore?
No. Add money to your food service account via Skyward.

Can I use my ID to pay for items in the Bookstore?
No.

Do I return textbooks to the Bookstore?
Yes. All textbooks must be returned to the Bookstore at the end of each school year. Textbooks that are not returned by publicized deadlines will incur late and/or replacement fees.

Building Hours

When is the high school open?
During the school year, our Welcome Center is staffed Monday through Friday from 7 a.m. - 10 p.m. During the summer, the Welcome Center is staffed Monday through Thursday from 7 a.m. – 5 p.m. The building is closed on Fridays during June and July.

Bus Service

Can students take a bus to school?
The district does not offer bus service, other than for some students in special education. Several PACE buses provide service near OPRFHS, including the 309 (Lake Street), 313 (Lake Street), and 315 (Ridgeland Avenue).

Can I get a discounted-fare bus/train pass for my student?
Yes. PACE and CTA both accept Ventra student fare cards. You must apply for a Ventra student fare card by mail. Log into the Ventra website (ventrachicago.com), print out the application for a new or replacement student permit, include the school's address, and mail it to Ventra with a $2 personal check, money order, or cashier's check. Do not send cash, and do not bring cash to the Bookstore. The student card will then be mailed to the Bookstore and you will be notified when it arrives, in approximately two to three weeks. While the reduced student fare generally is good on school days during school hours, please refer to the Ventra website for specifics about the fare restrictions.

Note: You must renew student-fare cards for each summer term, and again each fall of the new year. Fill out the Renew Student Reduced Fare Riding Privileges form for that time period, which students can pick up from the Bookstore or download it here: bit.ly/OPRFVentraRenew. Return to Ventra by email, fax, or mail. Be sure to register your student's card on the Ventra website. If your card is lost or stolen, you will need to use the replacement form and call Ventra with the card's number to deactivate the lost or stolen card. Visit the Elementary & High School Students page on Ventra's website for more information: www.ventrachicago.com/students.

-C-

Cell Phones in Classrooms



Is my student allowed to have their cell phone in class?
Not anymore. During the 2022-2023 school year, OPRFHS implemented a new cell phone management system. All classroom teachers use "phone homes" during instructional time to maintain a phone-free environment. This expectation is designed to create much needed consistency across the building, and to help students reach their full learning potential in the classroom. For an FAQ created by the OPRFHS Cell Phone Committee, visit bit.ly/OPRFPhoneHomes.

Chromebooks

My student needs to get help with their Chromebook. Where can they go?
The Student Helpdesk is open Monday – Friday, 7:30 a.m. – 4:30 p.m. in Room 1294. Students, faculty, and staff can also submit a help ticket through Incident IQ (oprfhs.incidentiq.com). Parents need to access the Parent Portal for Incident IQ (bit.ly/OPRFIncidentIQParentPortal) to create an account in order to submit a help ticket or by calling 708-434-3737, option 2.

Where do we get a new Chromebook charger?
Purchase a new one in the Bookstore for $30. Charging stations are available at the Student Helpdesk (Room 1294), the Makerspace (Room 2315), the Testing Center (Room 2336), and the Library (3315).

My child needs to print out homework, and we don't have a printer at home. Where can they print?
In the Student Resource Center. If you need assistance, visit the Student Helpdesk (Room 1294) or email helpdesk@oprfhs.org.

College, Alternatives to/Post-High School Options

Not every student is interested in going to college. What options do you offer for these students?
We have a variety of career and technical education (CTE) classes that can enhance opportunities for students who want to explore post-high school options. We offer programs of study in many areas, such as health sciences and technology. In addition, we have a partnership with Triton College and Concordia University Chicago that allows students to earn both high school and college credit for a single class. Ask your child's counselor for more information.



Counselors can also meet at any time with students who want to explore career pathways that do not require a college degree.

College, Strategies for Getting into

What can a student do to get into college?
The best thing students can do is be strategic about taking the most challenging courses they can handle and do well in them. Like it or not, grades and test scores are what matter most to colleges, so if you have concerns about them, talk to your counselor. Additionally, creating a family expectation that your child will go to college is important. Encourage your student to research colleges online. If possible, make formal college visits with your child. Many colleges have virtual campus visits on their websites if you are unable to visit in person. Attend all college-related parent meetings, and ask counselors any and all questions you may have.

Finally, engaging in extracurricular activities in a meaningful way is key. Colleges would rather see deep involvement in one activity than shallow involvement in a bunch of things.

Computer Proficiency Test

What is the Computer Proficiency Test?
The Computer Proficiency Test fulfills a graduation requirement. Eligible 9th–11th graders not enrolled in Digital Literacy or Student Helpdesk may register during a one-week window in Quarter 1. The test is offered three times per year, with 52 spots per session. Students are randomly selected, must confirm availability, and will receive prep info. Missing a test without prior notice removes a student from the pool for the year. Those who pass are notified and have their transcript updated. Students who don't pass may retest in future years if still eligible.

Students must pass the test by the end of junior year, or they will have to meet the graduation requirement in one of two ways: taking a course that satisfies the requirement during senior year or taking a correspondence course that must be approved by the counselor and/or the Division Head of Career and Technical Education.

Contact Information, Updating

I have a new cell phone number or a new address. How do I update my contact info on file?
If your address, email, or phone contact information changes once the school year begins, you can request changes via Skyward. You can also contact the Registrar's office (registrar@oprfhs.org), which can assist with updating your information.

Counselors

The high school is so huge that I'm never sure where to go with my concerns.
Your student's counselor is your go-to person. If counselors don't have the answer, they will know whom to ask. Encourage your child to develop a relationship with their counselor, who will be the same person all four years of high school. In addition to providing guidance about academics and college/post-high school options, counselors do a lot of personal counseling and problem-solving. Having a relationship with the counselor can make a big difference in student success, and counselors welcome students making appointments to chat or ask questions, even if they don't have big issues to address.

