

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

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

Head Count: 41

Call to Order: 7:05pm

AGENDA ITEMS:

I. Recap for September

Owner: Shamekia Martin

- Lower School Christiana Skate Party had 229 participants. Upper school skate party is scheduled for October. The school with the most participation wins a prize (tbd)
- AHEPA 5k, 10th anniversary event had a great turn out and thanks were expressed for all the volunteers who helped make the event such a success. Funds raised through the event are paid directly to OCS, not through PTO and therefore are not reflected on PTO budget spreadsheet
- Back to School night was a success for the school. PTO set up tables with membership forms and event flyers
- Shoparoo: a check for \$635 is on its way for funds raised through the Shoparoo app fundraising effort. PTO looks forward to participating in this easy and free fundraising opportunity again this year

II. October Fundraisers and Family Fun

Owner: Amber Fulginiti

- 10/8/16: Skate Party for Upper School including grades 5-9, but all grades are welcome. The school with the most participation will win a prize (tbd)
- 10/14/16: 2nd Annual Trunk or Treat. Volunteers are needed! Visit PTO Facebook page or website for links to the sign up genius to register a trunk or to volunteer. Limited quantities of all beef hotdogs, chips & soda will be available. A DJ will be on site. There will be baked goods, coffee and hot chocolate available for purchase to raise funds for PTO. Candy donations (turned in September during dress down event) will be available at the PTO table in case "trunkers" run out. The schools will be locked up; there will be one portable toilet w/ hand sanitizer onsite. Mr. P will be collecting food donations during the event
- 10/26/16: BoxTops are due! Send in boxtops with your students
- Major Fundraiser – Discount Coupon Card kicks off in October. Cards will cost \$10 each and are good for one year. PTO fundraising goal is \$15,000 for this event; if each student sells two cards, we can reach our goal

III. Budget

Owner: Shamekia Martin

- PTO is working on 2016-2017 projections
- Surveys will go out to PTO paid members to vote on fund allocations, purchases, feedback, etc. through the year

IV. Administration's Report

Owner: Dr. Nick Manolakos

- Administration takes student safety seriously and does everything they can to ensure student safety on campus. Drills are practiced and training in school safety is ongoing. As situations arise, administration will strive to put out communications to parents / guardians as soon as possible.
- Questions arose about school building & campus safety. Administration replied that the buildings comply with local and county codes written specifically for schools. Gates are in place to prevent traffic from entering areas of campus during and after school hours. Vigilance is an important part of safety and cooperation with providing identification is an important part of student and campus safety.

- Question arose regarding current phone system and the experience of parents calling the school and no one answering the calls. Administration is currently working to upgrade the existing system. We should see improvement by the end of October as the new system is scheduled to roll out mid to end of October.
- Small gym progress report: construction fencing is up and the ground is marked for the small gym construction which is scheduled to start soon. This gym will provide indoor gym space for students and some space for lunch breaks.
- Dr. Nick attended the recent Odyssey Charter School Athletics (OCSA) meeting and was impressed with the turn out. Parents expressed concern over the slow momentum of setting up sports. Volunteers are desperately needed to accelerate these efforts. Parents are strongly encouraged to volunteer with OCSA, their information can be found through odysseycharterschooldel.com. Parents are needed to help with a sports intramural program. Email blast went out asking for volunteers from the school; they are asking for two hours a week or one afternoon.
- Suggestion to admin: several parents who have students in lower school only did not receive the email from the school requesting volunteer help for sports. They suggest targeting the entire school not just Upper and High to recruit volunteers.
- Suggestion to admin: information on the website is outdated and requires updating. It would be convenient for parents to be able to access forms such as the code of conduct contract
- Sports field update: originally it was thought four transformers required removal; the plan now involves removing two which block field expansion. Due to this scope change, we should see positive news soon on this ongoing issue
- Question arose regarding sports for lower school. Parents should check the site <http://www.odysseychartersports.com> for upper and high schools. For lower school, look for sign ups for tennis, basketball camps, wrestling camps.
- Question arose regarding widening the gate used during afternoon car rider pick up at the lower school. Admin is working hard on keeping the flow smooth and quick as possible. The gate was custom made and admin acknowledges that the current access width is not optimal.

V. Board Report

Owner: Laura Thompson

- The board encourages parents to consider their connections in helping the upcoming Capital Campaign. Parents may forward any possible connection contacts to her or Dimitri Dandolos via email. Their email links are available on the school website http://odysseycharterschooldel.com/board_of_directors.html
- The Capital Campaign has a goal to raise \$6million dollars to help raise funds for future school expansion and renovations
- The AHEPA 5k was a wonderful event and the connections made with Ancient Olympia very exciting. The 2004 Olympic torch came to campus and will be housed in trophy case in the High School in the future as will one of the olive wreaths, made in Greece, once it is preserved.
- Question arose: is there a formal list of needs published by the board regarding fundraising for capital campaign. If you have a connection, talent, profession, etc. you are encouraged to email the Board President Dimitri Dandolos, dimitri@ecologosinc.com.

VI. Adjournment / Special Announcements

Owner: Shamekia Martin

- The yearbook Replayit app information was provided in the October newsletter which is available to view on our website <http://odysseycharterschooldel.com/pto.html>. This app provides families the ability to submit school related photos taken through the school year for yearbook inclusion. Not all pictures are published.
- Currently seeking a Co-Chair and volunteers to serve on the Dance Subcommittee. There will be a dance in November. Grades will be appropriately separated by ages.
- OCS Athletics (OSCA): please direct all questions or suggestions about athletics to the OSCA President Sonny Casapulla at ocsapresident@gmail.com.
- Adjourned 8:01pm. Next meeting November 2, 2016, 7pm