

Call to Order: 7:06pm

Head Count: 26

Executive Committee Members in Attendance: Ryan Connell, President, Kim Federico, Vice President of Administration, Traci Robinson-McGinnis, Vice President of Membership, Kelly Padovani, Treasurer, Alison Ray, Correspondence Secretary, Heather Guerke, Recording Secretary

Guests in Attendance: Nick Manolakos, Headmaster, Zachary Plerhoples, OCS faculty, Melissa Tracy, OCS faculty, Kyle Rodkey, OCS faculty, Kim Blatz, Lower School Student Advisor, Evan Winokur, Head of Transportation, Laura Thompson, Board PTO Representative, Donna Francisco, Girls Scouts

- I. Welcome and Introduction of Executive Committee Members
- II. Old Business—Ryan Connell reported that we would like to see more parents attend the monthly PTO meetings, but was glad to see such great support from OCS faculty. He reiterated that the PTO would really like to see volunteers from the OCS community help with events and fundraisers.
- III. New Business
  - A. Zachary Plerhoples reported that a Walk-A-Thon will be held Spring 2018. He is hoping to have school wide event preferably on a Friday. If every student is able to raise at least \$10, this event will be very successful. The support of the PTO is necessary and he would like to have prizes to distribute. There will be a vendor event at OCS this Saturday from 9a-2p this coming Saturday and all of the sports team will be fundraising. The event contact is Ashley Sullivan and the email is [OCSAFundraiser@gmail.com](mailto:OCSAFundraiser@gmail.com).
  - B. Melissa Tracy reported that OCS would like to become a green school and participate in the Delaware Pathways to Green Schools initiative. The plan is to grow an OCS community garden and the targeted date is March 2018. All students will be involved in the garden. She is working to secure funding through grant writing and is seeking volunteers from anyone in the OCS community with gardening knowledge. She is also seeking donations of garden tools of all types. She said the start-up costs for the garden will likely be in the range of \$3,000-5,000, and that the ideal start time is Spring 2018. For more information, please email [Melissa.Tracy@odyssey.k12.de.us](mailto:Melissa.Tracy@odyssey.k12.de.us). Kyle Rodkey reported that he plans to start an Environmental Club in the near future which will take part in the implementation and growing of the garden. The end goal is for the students to be able to eat what they grow. Kyle also mentioned that OCS has applied to become a WE school which promotes service learning in schools.

C. Treasurer's Report--Kelly Padovani reported on the Save Around coupon book fundraiser which was a successful event as the PTO earned approximately \$9,000. She mentioned that the PTO budget balance is inflated as many checks will soon be written and that number will change significantly. She discussed the upcoming poinsettia sale and said more details will soon be distributed about that. In response to a question from an attendee, Kelly reported that the PTO will likely not participate in the discount card fundraiser from past years because we did the Save Around coupon books instead. Kelly noted that the PTO is hosting another family fun night in November at Bertucci's. In December, the PTO is hosting an event at Five Below which will be great for stocking stuffers. Participants at this event will need a voucher to hand to the cashier when shopping.

D. Traci Robinson-McGinnis reported that the book fair was the most successful to date and raised over \$25,000 for OCS. Traci also reported that Box Tops were recently counted and many families are sending them in. She also noted that spirit wear is available for purchase.

E. Kim Federico reported out on the upcoming holiday gift shop which is scheduled for December 4<sup>th</sup>-8<sup>th</sup>. Grades K-4 will be participating this year. The kids love these events and the PTO hopes it is a success and is encouraging volunteers.

F. Update from Administration--Dr. Nick Manolakos, OCS Headmaster reported that the PTO runs good quality events and is the lifeline of the school. He thanked the PTO and noted how much the school is growing and needs volunteers. He mentioned the Rinehart family fundraiser which recently occurred. He noted that OCS recently held their Homecoming under the stars and the school rented a tent and a fabulous evening was had by all. OCS had a special event at the stadium with the soccer team playing under the lights. He offered a special thanks to Kelly Padovani for handling the Treasurer's responsibilities very efficiently and effectively. He also offered thanks to Traci Robinson-McGinnis and Kim Federico for the monumental success of the book fair. There have been two very exciting in-service dates for OCS staff as well as lots of field trips. He noted an upcoming open house for Kindergarten students will be held on November 8<sup>th</sup>. Also, he asked that if anyone has any unused tools or plumbing equipment, OCS can use donations as OCS is in the process of establishing a facilities' building.

G. Board/PTO Rep update--Laura Thompson reported that Melissa Tracy received the honor of attending an event in Philadelphia. She also mentioned that Delaware's First Tracey Carney recently visited the OCS. It was also noted Dave Carroll received an award as well. Finally, she mentioned that OCS faculty member Kelly Krajewski is the Delaware Charter School Teacher of the Year and that is a huge honor for our school.

H. Transportation Update--Evan Winokur reported that he is the face behind the transportation hotline number. He said parents are asking for better communication so he has worked to streamline the process and OCS has moved to a text message format. Transportation issues are being worked through and continue to improve. He discussed the usefulness of the Where's My Bus app. He asked that if parents have issues they

continue to call him as he would like to hear from them. Parents can email Evan Winokur and he encourages parents to call the transportation hotline number.

I. Open Discussion--Donna Francisco from the Girls Scouts of Delaware reported that they are a girl's only organization and would like to start a Kindergarten troop at OCS. She wanted to leave her email address, [DFrancisco@cbcfg.org](mailto:DFrancisco@cbcfg.org), if anyone had any questions. She is the Girls Scout's point of contact for our school community.

Meeting Adjourned: 8:20pm

Next Meeting: December 6, 2017, 7pm

Used Uniform Sale: December 6, 2017, 6:15-6:45pm