My student's counselor hasn't returned my phone messages. What should I do?
Send an email. With caseloads of roughly 230 students, counselors are meeting with students or Student Support Teams much of the day. If it's an urgent situation and you want to leave a voicemail, also send an email saying that you have an urgent situation and need to speak with the counselor as soon as possible; counselors sometimes can respond to an email during a meeting. You also can call the counselor's secretary or contact your student's dean or social worker. Refer to page 3 for contact info for each Student Support Team.

Course Registration

How can I get a copy of the classes for which my student has been recommended?
For sophomores, juniors, and seniors, recommendations are available in Skyward in mid-November through mid-December. Incoming freshmen receive their recommendations via email in advance of Incoming Freshman Course Selection Night, which takes place in January of eighth grade. If you cannot attend Course Selection Night, please contact your assigned school counselor to make arrangements to submit course selections.

How can I find out which classes my student registered for?
For sophomores, juniors, and seniors, course selections are available to view in Skyward. Courses will be listed in no particular order, so keep in mind this is not the student's final schedule. Final schedules will be available during Book and Schedule Pick-Up Week in early August.

Why don't you have a printed course catalog?
To save resources and taxpayer dollars, we provide as much information as possible in electronic form only, including the academic catalog. To download a PDF of the catalog, go to oprfhs.org/academics. You can print the PDF yourself or request that a printed copy be mailed to you by clicking "Request a printed copy."

My friends say their children have registered for next year's classes, but mine haven't. Did we miss a deadline?
Each grade level registers for next year's courses over a period of several weeks. With a caseload of around 230 students per counselor, this process takes some time. Sophomores and juniors meet with their counselors in groups in mid-November, then as needed from November through the end of January, to finalize their selections. Freshmen meet with counselors one-on-one in January.

My child should have been placed in a higher level course. What should I do?
Course recommendations are not written in stone, and parents have the right to override them. Before doing so though, you'd be wise to have a conversation about the reasons for the recommendation, as well as the pros and cons of moving up. For incoming freshman parents, contact the division head. Other parents should contact the student's current teacher. Keep in mind that if a student moves up a level and the work proves too difficult, the student generally can move down if space is available -- but know that if the student is getting at least a C, the first suggestion likely will be that the student put in more effort. Also, moving down may necessitate changing the

student's entire schedule, which can be a problem if the student is happy with the rest of their classes. Counselors can always answer questions about course placement.

Can a student withdraw from a class?
Yes, but only within a certain time frame. When a student withdraws during the first six weeks of a semester, the transcript will not include the course at all. If a student withdraws after the sixth week but before the end of the ninth week of a semester, this is noted on the transcript, though it is not computed in the grade point average (GPA). Withdrawing during the final nine weeks of a semester results in a mark of "WF," or zero points, which is computed in the GPA.

-D-

Deans of Students

What do the deans of students do?
Deans are a part of each student's Student Support Team (SST), along with the counselor and a school social worker (see page 3). Deans help ensure a safe learning environment by working with students, as well as the family, counselor, teachers, and support personnel, to assist students with behavioral issues, student conflicts, and any other issues affecting student safety and success. Deans are the point of contact for specific questions about your child's attendance.

Driver Education



My child isn't interested in learning to drive right now. Do they have to take Driver Ed?
Yes. Thirty hours of class work in Driver Ed is a graduation requirement. The in-car portion of Driver Education is not a requirement for graduation.

My student turns 15 in September. Can they take Driver Ed first semester?
No. Students must be 15 by the beginning of the course. Students are not eligible for Driver Education during their freshman year.

Can I get a refund if my child takes the course someplace else?
Yes. The sophomore district fees include Driver Ed, and you may qualify for a refund of $175. Contact Driver Education Department Chair Dan Kleinfeldt (708-434-3253, dkleinfeldt@oprfhs.org) for information on required documentation.

Dropping off Students

Is dropping off students at the Main Entrance really as bad as I hear?
Yes. Do everything you can to avoid Scoville Avenue between 7:30 a.m. and 8:00 a.m. Otherwise, plan to spend a

good half-hour tied up in traffic around school. Unless your child is injured, save yourself time and aggravation by dropping off your student a couple of blocks away.

Dual Credit Program

Can my student earn college credit for classes taken at OPRFHS?
Yes. There are two ways:

- **Courses taught at OPRFHS:** Certain OPRFHS courses, including some applied arts, applied tech, English, math, physical education, science, and history, allow a student to earn credit at both OPRFHS and Triton College or Concordia University Chicago. The college credit earned may transfer to other colleges and universities; check with the specific institution to find out. Our Student Learning department sends an informational letter to the households of students who are enrolled in eligible dual credit courses over the summer; questions about this program should be addressed to this department.
- **Courses taught at Triton or Concordia:** Juniors and seniors may earn credit at both OPRFHS and Triton or Concordia for certain classes taught on the Triton or Concordia campuses; this credit may not transfer to other colleges or universities. Questions related to OPRFHS credit should be addressed to your student's counselor.

Does OPRFHS really pay for students to take classes at Triton or Concordia?
Yes, though just a total of one class during the student's four years at OPRFHS and the course must be selected from a predetermined list. The student attends the class on the Triton or Concordia campuses, for which the student earns credit at both OPRFHS and Triton or Concordia. Contact your student's counselor if interested in this option.

Dual Enrollment

Do you offer dual enrollment?
Yes, dual enrollment allows students to take coursework off campus with our partners, such as Triton College. For more information about our offerings, please contact your counselor or the Director of Student Learning, Jennifer Brinkman, at jbrinkman@oprfhs.org.

–F–

Family Access/Skyward

See *Skyward*.

Fee Waivers

Do I qualify for a District Fee and Book Fee waiver?
For assistance with school fees, families can apply for annual District Fee and Book Fee Waivers. Because eligibility is determined on a yearly basis, you must reapply each year. Details on who qualifies, how to apply, and the necessary forms are available at oprfhs.org/students/food-service. If you are not eligible, you may set up a payment plan for fees through the OPRFHS Business Office by completing the form at bit.ly/OPRFPaymentPlans.

