

QUAKER NEWS



FROM THE DESK OF MR. PAFK:

Dear Orchard Park High School Families,

Welcome back to another exciting school year! As we dive into the 2024-2025 academic year, the Orchard Park High School PTO is thrilled to reconnect with each of you and to continue our shared mission of fostering an environment where every student can reach their full potential.

Our focus continues to be on maximizing the potential of ALL students. We are dedicated to supporting and enhancing the educational experience for every child, regardless of their unique strengths and needs. We hope you can take advantage of seeing our students' potential by stopping by a field, court, course and observe firsthand the massive amount of talent our students possess.

We believe that a strong partnership between families, teachers, and the community is crucial in continuing to work towards this goal. Together, we can create a nurturing and dynamic learning environment that celebrates individuality while striving for excellence.

Thank you for your continued support and involvement. We look forward to an incredible year ahead, filled with opportunities for growth, achievement, and success for all our students.

Go Quakers!

Sincerely,

Brandon Pafk, OPHS Principal

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SPECIAL POINTS OF INTEREST

- Please consider attending Open House!
- Join in the family-friendly homecoming weekend events!
- Please consider attending our PTO meetings!

Open House Reminder!



OPHS will offer our traditional OPEN HOUSE opportunity for parents/guardians to experience their student's high school schedule. They will be able to meet the teacher and learn a little bit about the classes they are taking.

This in-person open house will be on:

September 18 from 6:30-8:30PM

Please note this will be the only in person open house this year

Your OPHS PTO will have a table set up in the cafeteria to welcome you and accept your membership the "old fashioned way" for anyone who prefers that (bring \$5 cash or check please)

OPHS will also offer a virtual open house - available on the district website between 9/19 - 10/4

2024 Homecoming Dance

Purchase Your Tickets ONLINE!!



Who: Only Orchard Park High School students (grades 9 – 12)

Date: Saturday, September 28, 2024

Time: 7:30 – 10:30 p.m.

(Doors will open at 7:00, and students will not be admitted after 8:30 p.m.)

Place: Orchard Park High School gym

Ticket Sales: Tickets are \$22 (online only)

***Tickets will be sold online from Thursday, September 19 through Thursday, September 26 ONLY! Students' current OPHS student ID will serve as the ticket.**

Orchard Park High School has the pleasure of having one of the most well-attended homecoming dances in the area. We are proud of our reputation for providing our students with a happy, healthy, and safe evening they are sure to remember.

All Orchard Park High School rules as outlined in the *Orchard Park High School 2024 – 2025 Student Agenda and Handbook* apply to the Homecoming Dance.

Please review with your child the enclosed information regarding our expectations for the Homecoming Dance. These expectations are designed to help ensure that our students have another safe and fun-filled evening.

Keeping Kids Safe (KKS) Meeting: In order for students to attend an Orchard Park High School dance, parents/guardians must view the “Keeping Kids Safe” (KKS) video and acknowledge they have done so before their students may purchase a Homecoming ticket. The video is linked on the Parent Portal as “KKS Signoff.” **The final opportunity to meet this requirement is the last day of ticket sales, Thursday, September 26, 2024.**

Tickets

Homecoming dance tickets can be purchased **ONLINE only at the Orchard Park Central School District website** (<https://www.opschools.org/hsdance>). Once there, click on the Homecoming Dance link on the left-hand side of the page. At the time of ticket purchase, students will choose which door they would like to enter when they arrive at the dance, either Baker Rd. or Freeman Rd. This is done to expedite students entering the building.

Upon entering the dance, **ALL STUDENTS must have their current OPHS Student ID, which will serve as their ticket. Students may not type their student number into the computer.**

NO ID = NO ENTRANCE TO THE DANCE!

Additionally, we are unable to accept money at the door. Please be sure your student has purchased a ticket online during ticket sales.

Drop off / Parking

Students, whether driving themselves or being dropped off, should arrive and park on the side for which they purchased their tickets. They may leave the dance through either exit.

Appropriate Dress

Dance attire is **SEMI-FORMAL** and should be in line with the code of conduct as published in the 2024 – 2025 *OPHS Student Agenda and Handbook*.

Attendees should be dressed with the following guidelines in mind:



- A collared shirt, tie (long or bow), dress pants, belt, and dress shoes. (A jacket or sport coat is nice but not necessary.)

- Dresses, dressy pants, skirts, and shoes that are safe and comfortable being worn all night.

- **For health and safety reasons, students may not go bare foot at any time.**

- Students wearing informal attire, such as shorts, t-shirts, jeans, Crocs (or other foam shoes), or gym shoes will not be allowed entrance.



- Students will be denied entry at the discretion of administration for items that are not expressly mentioned here but that are deemed inappropriate at the time of arrival.

