

PTO Meeting Minutes
October 1, 2014

Location: Lower School
Minute Recorder: Kris Ellegood
Headcount: 35
Time: 7p – 8:25p

Executive Committee Shelly Towler, President; Jo-el Fetizanan, Vice President of Administration; LaToya Dionne, Vice-President of Membership; Kristina Ellegood, Recording Secretary; Jen Gannon, Correspondence Secretary and Louise Antenucci, Treasurer

Guests Dr. Nick Manolakos, Head Master; Jackie Pastis, Asst. Head Master; Denise Parks, Asst. Head Master; Kate Klemas, Parent at Large Board Member; Jen Ballas, Parent Elect Board Member

Topics of Discussion

Owner

Welcome/ Introduction

Shelly

Fall Fundraiser

- Walkathon at Lower School in late October/ early November at Lower School
- K-1 will be escorted around Building 20; 2-4 Building 23
- Dodge Ball in Upper School (January 2015 planning) / Awaiting approval
- Paving the Way in Spring fundraiser for both schools; all proceeds go back to the school

Budget

Louise

- \$60K profit last year; afforded Accelerated Reader, SmartBoards, etc
- Target/Amazon - % of purchase goes back to the school; shop through link provided

Scrip

- Gift cards available until October 20th
- Gift ideas for teacher, staff, Christmas, etc.
- On sale 1st Fridays - morning and afternoon
- Kohl's gift card can be used to pay credit card bill

Administration's Report (Charter Application, etc.)

Denise

- Annual report received from DE Dept of Education (DeDOE) (Academic, Organizational standards). Odyssey has met or exceeded standards
- School improvement plan: (derived from scores, parent/teacher surveys, etc)
- 5 goals:
 1. English/Language Arts (ELA) Curriculum (reading program K-7 Accelerated Reader Program). Incentives built into program, but not counted toward

marking period GPA. Review of some program specifics. Correspondence will be sent to parents with additional information, as well as log clarification

2. Math Curriculum (Engage NY Modules)
 3. Greek Curriculum (Common Core Standards)
 4. Increased Communications
 5. School Culture / enrollment numbers (PBS Program)
- Renewal Application moving forward and submitted in entirety. Every 5 years application must be renewed with DOE; chartered by State of Delaware; Additional information can be found on DOE website in coming weeks
 - Friday, 10/5 In-Service and Reflection Day for Staff
 - Home Access Center for Upper School will go live Monday 10/6.
 - STAR Testing results will be sent in coming weeks
 - Planning Middle School Dance (6th & 7th gr.)
 - Planning 5th Grade Social

Board Report (Food Program, etc.)

Kate

- Discussion around future board appointments and revision of by-laws
- Stephanie McBride (parent) looked into DOT/University of Delaware (Dr. Arde Faghri, Director at DE Center of Transportation) in oversight of car line logistics; parent petition would be needed for traffic study
- In order to receive loan/bond (36 acres / 30yr mortgage) - after settlement - Upper School will be sold (matter of outstanding debt)
- Land use hearing will be held in November; Kate Klemas will reach out for parent support
- School board must attend training (DOE required). Training plan must be presented to DOE
- Gym – Physical Education credits are needed and cannot be applied to a multi-purpose room. Future discussion for 2015/2016
- Food Program credit card fees can be avoided by paying via check. Staple check to monthly menu
- Nutritionist/Dietician unavailable on staff. Parent must be proactive in potential food allergies / allergic reaction and work directly with food services (Odyssey website has food program staff).
- Parents must email entire board any concerns/opinions around board projects to help influence majority opinion/views (Dr. Nick nomination!! Yay)

Announcements: AHEPA 5K recap, Pretzel Tuesday, Suggestion Box

Shelly

- 5K successful (175 participants)
- Pretzel Tuesday launched 9/30
- Suggestion boxes will be strategically placed within for parents within schools
- Volunteers needed for PTO initiatives
- Library volunteers needed at Upper and Lower Schools

Parent Suggestion:

- Record PTO Meetings to publish (WebEx, teleconference, Skype); Dino will be contacted directly for follow-up

Dates to Remember:

- October 3 **Coleman's Tree Farm Hayride:** Arrive no later than 12:30 to receive tickets
- October 7 **SCRIP Gift Card Purchase/Pick-up:** Lower School, 8:30 – 9:00 & 2:30-3:30
- October 17 **\$1 Spirit-Wear Dress Down Day,** uniform bottoms must be worn with any OCS t-shirt
- October 20 **SCRIP Gift Card** orders due to Louise Antenucci, noochfred@msn.com
- November 5 Used Uniform, School Store and SCRIP Gift Card Sale/Pick-Up, Lower School @ 6:30
- November 5 PTO Meeting in the Lower School Multi-Purpose room @ 7:00
- November 21 **\$1 Spirit-Wear Dress Down Day,** uniform bottoms must be worn with any OCS t-shirt

On-Going Fundraising Opportunities:



Amazon Sign Up:

There is no sign up involved. Each month, Amazon pays us up to 10% of all purchases made by shoppers who use the link below. That includes products sold at Amazon by other companies, too.

Order matters: You need to link, shop, and check out, in that order.

http://www.amazon.com/?_encoding=UTF8&tag=odyscharch01-20



Target Sign Up:

If you have or plan to get a Target Credit, Visa or Debit Card, you can register for the Take Charge of Education program with Target. Target will donate up to 1% of your purchase to Odyssey.

To set up: Visit Target.com/tcoe or call 1-800-316-6142. Sign up for the program with your REDcard information. That's it!!

Scrip is Fundraising
While You Shop!™



Scrip Gift Card Program:

Families and staff of OCS can purchase store gift cards from Odyssey Charter School PTO for participating stores where you shop. OCS PTO receives 2%-16% of the gift card value in cash. Monthly order forms, gift cards in inventory and instructions are available on our website:

http://odysseycharterschooldel.com/pto_scrip_program.html