What if I qualify for the Federal Free and Reduced Lunch Program?
If you qualify for the Federal Free and Reduced Lunch Program, school fees will either be reduced or waived based upon your status. Please submit the appropriate paperwork and find out your status prior to paying school fees or requesting a payment plan. Find more information at www.oprfhs.org/students/food-service.

Please note: Families who already qualify for and receive TANF/food stamp benefits through the state delivered to the student's parent/guardian at an Oak Park or River Forest address automatically qualify for the waiver. The school receives notification of your eligibility directly from the state. Others may bring in the necessary documentation to apply for the District waiver and determine eligibility.

Food Service Account

How do I add money to my student's lunch account?
Desktop: Log in to your Skyward account, click Fee Management on the left side of the screen, and then click Make a Payment. You will be directed to RevTrak to complete your transaction.

Mobile App: Open the hamburger menu in the upper-right corner and select Food Service. Click the Payments tab, then select Make a Payment. You will be directed to RevTrak to complete your transaction.

Funds are available immediately. Students simply select their food, scan their ID card at the register, and the cost is deducted from their account balance.



Are there a la carte lunch options?
Yes. All a la carte entrees can be made into a combo meal, which includes an entree, fruit and/or vegetable, and milk. There are multiple options available daily including items such as burgers, pizza, made-to-order paninis, bosco sticks, nacho/burrito bowls, etc. We also have rotating daily specials available for all students. Prices vary depending on the item and range anywhere from $0.50 to $4.25.

A lot of parents are surprised by how quickly their students deplete their Food Service accounts. To see what your child has been buying with the money (pizza? cookies? made-to-order stir-fry?), go to *Skyward > Food Service*.

Freshman Parent Meeting

What happens at the annual Freshman Parent Meeting? How long does it last?
The meeting, held the evening of Huskie Kickoff Day, lasts about an hour. Parents/guardians meet in the Auditorium, followed by break-out sessions with counselors. There is lots of good information about what to expect during the first few weeks of school, what to do when a student struggles, resources in the building, etc. This is also a chance to meet your student's counselor and start your own relationship with them.

-G-

Gender Support



Do you accommodate transgender and nonbinary students?
Absolutely. We have specific protocols to address the needs of transgender and nonbinary students, and students questioning their gender, to ensure a safe, affirming, and healthy school environment where every child can learn.

Who is available to support transgender and nonbinary students?
Counselors, social workers, and Gender Support Teams are available to guide students in creating a Gender Support Plan for their time at OPRFHS, or simply to talk. A Gender Support Team or a Gender Support Plan is not required in order for a student to receive supports at school.

What about pronouns and names?
All students have the right to be addressed by the name and pronouns that correspond to their gender identity. Students may freely share with faculty and staff how they want to be addressed in class, in correspondence to their home, and at conferences with the student's parent(s)/guardian(s). Students may also request to change their name in documents such as student ID cards, yearbooks, and awards. These requests should be made with a student's counselor or social worker or included in a student's Gender Support Plan, if the student has requested one. At the request of a student's parent(s)/guardian(s), or a student who is 18 years or older, a name and/or gender marker may be changed in Skyward to inform school staff (including substitute teachers) of the name and pronouns to use when addressing the student.

Can a student choose the name they want on their graduation program, diploma, and/or transcript?
Students can change their name in the graduation program and on their diploma. If a student wants to change their name on their transcript, the school needs to officially change their name in the system. By doing so, the preferred name will be on all official school documents (transcript, state reporting, state assessment, SchooLinks, etc.) To make this change, the student either needs to have a legal name change OR permission from their parents/guardians. If you do not wish to change your name officially, it is possible to request two copies of your diploma, one in your legal name and one in your name that corresponds to your gender identity. Talk with your counselor or social worker to make these changes.

What about bathrooms and locker rooms?
Board Policy 7:10 specifically states that students shall have "access to gendered facilities, including restrooms and locker rooms, that correspond to their gender identity." In other words, regardless of sex assigned at birth, students may use a gendered bathroom that corresponds to their gender identity now and/or an all-gender or single-user bathroom. Eight single-user bathrooms are available at the following locations: 1280E, 1280F, 2280B, 2280C, 3280B, 3280C, 4394A, and 4394B.

Students may also use a gendered locker room that corresponds to their gender identity and/or other locker room options, which may include, for example, use of a privacy partition or curtain, provision to use a nearby all-gender

or secure-access bathroom, and/or an all-gender locker room. Students can discuss locker room accommodations with their counselor, social worker, Gender Support Team, or Physical Education teacher.

What about freshman gym classes and swimming requirements?
All students are permitted to participate in physical education classes, intramural sports, clubs, and school events that correspond with their gender identity and/or in ways that make them feel safest and most included.

Currently, the freshman and sophomore physical education classes are gender-specific. Students may enroll in a PE class that corresponds with their gender identity and/or a PE class that makes them feel safest and most included. In some cases, it is also possible for students to enroll in a junior or senior mixed-gender PE class. Junior and senior PE classes are mixed-gender classes, with the exception of Boys Team Sports. Students can work with their counselor, social worker, or Gender Support Teams to determine their Physical Education placement.

Swimming units are taken during both freshman and sophomore years. Students are permitted to swim with the class that corresponds with their gender identity and/or with the class that makes them feel safest and most included. Students are encouraged to discuss any concerns regarding swimming units with their counselor, social worker, Gender Support Team, or Physical Education teacher. Find more information about Gender Support here: bit.ly/OPRFGenderSupport.

Grades

Where can I find my student's weighted and unweighted grade point average (GPA)?
Log in to your Skyward account and on the left hand side, click on Portfolio. Grade and progress reports are listed with the most recent one at the top. GPA is updated after each semester, not quarterly.

