Odyssey
Charter School

Nurturing a lifelong love of learning

ODYSSEY CHARTER SCHOOL

Grades 6-8

November 2017

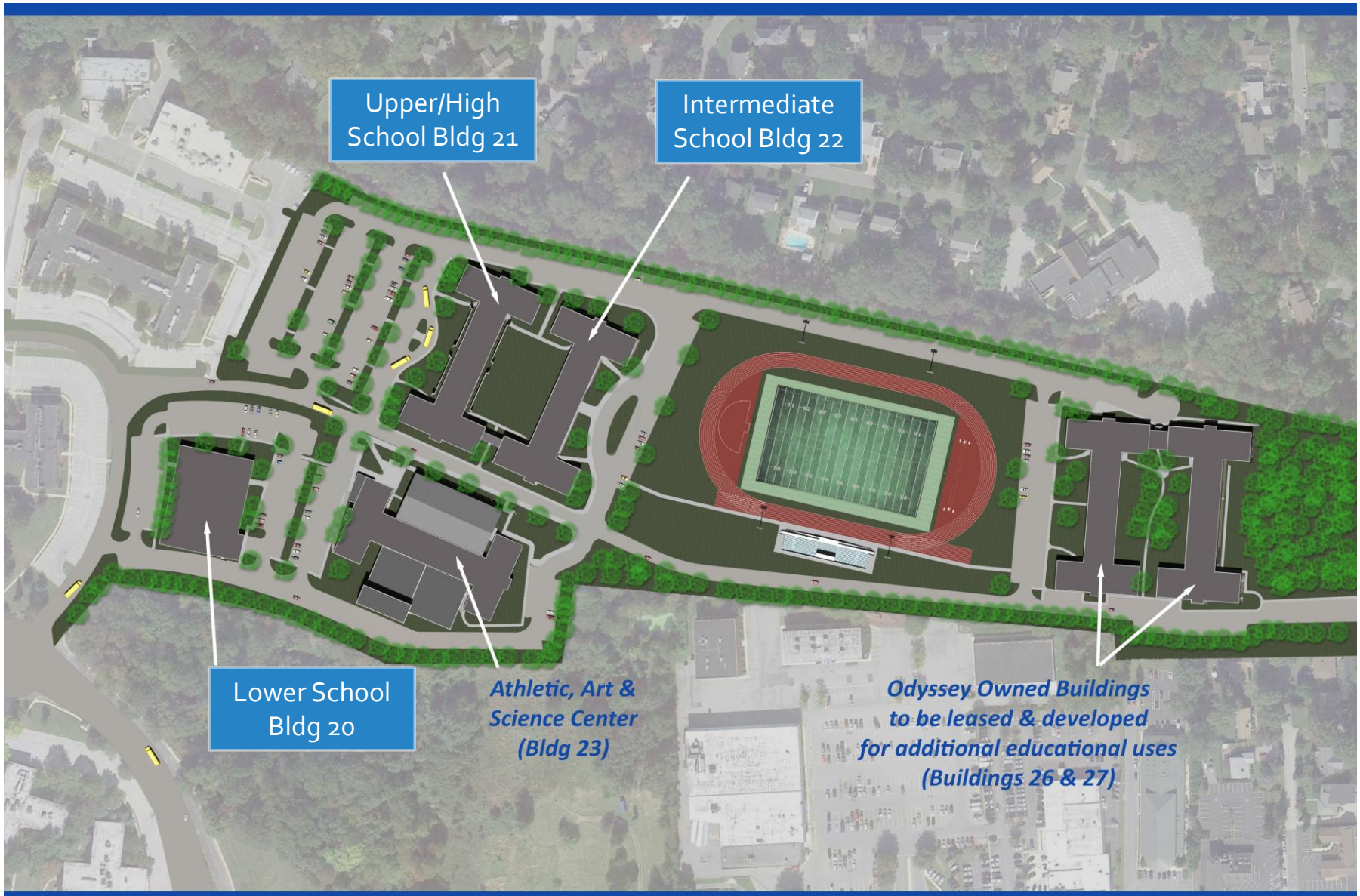
Our Mission

- Lifelong learning
- Academic excellence
- Global citizenship
- Independent & creative thinkers

