

For Immediate Release

October 31, 2012

Announcement Regarding O'Dea High School

(SEATTLE) The O'Dea High School Board learned today that Brother Karl Walczak has been accused of sexual abuse of a minor. Brother Walczak, who denies the allegations, has resigned his position as principal of O'Dea.

The accusations relate to Brother Walczak's time as a teacher in another diocese in the early 1970s.

O'Dea school administrators reported last August that Brother Walczak had been called back by the Christian Brothers to assist in resolving a proof of claim filed in the Christian Brother's Institute bankruptcy proceeding. Vice Principal Jim Walker was subsequently named acting principal.

O'Dea is owned by the Archdiocese of Seattle and its facilities and financial operations are not affected by the Christian Brothers' bankruptcy.

Anyone who has knowledge of sexual abuse or misconduct by a member of the clergy, an employee or volunteer of the Archdiocese of Seattle is urged to call the archdiocesan hotline at 1-800-446-7762.

For more information, contact: Greg Magnoni 206.382.4862 or 425.829.5520