Why can't I log into Skyward and see my student's grades at the end of the semester?
Grades become inaccessible during two periods of the year: first semester, beginning on the first day of final exams, and second semester, beginning on the first day of senior final exams. Gradebook reopens to families a few days after the semester ends. We follow this practice because grades can be in such flux at the end of the semester and may not accurately reflect what the final grade will be. Closing Gradebook provides teachers with the time to complete all of their grading for the semester.



I was surprised when my child got a D on their report card. Why didn't I know earlier?
Your child likely was receiving a higher grade early in the quarter, or you would have received a Mid-Quarter Progress Warning, which is mailed to the home of any student whom the teacher reports as receiving a D or F by the midpoint of the nine-week grading period. Given their daily schedule of five classes, this is the standard method teachers use to alert students about a low grade. So regularly sitting down with your child to check their grades in Skyward is essential. If you find that grades are not being updated regularly, the first step is to contact the teacher directly. If you have done this and infrequent updates continue to be an issue, contact the division head.

I don't understand how my child could have gotten an F. I know the class isn't that difficult for them.
Understandably, for most parents, an F is ominous and means failure -- their student tried but just was not able succeed. However, much of the time it is not a question of ability but rather that a student simply has not turned in

assignments. In addition, some teachers give zeros for quizzes that a student missed due to an unexcused absence. Before contacting a teacher about an F, you may want to check your student's grades in Skyward and have a conversation with your child about the importance of doing assignments.

Is it true that students don't get credit for taking all honors level classes?
Students earn extra points toward their grade point average by earning an A, B, or C in certain honors and Advanced Placement (AP) courses (see the Academic Catalog). There is no limit to the number of honors level courses a student may take. However, there is a limit to the number of honors level points that a student may receive per semester. A student may receive points for up to three honors/AP courses in any one semester. "Extra" points from one semester may be carried forward to subsequent semesters. A maximum of 24 honors level points will be included in the calculation of the weighted grade point average.

How do I find out my student's class rank?
Like many high schools, OPRFHS does not calculate students' class rank.

-H-

Health Physicals and Medical Paperwork

When are physicals due for incoming freshmen?
Incoming freshmen must submit a completed school physical and immunization record on the Illinois DHS Certificate of Child Health Examination form by October 15, 2026. All medical forms can be found here: bit.ly/OPRFHealthServices. Per Board policy 7:100, students who do not submit medical forms by the deadline will be excluded from school. The IHSA Athletics Physical form does not meet the requirement for entry into the 9th grade.

Homework

I think some of my student's teachers give too much/not enough homework. How much homework are they supposed to have?
There's no hard and fast rule, but you should expect a jump in the amount compared to middle school. At a minimum, students typically should be spending at least an hour or two doing homework and preparing for tests and quizzes each day. In honors and Advanced Placement (AP) classes, you should expect more. If you're concerned about the amount of homework, contact the teacher.

What is the policy on making up homework when a student is absent?
Each teacher determines their own makeup policy, and some policies are more strict than others. The key here is communication! Teachers appreciate proactive communication. At this age, students should be learning to take responsibility for finding out what work they missed. If at all possible, have your student contact teachers during or right after the absence for the policy on making up work.

Honor Roll

How is honor roll status determined for students?
Honor roll status is awarded to students who have done above-average classroom work during a specific grading term. Above-average classroom work is defined as at least a 3.0 unweighted grade point average in a minimum of 4

full-credit courses for which grades are awarded in accordance with the Board of Education's policy on grading. Grades in physical education and driver education are excluded in honor roll determination.

-I-

Illness/Injury during School

What happens if my student gets sick or injured at school?
Students who are too ill to remain in class or who have been injured are to inform their classroom teacher or other appropriate staff. The student will be issued a pass to go to the Health Services office. If necessary, the nurse will call the student's parent or guardian to arrange and excuse the early dismissal. In an emergency medical situation, the nurse will obtain the appropriate medical treatment and contact the parent or guardian.

If a student is injured during the school day or at a district-approved event, it is important that the student notify school personnel (teacher, coach, trainer, or nurse) immediately. OPRFHS has purchased student accident insurance coverage for all students. This plan of insurance is secondary, in most instances, to any health insurance the parent/guardian has. If the parent/guardian does not have health insurance, this insurance will act as primary. To obtain a Student Accident Insurance Claim form, contact Marian Gerena in the Business Office at 708-434-3278 or mgerena@oprfhs.org.

Note: The claim form must be submitted within 90 days of the date medical care was first received. For any questions once the claim has been submitted, please contact the insurance company directly at the phone number listed on the form. Additional student accident insurance with extended 24-hour coverage is available for purchase. For more information and enrollment please refer to the Application for Student Accident Insurance, which is available on the school's website (www.oprfhs.org).

-L-



Late Arrival Wednesdays

What are Late Arrival Wednesdays?
On these days, faculty members meet before school for ongoing professional development. First period begins at 9:12 a.m. for all students, and class periods are 40 minutes long.

Occasionally, a Wellness Workshop, emergency drill, survey, or other targeted programming may be scheduled during a 35-minute second or third period. On those days, the remaining class periods will be 36 minutes long.

The school day ends at 3:10 p.m.

Do you provide any reminders about late arrival?
It is listed on the OPRFHS calendar and in the weekly HuskiEmail newsletter. Since most Wednesdays are Late Arrival days, we send reminders when a Wednesday is a *regular arrival* day.

Library

When can students visit the library?
Before and after school and, with a hall pass, during study hall or lunch. Library hours are Monday – Thursday, 7:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m. (including Late Arrival Wednesdays), and Friday, 7:00 a.m. – 4:30 p.m.

Which library resources can my student access from home or in the building?
The library catalog of physical books, our ebook/audiobook collection (Sora), a variety of research databases including major U.S. newspapers, our Library Guides for class projects (LibGuides), our citation tool (Scrible), information on our Illinois Teen Readers' Choice Lincoln Award, and many more resources. Visit the OPRFHS Library webpage at www.oprfhs.org/academics/library.

Where do students return their library books?
Library books can be returned at the circulation desk or in the deposit box outside of the library on the 3rd floor.