Odyssey's Journey

We've come a long way since 2006

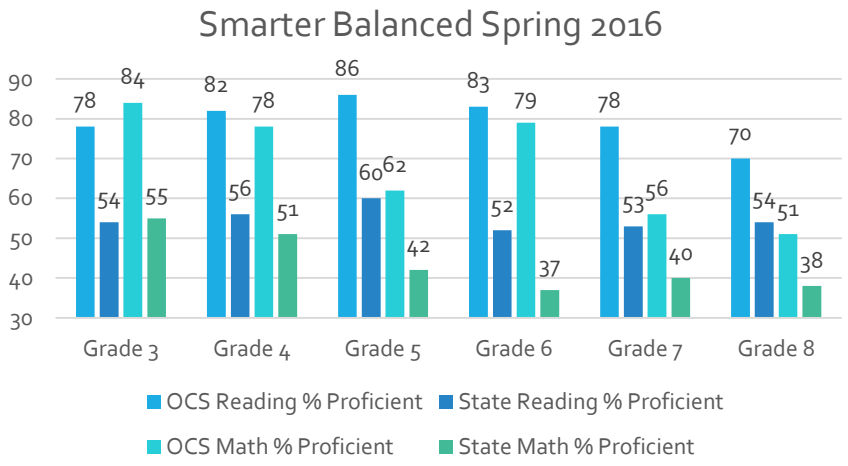
- Some families have been with us since the beginning, and others have joined us along the way.
- We've proven we can develop new programs driving outstanding academic results through our elementary and middle schools.

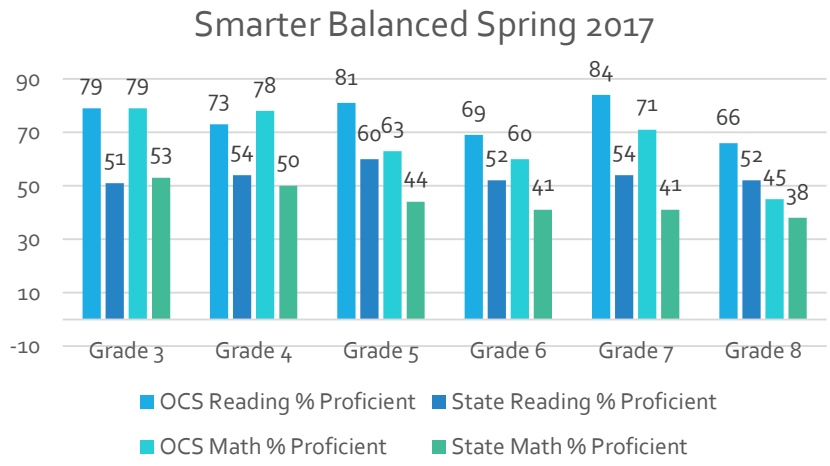

Upper/High School Bldg 21
Intermediate School Bldg 22
Lower School Bldg 20
Athletic, Art & Science Center (Bldg 23)
Odyssey Owned Buildings to be leased & developed for additional educational uses (Buildings 26 & 27)