A Note

Your child's health and safety is of utmost importance for us. Please feel free to call the school at 716-209-6242 with any questions.



From the High School Counseling Department:

- The High School Counseling department met with the Junior and Senior classes during the first week of school for the Fall College Assembly. A plethora of information related to the college planning process including SATs, recommendations, athletics, applications, financial aid, SCOIR, and much more was discussed.
- The Western New York Collegiate Consortium of Disability Advocates will be hosting a college night for students with disabilities interested in learning about the transition from high school to college. The event will take place at Daemen University on October 17th, 2024. Colleges and agencies that support this transition across the state will present valuable information. Please visit the [WNYCCDA](#) website for details and registration information.
- The OP Pride application is due November 1st! Any interested seniors should apply! The application is available on the [School Counseling page](#) of the high school website.
- OPHS is a test center for the October ACT, November SAT, May SAT, and June ACT. Please visit the [ACT](#) and [SAT](#) websites for details and registration information.
- During September and October, the High School Counselors are meeting with seniors for their Senior Check-In to discuss post-high school plans. Options including college, trades, military, and employment are discussed.
- The High School Counseling department hosts a Google Classroom for each grade level. Ask your child to login and check out the latest announcements.
- Check out the [School Counseling page](#) on the high school website. It includes a variety of resources for students and parents.

Dear High School Parents:

Welcome or welcome back! We hope that you had an enjoyable summer and that you are excited that your child will soon be heading back to school. The **PTO is looking forward to supporting the students, teachers, staff and families and returning to our schedule of events and activities for the year! We hope that you will consider getting involved.** Here are a few ways to do that:

Join

Join the PTO - Membership is only \$5 and can be done quickly and easily online, through Membership Toolkit. **Instructions for joining online can be found in this packet. Emails related to PTO-sponsored events, activities, and volunteer opportunities are sent to members through the Membership Toolkit website, and members have access to the online directory of all PTO member families. You can choose to volunteer IF you wish too - never any pressure, we just really appreciate your membership!**



Join the **Orchard Park High School PTO Facebook page**. We use the page to keep parents informed about upcoming events and volunteer opportunities, and we share other information important for high school parents. The page can be found here: <https://www.facebook.com/groups/1396662093956394/> or by searching "Orchard Park High School PTO" on Facebook.



PTO meetings - We meet at OPHS in the LMC (Library) in the back room, it is located on the second floor across from the House 2 Office. A list of meeting dates is included in this packet. **Our Schedule is usually the last Monday of the month.** We do not meet in December.



Stay informed. Read the **monthly PTO newsletter** available on the HS website (click on "Parent Resources" and then "PTO"). The newsletter contains information about what's happening at the High School, and often contains requests for volunteers. An email will be sent when the newsletter is posted.



Volunteer to help. As volunteer opportunities become available throughout the year, they will be communicated through PTO emails, on the Facebook page, and in the monthly PTO newsletter.

Jen Domzalski, President
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Jennifer Kellington, Vice President
jkellington379@gmail.com

Karry Kazial-Backes, Secretary
karry.kazial@fredonia.edu

Karen Fuentes, Treasurer
karen.fuentes8888@att.net

OPHS PTO Membership: Instructions to Join Using Membership Toolkit Online



Membership dues for the 2024 - 2025 school year are just \$5.00 per family.

The PTO will be using Membership Toolkit again for our communications, online store, online membership, volunteer signups and directory.

If you DO NOT have a Membership Toolkit account from previous years, please follow steps #1 - #10 to create an account and join the PTO.

OR

If you already have a Membership Toolkit account, please LOG IN and follow steps #7 - #10 below (You may omit steps #1 - #6)



To create a Membership Toolkit account:

1. Go to <https://orchardparkhspto.membershiptoolkit.com/>
2. Click the "Register / Log In" button
3. Click the "Create Account" button on the right side of the page underneath "New User?"
4. Provide your first and last name, email address, create a password and click the "Verify My Email" button
5. Go to your email and click the "Verify My Email" button
6. Enter your password where indicated on the verification screen and click the "Create Account" button

OPHS PTO Membership: Instructions to Join Using Membership Toolkit Online

7. Click on “Step 1: Family Information”

Provide or confirm the requested information.

Click the “Next Step” button.

Note: if you indicate that you want the second parent to be able to manage the account, they will receive an email and will have to accept your invitation to do so. They will need to create their own account.

8. Proceed to “Student Information”

Click “Add Student” to enter your first OPHS child’s name and grade.

Do not enter Classroom Teacher.

If needed, click “I have another student” to add additional OPHS children to your profile.