Lost and Found

My student lost their jacket/keys/cell phone/wallet . . . Where's the lost and found?
For books and backpacks, the Bookstore. For all other items, the lost and found room is on the first floor, near Door 9. If you are walking north from the Bookstore, it is around the corner to your left. This location will be monitored by a Safety and Support Officer during all lunch periods. Students should visit the Welcome Center if they need access to the room during any other periods.

-M-

Map of the School

Where can I find a map? I want to look at it before I come for Back to School Night and parent-teacher conferences.
Due to security concerns, we do not publish a map of the school building. Improved wayfinding signage and a new room numbering system will make it easier to find your way around when you visit the building. See *Room Numbering System*.

Medication at School

My student has asthma. Can they use their inhaler at school?
Pursuant to District Policy number 7:270, and 105 ILCS 5/10-22.21b, students may NOT possess or consume any medications, including over-the-counter medications, without the express written orders of a physician. School nurses may not administer medication of any kind without those orders. Parents should make every effort to give prescribed doses of medication at home. If medication is necessary to maintain the student in school, the District's "Medication Authorization Form" must be completed by the student's physician and signed by a parent/guardian. A new form must be submitted to Health Services at the start of each school year. All medical forms can be found here: www.oprfhs.org/families/health-services.

Mental Health Hotline

I've heard there's a text resource for students?
To access the Suicide and Crisis Lifeline, anyone can call or text 988. The National Crisis Text Line is available by texting REACH to 741741. These 24/7 anonymous hotlines—along with Safe2Help (call 844-472-3345 or text 72332) for reporting safety or crime-related concerns such as bullying, racial misconduct, drugs, online threats, fights, weapons, etc.—will be listed on the back of every student's school ID card.

-N-

Newscene



What is the student news show and how can I watch it?
Newscene is the OPRFHS student-produced television show highlighting activities, sports, and other happenings around the school. Watch the episodes on the district YouTube page (OPRFUTube.com, in the Newscene playlist).

-O-

Off-Campus Lunch

Which students can go off campus for lunch?
Juniors and seniors whose parents/guardians have clicked "yes" for off-campus in Skyward. Students also must have no more than five tardies or one unexcused absence in a given four-and-a-half week period, be passing all courses (i.e., no failing grades) at the mid-quarter or end-of-quarter, and have no severe disciplinary infractions.

How do I change my child's permission in Skyward?

1. Login to Skyward.
2. Click on "Student Info" on the left side.
3. Click on "Request Changes for [Student's Name]" (near the top right).
4. Click on "Student Information."
5. You will see a section entitled "Allow Publication of Student's Name for:" toward the bottom. This is the section that contains the off-campus lunch, military, media, and student directory options.
6. Make any changes you wish to make.
7. Click the "Save" button.

If you have any questions, contact familyaccess@oprfhs.org.

Online Classes

Can my child earn credits through online courses?
Yes. A student may earn up to four online/correspondence course credits toward meeting graduation requirements. OPRFHS does not endorse any particular correspondence program. **Before registering for any online program, consult your counselor and fill out a permission form to be sure that the course does in fact meet**

graduation requirements. All online/correspondence courses need to be approved in advance by your child's counselor.

OPRFHS Scholarship Foundation

What is the OPRFHS Scholarship Foundation?
Since 1924, the OPRFHS Scholarship Foundation has awarded college scholarships to graduating seniors who have demonstrated academic excellence, initiative, and leadership during their time in high school. The Scholarship Foundation currently offers more than 75 scholarships covering a wide spectrum of student interests. A listing of all community scholarships will be posted on the OPRFHS homepage at the start of second semester. We encourage you to visit www.scholarships4oprfhs.org to learn about available scholarships. The Scholarship Foundation Common Application link will be available on the OPRFHS homepage by early January and must be accessed through a student OPRFHS account. For further information or questions, please email scholarshipsoprfhs@gmail.com.

-P-

Parent Groups

What are your parent groups?
Our parent groups typically meet on the days below, but check the school calendar to be sure of any date you wish to attend.

- **APPLAUSE!**: Booster group for music, dance, and theater. *Meets: Sept., Nov., Feb., April. (applauseoprf.org)*
- **African American Parents for Purposeful Leadership in Education (A.P.P.L.E.):** *Meets: First Tuesday/month. (oprfhsapple.org)*
- **Community Council**: Advisory group to the administration and Board of Education. *Meets: First Thursday/month.*
- **Huskie Booster Club**: Booster group for academics, activities, arts, and athletics. *Meets: First Wednesday/month. (huskieboosterclub.org | shophuskieboosterclub.org)*

ParentSquare

How does the district communicate with families?
We use the ParentSquare communication platform, which consolidates all district communications into one convenient location accessible via a web portal or mobile app. Whether or not you sign up for ParentSquare, you will still receive all emails and critical messages through the contact information listed in Skyward.

What are the benefits of signing up with ParentSquare?
Signing up provides access to many features beyond just receiving emails. Additional benefits include:

- Setting your preferred language for communications
- Viewing all school messages in one place
- Customizing how (email, text, app) and when (instantly or as a nightly digest) you receive messages

Learn more on our website (bit.ly/OPRFParentSquare) and sign up to take full advantage of this communication platform!

Parent-Teacher Conferences

Why do you email only one parent with information about signing up for parent-teacher conferences? My spouse got the email and forgot to tell me.
Our conference sign-up takes place online, and each family receives an email with your signup password. We email this only to the first parent/guardian listed in your Skyward account to avoid families inadvertently signing up for more than one conference slot per class.

I missed the second set of conferences -- how do you notify parents?
Unlike middle school, we hold only one round of parent-teacher conferences, in the fall.

Parking at School

The signage on Scoville Avenue is confusing. Where can I park during the school day?
During the school year, the only place daytime visitors are permitted to park on Scoville Avenue is the handful of one-hour spaces north of the Main Entrance, on the west side of the street. From June 16 - August 14, visitors may park on the east side of Scoville on both blocks of the school. There is additional one-hour street parking on the south side of Ontario between Scoville and Ridgeland.