Intermediate School – Bldg 22
Sixth Grade

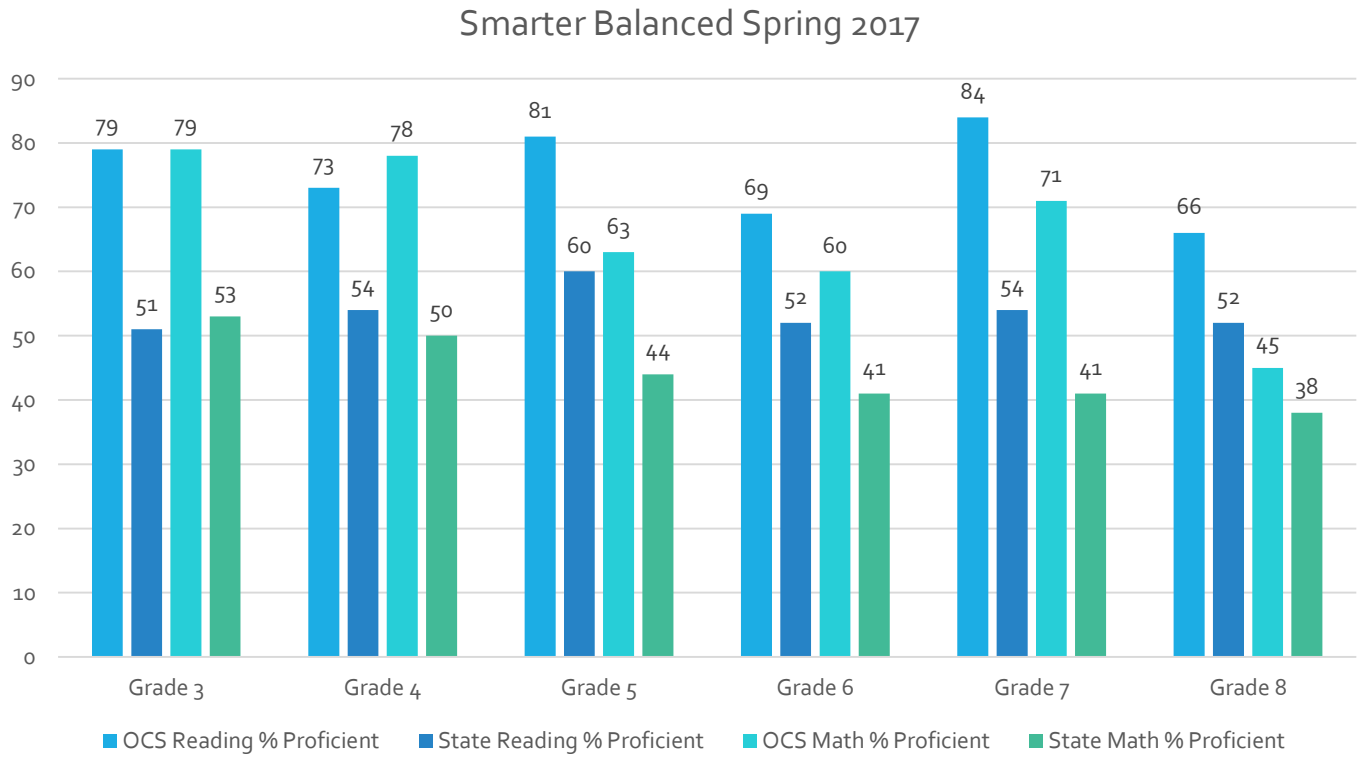
Upper/High School – Bldg 21
7th and 8th Grade Academies

Academic Performance





Performance



Long-term Performance

Our ranking in DE rose significantly over 3 years

	2013-2014	2012-2013	2011-2012
Reading			
Gr 3	11/110	7/107	32/106
Gr 4	3/108	12/104	23/103
Gr 5	8/102	11/98	10/97
Gr 6	6/53		
Math			
Gr 3	2/110	6/107	26/106
Gr 4	1/108	3/104	17/103
Gr 5	4/102	14/98	7/97
Gr 6	4/53		
Science			
Gr 5	10/102	25/98	18/97
Social Studies			
Gr 4	2/108	5/104	4/103

- Continued improvement *as new students join*
- One of the highest performing schools in state of Delaware

