



Odyssey Charter School

Nurturing a Lifelong Love of Learning

Public Board Meeting Minutes

Date- April 10, 2013

Location- Odyssey Upper School, Wilmington DE

Members in Attendance: George Chambers – President
George Righos – Vice President
Mary Lou Strauss – Teacher Representative
Kate Klemas – Parent at Large Representative
Chris Grivas
Dimitri Dandolos

Ex- Officio Member: Dr Nick Manolakos, Headmaster

Absent: Ted Nannas –Treasurer
Jen Ballas –PTO Representative (conference call)

Special Guest: Deborah Hanson, DOE
Anthony Bariglio, RE Representative
Larry Tarabicos, Attorney
Shelly Towler, PTO President

CALL TO ORDER

The public session was called to order at 7:09pm by President George Chambers.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

PRIOR MEETING MINUTES

- Minutes for March were approved by vote of the Board.
- April minutes will be read at the next meeting and approved.

TREASURER'S REPORT

- George Righos handed out financial report on behalf of Treasurer
- Income and expenses are on target for fiscal year end.

HEADMASTER'S REPORT

- Dr. Manolako's provided updates on DCAS testing. Things are going well, and any student who has not met the targets will be given another opportunity to take the test again. Mr. Righos asked approximately how many students will have to re-take and Dr Nick replied approximately 6-10 students per grade.
- We have a new curriculum coordinator, Denise Parks that will be starting on May 4th. She is coming to us from the Colonial School District.
- 6th Grade Statistics-Of 53 new 6th grade applicants, 28 have accepted, 20 have not responded, (messages have been left as of 4/10/13 for these parents)3 have declined, and 2 are most likely attending, but need to get their Intent to Enroll forms to us.
- Of 88 current 5th graders,35 have said they are "Definitely returning for 6th grade",3 are still "*In the decision making process",17 are "definitely not returning for 6th grade", and 33 have returned their "Intent to Re-enroll" forms, but have not responded to an email asking if their decision was final.
- Tracie has put an add on Teach Delaware for positions, this is a DOE sponsored website, and with word of mouth alone there are 30 applications on Dr Nick's desk.
- Dr. Nick gave a brief year end wrap up Field Day will be on May 31st and a rain date of June 5th.

SCHOOL OPERATIONS

- Audrey Eubanks, parent is asking if we will have any type of moving up Ceremony for 5th grade.
 - Mary Lou Strauss responded that she was pretty sure that they were working on something.
 - George Chambers added that if we were planning to recognize kids for anything we need to make sure it is clear cut why we are recognizing them and also a minority of the class and not the majority.
- Audrey also brought to the meeting that there are parents that are concerned about where kids will play for recess at the upper school with the modular classrooms taking up space in the lot.
 - Dr Nick addressed this concern saying that they will still be space to use in the lot and they are also looking at other areas such as the side of building where the garden is.
- Audrey asked about the Fatima school, if that was being considered. She suggested that this should be addressed in a communication to parents.
- Shelly Towler, President of PTO told us the recent fundraiser "Paving the Way" campaign raised \$17,550. There are upcoming elections.

- Dimitri Dandolos, update on modular classroom progress. Currently we are waiting for the approval from the City of Wilmington for installation. The city requires that we are 10 feet from property line and also 10 feet from the building. Current plan is to put the first unit as close to gym door as allowed. Vanguard will take care of all the installation.
 - George Chambers asked for clarification if we are getting approval for 2 modular or just 1?
 - Dimitri explained we are getting approval for 1 and then we can go back later for approval for another one. Also, hoping to have it installed by end of June beginning of July.
 - Kate Klemas asked if since we know we are challenged with non-classroom areas are there any options we can discuss to have more than just classroom space in modular?
 - Dimitri stated it has been the plan to file for application for 6 classrooms, but at this time we cannot go to the city to ask for additional stuff or we may jeopardize what we are currently asking for.

- Deborah Hanson, DOE we are wrapping up testing and getting ready to shift to common core standard. There is more information available on DOE website.

- Motion to go into a closed session was brought to table at 8:05pm.

- Motion was seconded and approved, Board convened into Closed Session.