Do I have to pay to park in the garage during the school day?
The OPRF staff has sole use of the garage on faculty attendance days from 6 a.m. to 4 p.m. Paid public parking is available after 4 p.m. Monday-Friday and on non-attendance days.



What are the parking options for nighttime events?
When we have major evening events, our Operations Department contacts the village's Parking and Mobility Services to request that parking tickets not be written on the blocks of Scoville, Erie, Linden, and Lake **that border the school**. Paid parking in the garage is an option as well.

Physical Education (PE) Makeups

What are PE makeups?
PE makeups are available only for excused absences. They are not available for unexcused absences. Any excused absence in a PE class can be made up within two weeks of the absence. Please note that completing a makeup does not remove the absence from the count toward an "N" grade.

PE makeups are offered at the following times:

- Monday – Thursday, 3:15 p.m., in the Weight Room
  Students must check in with PE staff in the Weight Room for verification. (Note: location may vary during Project 2 construction.)
- Monday – Thursday, 3:15 p.m., in the Fitness Center
  Students must check in with PE staff in the Fitness Center for verification.

My child needs a medical excuse. How does that work?
If a student is unable to participate in PE for medical reasons, they must provide:

1. A current/valid doctor's note, and
2. The PE Limitation Form.

Once these documents are submitted to the PE Office, the student will receive appropriate modifications based on their medical condition.

Students are expected to participate to the extent allowed by their doctor in order to earn daily PE credit. If they are physically unable to participate for an extended period, they will work with their teacher to determine what that looks like during that time.

Any changes to a student's medical status must be communicated to the PE Office immediately, along with the updated timeline provided by the doctor.

Parents may excuse a student from PE participation for up to three days. After that, a doctor's note and limitation form are required.

What else do I need to know about PE?
Students are expected to:

- Be dressed daily for PE (PE shirt, athletic bottoms, and athletic shoes)
- Lock all belongings (phones, backpacks, etc.) in the locker room

-R-

Reporting Incidents of Concern

How does my student report a concern such as racism, bullying, sexual harassment, etc.?
To report incidents of racism, discrimination, harassment, bullying, cyberbullying, and sexual harassment, students should scan the QR code to the right, then complete the Incident Reporting Form on our website. The code is posted on fliers throughout the building as well as in classrooms.

Report a Concern

If you are unable to scan the code here, you can find the form by following this link: bit.ly/OPRFReportAConcern.

Room Numbering System

What is the logic behind the room numbering system?
A new room numbering system was introduced in Fall 2021, as well as plenty of wayfinding signage to guide you.



Each room number has four parts:

- **First digit:** Floor
- **Second digit:** Closest main corridor
- **Third and fourth digits:** Sequential orientation, moving from south/Fieldhouse to north/Erie Street

-S-



Safety Protocols

What are the safety protocols at OPRF?
When an emergency takes place at school, we follow the Standard Response Protocol developed by the I Love You Guys Foundation (iloveyouguys.org). Used by 50,000 schools, agencies, and organizations—including Districts 90 and 97—the protocol ensures that OPRF and all first responders are using the same vocabulary and set of actions in an emergency.

The Standard Response Protocol includes five specific actions, listed to the right, and replaces all previously used school terminology. For more information about campus safety visit bit.ly/OPRFCampusSafety.

SATs

See *ACTs*.

Schedules

How do we get a copy of my student's schedule?
Schedules are finalized over the summer and become available for students to pick up in person during Book and Schedule Pick-Up Week in early-August, the week before classes begin. They are not mailed to your home. This is to ensure that all fees and obligations have been paid or a payment plan has been set up before schedules are released.

SchooLinks

What is SchooLinks?
Students use SchooLinks to build a profile and see which majors and what colleges might be a good fit. The program provides a wealth of information and feedback. For instance, a scattergram showing where OPRFHS students with a particular GPA have gone to college can be helpful in shaping goals and expectations about where an individual student may go. Freshmen receive an introduction to SchooLinks second semester.

Parents are formally introduced to the program sophomore year, but it's a good idea to become familiar with it even earlier if possible; ask your student to show you.

School Pictures

When do you take school pictures?
Freshmen and seniors take their school yearbook photo during Book and Schedule Pick-Up Week (or at one of the make-up opportunities before school starts). If students miss getting a yearbook photo on their scheduled day, they are able to have a photo taken on the Photo Re-Take Day on Wednesday, September 16, 2026.

(NOTE: Seniors also have the option to take their senior photo on site at VIP over the summer instead of during Book and Schedule Pick-Up Week.)

How do I order photos?
Follow the instructions on the order form in the Back-to-School packet posted on our website under Quick Links, or order online from our photo vendor, Visual Image Photography (VIP), at vipis.com. You can also find more information on the Tabula webpage here: bit.ly/OPRFTabula.

School Social Workers

Does my child need some kind of referral to see a social worker?
No, all students are assigned to a social worker on their Student Support Team. (see page 3) Students can make an appointment for free, confidential help with any personal issues. If their social worker is not available or they prefer to see one of the same gender, they may contact one of the other social workers listed.

School Supply List

Where can I find the school supply list?
Unlike middle school, we do not have such a list. Individual teachers will inform students about any supplies they need.

Senior Portraits



When and where are senior portraits taken?
Senior portraits at Oak Park and River Forest High School are taken by Visual Image Photography (VIP). To be included in the yearbook, seniors can book a paid portrait session during the summer at OPRFHS OR VIP studios by signing up for a paid portrait package or come in during schedule pick-up week when VIP is taking free ID photos. Photos from the attendance office or other studios will NOT be accepted for the yearbook. Further details, updates, and options are available on the Tabula website: bit.ly/OPRFTabula

Seniors and Final Exams

My student's Advanced Placement (AP) History teacher gave the final before AP exams started in mid-May. Does my student still need to attend during the days that seniors officially take finals at the end of May?
Yes. Final exam days are attendance days. Students will have an unexcused absence if they do not attend and the absence is not called in by a parent or guardian.