Recognition

- 2016 MSN **#1 Elementary School in Statewide Rankings**
- Received DDOE **Recognition Award** 2014 for outstanding academic achievement
- **DE Dept of Education** - $50,000 performance grant
- Distinguished **Top Ten Innovative Schools** by *Parents Magazine*, October 2012
- Rated **Superior School** by the DE DOE for five consecutive years: 08, 09, 10, 11,12

  (program discontinued after 2012)

Delaware Charter School Network

Impact Leadership Award Winners

Dr. Nick Manolakos, Headmaster

Mrs. Denise Parks, Supervisor, Schools & Instruction

Delaware Charter School Network

Academic Excellence Award Winner

2013, 2014, 2015, and 2016

Safe, Nurturing Environment

Suspensions and Expulsions	
	2016-17
Number of Suspensions	253
Number of Expulsions	0
Count of Students Suspended/Expelled	114
September 30 Enrollment	1,440
Percent of Students Suspended/Expelled	8%
District Percentage	8%
State Percentage	12%

- High standards
- Positive Behavior Support program
- Restorative Practices
- Advisory

Demographics

Enrollment by Race/Ethnicity		
	2015-16	2016-17
African American	22.3%	22.4%
American Indian	0.4%	0.5%
Asian	8.3%	10.6%
Hawaiian	0.9%	0.7%
Hispanic/Latino	5.9%	6.0%
White	61.2%	57.7%
Multi-Racial	1.1%	2.1%

Other Student Characteristics		
	2015-16	2016-17
English Language Learner	0.3%	1.5%
Low Income	17.4%	17.9%
Special Education	4.9%	5.5%
Enrolled for Full Year	100.0%	N/A

The Odyssey Approach

- Classical foundation
- Structured environment
- Differentiated, tiered instruction
- Small school feel
  - 14 to 24 students per class
- CCC- student advisory group

The Odyssey Approach

- **4 Core Content Classes**
  - Mathematics
  - English/Language Arts block
  - Science
  - Social Studies

- **Supplemental Programs**
  - Response to Intervention
  - Special Education
  - Honors Coursework
  - Academic Acceleration & Enrichment (ACE)

- **Greek Language**

What's unique to Odyssey

- High expectations for classroom behavior and decorum
- Structured class periods and school day
- Appreciation for world cultures and diversity
- Small, safe community
- More attentive to students' needs
- Supports whole child so your student can flourish
- Challenged without being overwhelmed

Greek Programming

- Pioneered the Foreign Language in the Elementary School (FLES) model
  - Not immersion
- Instruction through English-speaking Social Studies, Mathematics and Science
  - Meaningful context
- "Being bilingual [has] a profound effect on your brain improving cognitive skills."* --*New York Times*
- OCS developed a K-12 Greek curriculum with the DE DOE and the Hellenic Link
  - The American Council for the Teaching of Foreign Languages (ACTFL) accepted it as the national standard.

Greek Instruction

- What makes OCS unique from others in state
- Taught by credentialed instructors from Greece
- Supplemented by Greek-American teachers
- Pedagogically trained in Greece or Europe
  - "Traditional" approach to instruction
- Students must be willing to embrace varied teaching styles

Statement of Understanding Regarding Greek Programming Components– Parent Commitment

- I/we understand that Odyssey Charter School requires its students in grades K-8 to take both a Greek Language class, and a 2nd class (Mathematics or related content area) which is taught in the Greek language.
- I/we understand that these and all OCS courses are comprised of rigorous and challenging coursework, and I/we are committed to the value of Greek Programming as part of the OCS educational experience.
- I/we will support Odyssey staff and my/our child regarding the expectations for these and all OCS courses and the OCS Code of Conduct.

Statement of Understanding Regarding Greek Programming Components– Student Commitment

- I understand that Odyssey Charter School requires its students in grades K-10 to take both a Greek Language class, and a 2nd class (Mathematics or related content area) in certain grades which is taught in the Greek language.
- I understand that these and all OCS courses are rigorous and challenging.
- I will do my best to succeed academically and will follow the OCS Code of Conduct expectations in these and all OCS courses.

