

PTO Executive Committee Members in Attendance: Shamekia Martin, President; Amber Fulginiti, Vice President of Administration; Nina Broome, Vice President of Membership; Cathy Hatton, Recording Secretary; Jennifer McBride, Correspondence Secretary; Mary Huntington, Treasurer

Speaking Guests in Attendance: Dr. Nick Manolakos, Headmaster; Denise Parks, Supervisor of Schools/Instruction (K-9) ; Dimitri Dandolos, OCS Board President; Laura Thompson, Parent Elect Board Member

Head Count: 52

Call to Order: 7:01pm

AGENDA ITEMS:

I. Welcome

Owner: All

- PTO Executive Committee members introduced themselves
- Shamekia Martin, President, encouraged PTO members to think about PTO board nominations for the school year 2017-2018. All positions are open. Recruitment will begin in March 2017 to find nominations for all positions. With the exception of Correspondence Secretary, the other position term limits expire at the end of 2016-2017 school year.

II. Recap of Previous Year, Purchases/Donations, Volunteers

Owner: Shamekia Martin

- During the 2015-2016 school year, OCS PTO raised \$76,000 and donated \$69,000 back to the school. Purchases included:
 - Black metal permanent fencing around the recess area at LS - \$3,900
 - Back to School Classroom Supplies including basic extras for all grades and classrooms, including Greek teachers and Specials - \$7,500
 - Donation to the OCS Athletics Assoc. - \$2,500
 - Donation to the OCS Drama Club for start up - \$2,000
 - Smartboard Purchase for all added classrooms and the 9th grade - \$40,000
 - New spirit wear line, new products - \$6,000
 - Flat screen televisions purchased for Upper and High School Lobbies
- August Fundraisers:
 - Used uniform summer sale raised \$3,500
 - Spirit wear launched new line with many new products & raised \$2,400

III. Fundraisers for September & Family Fun Events

Owner: Amber Fulginiti

- 9/16/16: Full Dress Down day in exchange for one bag of individually wrapped candy (for Trunk or Treat) or one gently used uniform piece
- 9/17/16: K-4 Skating Party at Christiana Skating Center (all grades may attend)
- 9/24/16: AHEPA 10th Annual 5K & Pre-race Olympic Events
- Volunteer participation is needed in order to make these events a success. All members and families are strongly urged to volunteer. Just one hour makes a difference.
- In an effort to streamline information in and out, the PTO committee will only post events on the Odyssey Charter School PTO Facebook page, Twitter Feed, and email blasts; information will not be posted by the board on parent pages; however, feel free to share on those pages. Please use the PTO Facebook page and email addresses for questions, comments, suggestions, etc. when you want to communicate directly with the PTO Exec. Committee.

IV. Budget

- The 2016-2017 budget was made available to the meeting. No questions or issues.

V. Administration's Report

Owner: Dr. Nick Manolakos

- Back to School Nights: K-3 – 9/14/16, 5:15-6pm; 4th-8th & 9th – 9/15/16, 5:15-6:45pm. An opportunity for parents to meet teachers, see the classroom and get general overview for year ahead.
- Citizens Budget Oversight Committee (CBOC) meets the 3rd Wednesday of every month at 6pm and the School Board meets the same day at 7pm. Parents are strongly encouraged to attend both.
- Administrators have been busy visiting classrooms, greeting students and discussing OCS way.
- The Code of Conduct included a section explaining the rigor of expectations parents and students must be aware of with the Greek curriculum.
- Transportation issues continue. Newspapers published Delaware has a bus driver shortage and districts are experiencing issues as well. Parents are encouraged to contact Reggie at First Student Bus Company, 302-998-2848, direct with any concerns. Concerns may be emailed to Mr. Evan Winokur, regarding all transportation at the school.
- The new tenant, Academia Antonia Alonso has opened it's doors at building #26. Traffic was slow the first day, but improved by the second day as families adjusted to new surroundings.
- Due to overcrowding, the school made changes to bus assignments. The school emailed all families with changes of bus assignments. Bus drivers should have lists of children assigned to riding the bus.

VI. Board Report

Owner: Dimitri Dandolos

- Dimitri Dandolos introduced himself as the new school board president. The board has new members this year. He introduced Elias Rigas and Laura Thompson, present at the meeting. Thanked Kate Klemas for her years of service, also present.
- Dimitri asked all school organizations and the board to work together for a good future and happy customers, the families of the school.
- School board budget has been passed and strategic planning is in process for reevaluation and look forward to completing it by the end of the year.
- The school board has a \$6 million fundraising plan for the next 3 years, with \$1.4 million in reserve to date towards that goal. Money raised will go to the growth needs of the school facilities, to help administration with operations and for classroom needs, as well as the completion in retrofitting building 21, building a gymnasium attached to building 23 and retrofitting building 23 to accommodate multipurpose room, lockers, art room, laboratory and science rooms. This will include site improvements including to athletic fields.
- Families are asked by the board to please become involved in board committees to help with the fundraising efforts. The board needs parents with connections to get involved to help this fundraising become a success.
- The temporary gymnasium construction is tentatively scheduled to begin within two weeks.
- Over the summer, the school completed the retrofit construction in building 21 for the 9th grade and completed retrofit of Building 26 for new tenant Academia Antonia Alonso. They use OCS kitchen for breakfast and lunch plans and traffic plans were adjusted to accommodate increased traffic. The tenant is pleased with how their first days of school have gone and OCS School Board asks all OCS families to welcome the new students and families.
- The 10th Annual AHEPA 5K Run / Walk is on 9/24/16. This is a special event this year marking the 10th anniversary of the school and many special events are scheduled throughout the morning. Student participation is desired to make this special event a huge success and volunteers are needed in every aspect of the event. The PTO has sent out volunteer forms for student

participation and there is a sign up genius for families to volunteer on the day of the event. The PTO is looking for volunteers to help with set up, race registration, clean up and more. Last year AHEPA helped raised \$20,000 to the school.

- A new board page will be made available on the school's main website
- Any parents with connections for fundraising or those with special talents to offer are encouraged to email Laura Thompson, serving on the Communications Committee. Her email is available on the Board page of the school's website

VII. Adjournment / Special Reminders

- The OCS Athletics Assocation's next meeting is 9/20/16 at 7pm. The OCSA support sports at OCS grades K-9.
- Meeting adjourned: 8:26 pm

Next PTO meeting: Wednesday, October 5, 2016, 7pm