Skyward

What is Skyward?
Also referred to as "Skyward Family Access," Skyward is our online parent/guardian tool for requesting an update to your contact information, checking your student's grades, attendance, and discipline information, paying school fees, adding money to your child's Food Service account, and receiving messages from your student's teachers.

Skyward

How do I get my Skyward login information?
In June we send emails to parents/guardians of all active students with the Skyward login IDs and email addresses we have on file. Prior to this, if you remember the email address you entered during online enrollment, use it to retrieve your Skyward login ID and password by going to bit.ly/FA_ForgotPassword.

How do I update my information in Skyward?
Log in to your account and click the Student Info tab on the left side of the screen. Then click Request Changes in the upper right. If you have a problem, students, faculty, and staff can submit a help ticket through Incident IQ (oprfhs.incidentiq.com). Parents need to access the Parent Portal for Incident IQ (bit.ly/OPRFIncidentIQParentPortal) to create an account in order to submit a help ticket or by calling 708-434-3737, option 2.

What can students see in Skyward?
They have their own login and can see their grades and attendance and discipline information. To avoid having contact information changed without your knowledge, do not give your student your login.

Social Media

Do you have official social media accounts?
Yes! For updates and behind-the-scenes peeks at what goes on during the school day, connect with #oprfhs on social media. Follow our official accounts:

- **Facebook - @oprfhuskies**
- **Instagram - @oprfhs_huskies**
- **YouTube - @OPRFUtube**

There is also an **independent, parent-run** Facebook page, *OPRF High School Parents*, where a lot of conversation among parents and guardians happen. It is a closed group, so after you click "join," your request has to be approved by the moderators of the group.

Follow us on social media:

@oprfhs_huskies

@oprfhuskies

Staying Informed

How do I keep up with what's going on at school?
Your best sources are our official school social media accounts (see *Social Media*), HuskiEmail, and the Daily Bulletin. HuskiEmail is the school's e-newsletter, which is sent to families every Friday when classes are in session. The Daily Bulletin email to students contains announcements that are also read to students during Advisory. Subscribe to HuskiEmail at bit.ly/OPRFCommunications and to the Daily Bulletin at bit.ly/OPRFDaily.

Struggling Students

My child is struggling academically. What should I do?
Contact the teacher. While the goal is for students to become increasingly independent during their four years, parents -- especially freshman parents -- should not be afraid to express concerns and ask for guidance from the teacher.

You also can contact the counselor, who can set up a meeting with the teacher, student, and counselor. The counselor can model what kinds of questions to ask, which can help a student advocate for themself in the future. Keep in mind that the more information a counselor has, the more helpful they can be. Counselors are bound to confidentiality and do not release information to teachers unless the parents, and sometimes also the students, have given permission.

Student Elevator Use

My student is injured. Can they use the elevators in the building?
Elevators are not for general student use. Student use of the school elevators requires a physician's written order. The order must indicate that elevator use is necessary, and must specify the length of time the accommodation is needed. The physician order must be turned in to the Health Services office, and an elevator pass will be issued to the student for the length of time indicated on the order. Elevator passes are limited to students with temporary and permanent disabilities.

Student Email

My student is having trouble accessing their student email account. What do they do?
Visit the Student Helpdesk in its new location in Room 1294 or submit a help ticket through Incident IQ (oprfhs.incidentiq.com). Parents need to access the Parent Portal for Incident IQ (bit.ly/OPRFParentIncidentIQ) to create an account in order to submit a help ticket. If a student needs to reset their password, go to oprfhs.incidentiq.com/password-reset/wizard.

Parent IncidentIQ

Student IDs

My student lost their ID. How much is a new one, and where do they get it?
A new ID is $5 and should be purchased in the Attendance Office before or after school or during lunch. New lanyards are $1 each. The fee will be added in your Skyward account.

Student Parking

How can my student get a parking pass?
The Village of Oak Park sells a limited number of S3 student parking permits for each school year. These permits are for parking spaces located around the perimeter of the baseball field (south side of Lake Street), the north side of Lake Street (adjacent to the parking garage and stadium), and three blocks on South Boulevard. View a map at bit.ly/OPRFHSParking.

Permits can be purchased online via the OPRFHS Web Store (oprfhs.revtrak.net/parking-permits/). The permits are sold on a first-come, first-serve basis beginning the first week of July, until we have sold out. **The permits can be picked up during or after the first day of Schedule Pickup Week in the Bookstore between 7:00 a.m. – 3:30 p.m.** If you have any questions or concerns, you may contact Marian Gerena at mgerena@oprfhs.org.

Student Resource Center - Tutoring

What is the Student Resource Center - Tutoring?
This space (Room 2315) is a place to get extra help or to study on one's own. It's staffed by our teachers during every period of the day.

How can my student access the Student Resource Center - Tutoring?
Students can visit before and after school and, with a hall pass, during study hall or lunch. The Student Resource Center - Tutoring opens every day before school at 7 a.m., including Late Arrival Wednesdays. Monday through Thursday it remains open until 7:00 p.m., and on Friday until 4:30 p.m.

Student Workers

Do any of your departments hire student workers?
Yes. The Bookstore, Educational Technology, Library, Food Services, Athletics, and Theatre have all hired student workers at various times of the year. Contact the individual areas or Human Resources to learn more, or visit the OPRFHS student job board at bit.ly/OPRFHS_StudentJobs.



Summer Enrichment Grants

I've heard there is some funding for summer enrichment programs. Is that true?
Yes! Each year, the OPRF High School Alumni Association funds as much as $50,000 in grants to current OPRFHS students to help them participate in academic programs over the summer. Among the programs students have participated in are dance, music, foreign languages, engineering, study abroad, and much more. Applications are due in the winter. Go to www.oprfhs.org/about/alumni for more information.

Summer Math Packets

Which students have to complete math packets over the summer?
While all students are *encouraged* to complete a math packet over the summer, only some courses require a completed math packet. Math packets are due the first day of classes. You can check which courses require a math packet and download them here: bit.ly/OPRFSummerMath.