Significant student leadership opportunities

6th-8th grade students have many ways to lead our school:

- Student Council
- Sports - soccer, basketball, wrestling, volleyball, track, cheerleading, baseball and softball
- Junior National Honor Society
- Band
- ACE/Service Projects
- Extracurricular activities

  Art Club, Odyssey of the Mind, Math Olympiad, Computer Club, Open Gym Nights, Summer Camp, Dances/Socials

Sport Facilities

* New small gymnasium
* Athletic fields

OCS PTO

- Annual 5K Run/Walk
- Paving the Way Campaign
- Spring Fling Silent Auction
- Coupon Cards
- Pretzel Tuesdays
- Spirit Wear sales
- Used Uniforms sales
- Family Fun Nights at Local Restaurants

They will raise over $50, 000 this year!

Faculty & Administration

- Certified/Highly Qualified Teachers
- Credentialed Greek Instructors
- Guidance Counselors

Dr. Nick Manolakos- Headmaster

Denise Parks- Supervisor of Schools & Instruction

Ashley Sorenson- Dean, Upper/High School

Stephanie Beckel- Associate Dean, Intermediate School

Erric Stewart- Student Advisor, Upper/High School

Chris Holler- Student Advisor, Intermediate School

Contact Information

Phone: 302-516-8000

www.odysseycharterschooldel.org

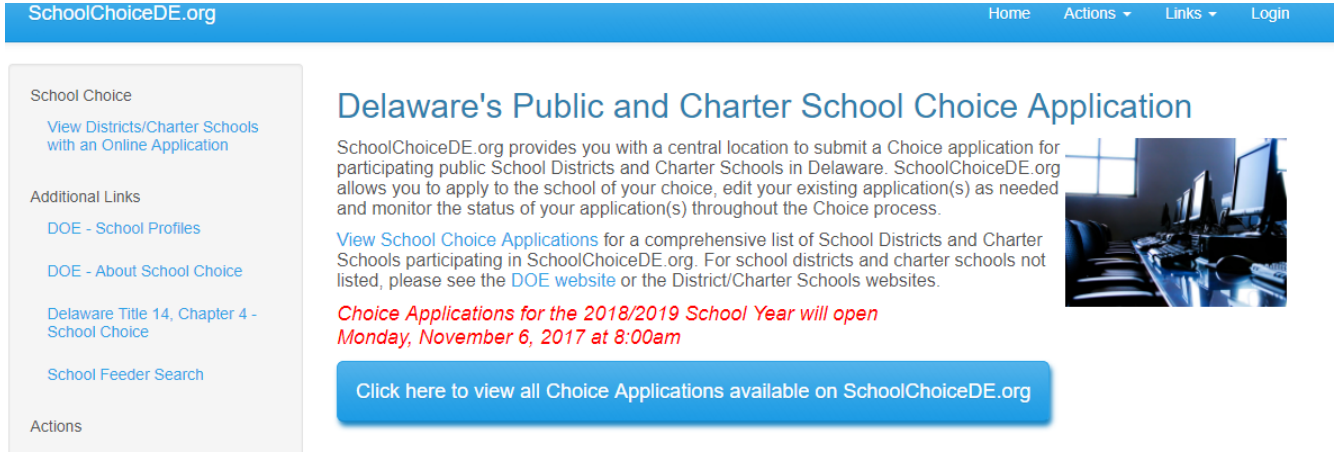
Follow us on Twitter! @OCSDelaware #ichooseOCS

Choice Process

- True lottery with a random drawing
- Only preference is for siblings and children of staff
- Wait list of over **1,100** students

Apply online

* Choice enrollment period Nov 6th - Jan 10th
* www.SchoolChoiceDE.org



School Tours

Student/Family Tours for Rising 6th Graders

December 5th and 6th

8:30a 9:30a

Please contact Stephanie Beckel to schedule your tour.

Questions and Answers