

Richard F. Odell biography

Richard F. Odell is IMG Academy's Vice President of Student Affairs and IMG Academy Headmaster. He founded the PK-PG school of 700 students on IMG's Bradenton, Florida campus in 2000. The school's academic program and delivery is specifically designed to meet the college preparatory expectations of students and their families from 85 countries. This is accomplished by offering a unique blend of teaching styles that work for students who come to the school with a passion for sport and spend half of each day in that sport and the other half in school.

Mr. Odell began his professional career in 1972, working in fundraising and alumni affairs at his alma mater, Heidelberg University, from which he had recently graduated. In 1976, he began serving independent schools in a variety of administrative capacities including: chief financial officer, development, alumni and marketing director, Assistant Headmaster, Headmaster and President. Much of his career has focused on serving schools that have struggled to find a niche that would provide long term financial stability, a strong public image and success.

Rich has served on a number of not-for-profit boards including: The Council for Advancement and Support of Education (CASE), national, state and local arts councils, The Circle of Blue (an organization addressing worldwide safe water concerns) and the Chamber of Commerce. He is regarded by many as an educational visionary.

Odell graduated with a music education degree from Heidelberg University in 1972 and from Bowling Green State University with a master's degree in Student Personnel in 1976. He has a grown son and daughter.