Summer Reading

Can you tell me more about summer reading?
Rising freshmen receive their books at their feeder schools, while currently enrolled students choose a book from a list on the English Division page. In the fall, their English teachers will ask students to discuss what they have read. Learn more on our website: bit.ly/OPRFEnglish.

Summer School

I've heard some Summer School classes fill up within minutes of registration opening. Why don't you offer more classes?

The demand for summer classes, unfortunately, is greater than our ability to find teachers to teach them. We typically begin recruiting in December or January in order to offer as many classes and sections as we can.

Swimsuits

Can my student wear their own swimsuit for PE?
Yes, however, students who bring their own swimsuits must take them home daily after each PE swimming class. Personal swimsuits cannot be stored in the locker rooms. We encourage students to use the school-provided swimsuits, which are laundered daily.

-T-

Teachers, Contacting

What's the best way to reach a teacher?
In general, email is the quickest, easiest way to reach a teacher. Even if you prefer to have a phone conversation, you likely will find that sending a brief email with your request to schedule a conversation will ensure the quickest response. To find a teacher's email address, visit the directory on our website: bit.ly/OPRFDirectory.

OPRF Directory

Testing Center

What is the Testing Center?
Students report to the Testing Center (Room 2336) before or after school, during lunch, or during Study Hall with a pass to make up tests that their teachers have dropped off. Official hours are Monday-Friday, 7 a.m. - 5 p.m.

Text Messages

How do I receive important information from the school via text message?
You must opt in to receive regular text messages from the school by registering your ParentSquare account. Emergency information and critical alerts will always be sent via email and text whether signed up or not. Also see *ParentSquare*.

Theft

I've heard that phones and calculators tend to go "missing." Is that true?
Unfortunately, yes—but mainly because a student has left a school or PE locker unlocked. Remind students to always lock their lockers, never leave valuables unattended, zip up backpacks, and stash backpacks between their feet in a crowded area, for instance, in the cafeteria. If an item is stolen, a student should always go to the Welcome Center and fill out a report.

Tip Line

What should students do if they see something suspicious at school?
Students, or anyone else, should send a text to 274637, our anonymous tip line. Use the keyword #OPRF at the

beginning of the text, followed by details of anything that may affect the safety of students and staff on campus. These directions are printed on the back of each student ID. Anonymity is guaranteed -- the text goes to a third-party team that monitors and responds to tips.



"Tracking"

What are the different academic tracks?
Although a lot of parents refer to our system of course levels as “tracking,” that really is a misnomer. “Tracking” implies inflexibility and lack of movement. In reality, an individual student may take a mix of course levels at the same time, and students have the opportunity to grow into taking more difficult course levels.

Different course levels are available in some English, fine and applied arts, history, math, science, technology, and world languages classes. There are four different levels:

- **Transition:** For students whose past performance indicates a need for greater instructional support or a varied pace of instruction.
- **College Prep:** More drills, examples, and descriptive materials when compared to honors/AP.
- **Honors:** Increased emphasis on concepts, abstract relationships, critical thinking, and creative thinking.
- **Advanced Placement (AP):** Our most challenging classes offer the opportunity to earn college credit by examination during the spring semester.

Can students take a mix of course levels?
Yes. For instance, a student with excellent performance in math and science and average performance in other subjects would be placed in honors math and science classes, and in college prep English, history, and world languages.

How do you decide which level a student should take?
Recommendations are based on these factors:

- Teacher and counselor profiles and recommendations
- Past academic achievement in the relevant subject areas
- Placement and standardized test results
- Reading ability
- Personal factors: study habits, motivation, attendance record

Is the college prep level challenging enough? What difference does it make when applying to college?
Students who earn A and B grades in college prep classes should be college ready. They typically have many choices of four-year schools as well as smaller liberal arts colleges where students maintain a B average. Students who receive C and D grades in college prep are less likely to be college ready. And students aiming for more elite schools should be taking the honors/AP level.

I think my student should be taking a different level class. What should I do?
Course recommendations are not written in stone, and parents have the right to override them. Before doing so though, you’d be wise to have a conversation about the reasons for the recommendation, as well as the pros and

cons of changing levels. For incoming freshman parents, contact the division head. Other parents should contact the student's current teacher. Counselors are available to answer level-change questions as well.

Transferring in or out of OPRFHS

Whom should I contact?
Whether transferring out of OPRFHS to another school or into OPRFHS as a new student, contact the Registrar's Office at (708) 434-3262, (708) 434-3260, or registrar@oprfhs.org.

Trapeze

Can I subscribe to the student newspaper?
No, but you can check it out online at trapezeonline.com.



Tutors

How can I find a tutor who will come to our home?
The high school does not keep a referral list of tutors, nor are teachers permitted to make tutor recommendations. Word of mouth among other parents/guardians is probably your best bet.

-W-

Week Before School Starts

The school year starts so early. Do we really need to be around the week before too?
In absolute terms, no, you aren't required to be. But the week before classes begin is Book and Schedule Pick-Up Week, and attending it will save students -- especially freshmen -- a lot of hassle and stress. Student schedules are released on designated days during Book and Schedule Pick-Up Week. They will not be released via email. Each class of students comes to the high school on a designated day to pick up schedules, get textbooks, and have ID/yearbook photos taken. Counselors and staff are readily available during this time to address issues. Students who don't attend Schedule Pickup Week will get access to their schedules on the first day of school.

Also, if your student is an athlete, keep in mind that tryouts for fall sports take place the week before classes begin.

-Y-

Yearbook

Where can I learn more about the yearbook?
Visit the official webpage for Tabula: bit.ly/OPRFTabula for important dates, frequently asked questions, purchasing information through Jostens, and more. You can also find information about school photos on this site.

Yearbook distribution happens in May. Any unclaimed yearbooks from the previous year's distribution will be held for one calendar year. After that time, they will be available for sale to anyone.



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