When all HS children have been entered, **click the “Save” button in the lower right side of the page.**

9. Click on “Step 2: Directory Publish Preferences”

You can also choose which information you would like shared in the directory by unchecking any boxes containing information you wish to keep private.

Click the “Save” button in the lower right side of the page to save your preferences.

10. Click on “PTO Membership 2024-2025” under “Store & Information Forms” to complete your membership.

Click the “down” arrow to the far right of the “Membership for Families” section and select the number “1”

If you choose to make an **optional donation to the PTO**, please enter your donation amount in the box to the right of the “Donation of your choosing” under **“General Fund Donation.”**

If you choose to make an **optional donation to Post Prom**, please enter your donation amount in the box to the right of the “Post Prom General Donation” under **“General Fund Donation.”** There are several other ways to donate to Post Prom listed as well.

If you choose a predetermined amount, make your selection for the quantity in the drop down box next to the amount

If you make a donation of your choosing, please scroll to the bottom and enter the amount of your gift next to “Post Prom General Donation.”

Click **“Save and checkout”**

For any store purchase, you can pay online through your PayPal account or using a credit or debit card or mail a check or cash to “OPHS PTO, 4040 Baker Road, Orchard Park, NY 14127.”



OPHS PTO Facebook Page Information

Please join the OPHS PTO Facebook page!

It's a convenient way to find out what's going on at the High School, stay informed about upcoming events and volunteer opportunities and stay updated on other information important for high school parents.

To join, go to:

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/1396662093956394/>

or enter "Orchard Park High School PTO" in the search box on Facebook.

***** Please be sure to answer the "membership questions" prior to submitting your request to join the page! *****



PTO Meeting Dates 2024-2025



**Note: Meetings will take place in-person in the LMC Library
on the 2nd floor of the high school.**

**Please be certain to join PTO via the Membership Toolkit website
to ensure the emails are sent to you!**

Monday, September 30, 2024 - 6PM **(Updated time!)**

Monday, October 28, 2024* - 7PM

Monday, November 25, 2024* - 7PM

Monday, January 27, 2025* - 7PM

Monday, February 24, 2025* - 7PM

Monday, March 24, 2025* - 7PM

Monday, April 28, 2025* - 7PM

Monday, May 19, 2025* - 6PM **(Updated time!)**

* Post Prom meetings will be held at 6:00 p.m. on these dates, beginning in October

PTO Event Dates 2024-2025



Fall Events

Sat	Sept 28	Fall Homecoming Dance	7:30pm
Monday	Sept 30	PTO Meeting	6:00pm
Mon	Oct 28	Post Prom Meeting	6:00pm
Mon	Oct 28	PTO Meeting	7:00pm
Mon	Nov 25	Post Prom Meeting	6:00pm
Mon	Nov 25	PTO Meeting	7:00pm

Winter Events

Fri	Jan 24	Staff Appreciation Lunch	All Day
Mon	Jan 27	Post Prom Meeting	6:00pm
Mon	Jan 27	PTO Meeting	7:00pm
Sat	Feb 1	Winter Homecoming	7:00pm
Mon	Feb 24	Post Prom Meeting	6:00pm
Mon	Feb 24	PTO Meeting	7:00pm

PTO Event Dates 2024-2025



Spring Events

Mon	Mar 24	Post Prom Meeting	6:00pm
Mon	Mar 24	PTO Meeting	7:00pm
Tues	Mar 25	Science Scholars Reception	6:30pm
Wed	April 9	Tri-M Music Reception	7:00pm
Mon	Apr 28	Post Prom Meeting	6:00pm
Mon	Apr 28	PTO Meeting	7:00pm
Thurs	May 1	World Language Honor	7:00pm
Fri	May 9	NHS Reception	7:00pm
Mon	May 19	PTO Meeting	6:00pm
Mon	May 19	Post Prom Meeting	7:00pm
Wed	May 21	Underclass Awards	7:00pm
Fri	May 30	Senior Picnic	
Sat	May 31	Post Prom	Late Night

Driver Education



Fall Driver Education – All line assignment numbers have been assigned for fall. Please check the district website for any availability which opened up on Monday, September 9, 2024.

Check the district website in November for information on the Winter/Spring session of Driver Education.

5-HOUR PRE-LICENSING COURSE

5-Hour Pre-Licensing Courses will be held on the following dates at the Orchard Park High School:

Monday & Wednesday, October 21 & 23, 2024 6:30-9:00pm

You must attend both evenings and be 16 or older and have a valid NYS Learner's Permit. There is a \$40.00 fee. Sign up and pay online at www.opschools.org/communityed or register in person at the Community Education Office (cash or make checks payable to Orchard Park Central School District). Call 209-6295 for more information.

