

# Odyssey Charter School PTO

October 7, 2015

## MEETING MINUTES

### ATTENDEES:

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

Guests in Attendance: Denise Parks, Supervisor of Schools/Instruction (K-8); Kate Klemas, Parent-at-Large Board Representative; Jennifer Ballas, Parent Board Representative

Head Count: 35

Call to Order: 7:02pm

### AGENDA ITEMS:

#### I. Recap of Previous Month's Events

Owner: Shamekia Martin

- The skating party was a great success with 515 people paying. PTO raised \$1,200.
- September used uniform and spirit-wear sales raised \$1,000.
- The AHEPA 5K race had a large turnout; the most successful year to date. Money raised at the event is donated directly to the school; donation amount information will be shared at a later date when available.
- In spite of inclement weather, PTO earned \$438 on the Grotto Pizza Community Dinner event, with about 65 vouchers turned in to the restaurant.
- The Scholastic Book Fairs, including online, earned PTO \$1,800 in "Scholastic Bucks" which will be used towards the Upper School Library.
- All money earned from "Family Fun Events" will be used for the end of the school year festival, which will be held in May, exact date to be determined.
- Thank you to all of the volunteers who helped to make September events a success.

#### II. Fundraisers for October & Family Fun Events

Owner: Amber Fulginiti

- **10/9 Box Tops & Labels for Education:** Fall deadline to turn in box tops and labels to homeroom teachers is Friday, October 9. Volunteers are needed to help sort and count. Sign-up genius will be sent out for those interested in volunteering. The top earning class for each grade will win a treat. Volunteers are encouraged to sign up to help count on Saturday, October 10 at the New Castle Library; sign up genius will be blasted.
- **10/13/15 - 2/2/16 Pretzel Tuesdays:** Pretzel Tuesdays are starting October 13. Half of the Lower School is participating. Upper School numbers were not available at the time of the meeting. Contact PTO if interested in volunteering.
- **10/15 SaveAround Coupon Books** are due back to homerooms by October 15. ALL sample books must be returned with orders for tracking purposes. Volunteers are needed to help once books ordered arrive to school; sign-up genius will be sent out for volunteer spots.
- **10/16 Spirit-wear Dress Down Day:** October 16, uniform bottoms must be worn with any OCS t-shirt. Cost is \$1 or one gently used uniform item.

- **10/23 SCRIP Gift Card** orders are due to Louise Antenucci, [noochfred@msn.com](mailto:noochfred@msn.com), by October 23 for pickup at the next PTO meeting on November 4. More information about SCRIP can be found at: [http://odysseycharterschooldel.com/pto\\_scrip\\_program.html](http://odysseycharterschooldel.com/pto_scrip_program.html)
- **10/23 Family Fun Event: Trunk or Treat** to date, 150 participants have RSVP'd; 15 trunks have registered, so more trunks are needed. Event to be held in Building 20 parking lot, expanding if necessary, from 6:30-8pm. This is a rain or shine event. Volunteers are needed for directing cars and helping to organize the day of. A sign up genius is available so sign up there to volunteer.
- **11/9 Buffalo Wild Wings** at Rte. 7 (Limestone Road) location. This is an all day event, so please take advantage of this all day, take over event. SCRIP program offers Buffalo Wild Wings cards, which gives us an opportunity to make more money on this event.

### III. Budget

Owner: Mary Huntington

- The 2015-2016 PTO budget was distributed.
- This year's goal is to raise \$90,000 to help the school pay for permanent signage that will help identify our new campus as our own. This includes lower school, upper school and a main entrance sign at the Lancaster Avenue entrance.
- It was requested for transparency that the budget sheet reflect the family fun events funds raised to date. These figures will be added to the budget as a separate area.

### IV. Administration's Report

Owner: Denise Parks

#### Old Business:

- The cost breakdown per unit for the supplemental supplies required for the 2<sup>nd</sup>, 3<sup>rd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> grade classes was provided and distributed by Mrs. Parks.
- Transportation: Mrs. Parks continues to be the point person for communication between the school, parents and First Student Bus Company on a daily basis. Some route schedule consistency has been sustained but other buses still continue to have issues. Revised schedules for buses 1, 6a, 6b and 8 were sent out 10/7. Expect bus schedules on the website to reflect revised pickup / drop off times by the week of 10/12. Parents may contact Mrs. Parks for phone and email contact information of First Student Bus Co.

#### New Business:

- Carline: beginning 10/12, parents with students at both Lower and Upper schools who want to pick up their children at one location will now be able to do so. Upper School students will be walked down to the Lower School for one stop carline pick up. Parents who are interested in this arrangement should contact the school.
- Carline Security: beginning 10/12, Car line numbers will be reissued the week of 10/12 to ensure security and safety for students being picked up by car. Admin will issue two numbers and parents who need additional numbers are required to contact the school. Notify the school if an alternate person is picking up and provide the name of the person.
- Smarter Balanced Test Reports: 2015 test results are issued directly from the State of Delaware to parents, not from OCS. There was an error in report distribution; the state is reissuing results. Mrs. Park will confirm new send date.

- Smarter Balanced Testing is scheduled for the Spring 2016, mandated to public schools. These tests are not used in teacher evaluations.
- OCS will offer Ninth Grade for the 2016-2017 school year. There will be four open house dates beginning in November. Curriculum framework is in the process and progressing.
- Parent / Teacher Conferences: Conferences are scheduled on 10/19. Grades Kindergarten – 4<sup>th</sup> grade: all parents are welcome to schedule a conference. Grades 5-8: conferences are by invitation or request only.
- National Junior Honor Society: information is coming after end of First Marking Period for 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> grades; and after Second Marking Period for 6<sup>th</sup> grade. Prior year GPA is calculated with current marking period results. Eligible candidates are invited to join the Honor Society.
- Athletic fields are anticipated to be ready by November.

#### IV. Board Report

Owner: Jennifer Ballas

- The OCS Board of Directors is forming parent committees that provides parents an opportunity to help make an impact and positive change for the school.
- The Parent Representatives want to remind all parents that board meetings are open to the public and they strongly urge parents to attend these meetings which are held every second Wednesday of the month, with some special meetings scheduled when needed. Email blasts regarding board meeting schedules and agendas are now being distributed by email blast. Meetings are located on the 2<sup>nd</sup> floor at the Lower School.

#### VI. Other Items

- A special memorial to Dakari Johnson is in the planning process. Once plans have been approved, his classmates will have an opportunity to participate. More information including a sign-up will be sent out as plans come together.
- Volunteers Needed: sign up genius emails will be sent out for any volunteer opportunities with the coupon books, box tops, trunk or treat, etc.
- Upper school dance committee and volunteers are needed. The upper school dances, historically, have included sixth through eighth grades, including fifth grade at the very end of the school year.
- PTO is meeting with Administration on the week of 10/12 to discuss fundraising needs, signage and school dances. Dances must be approved by Admin. Interest was expressed for a Lower School Special Person Dance and an Upper School Spring Formal. The PTO is looking to plan two dances. Admin added that eighth grade families are interested in an end of year formal for the 8<sup>th</sup> grade classes.

Meeting adjourned: 8:21pm

Meeting Recorded by: Cathy Hatton

Next Meeting: Wednesday, November 4, 2015, 7pm