OCS
A language Learning Odyssey
Research has shown that the benefits to developing bilingualism include

- Cognitive
- Social
- Psychological
- Linguistic
- Overall academic achievement

Traditional American schools introduce language education in middle school, long after research suggests is ideal for language acquisition.

Odyssey has followed the research by beginning foreign language learning early.
Greek at OCS

Odyssey offers two strands of language programs:

FLES and Dual Language Immersion
FLES vs. Immersion Program
Core Content Only

**FLES**
- English Language Arts: 40%
- Math: 20%
- Science: 13%
- Greek Language: 13%
- Greek Math: 13%

**Immersion**
- English Language Arts, some Social Studies: 35%
- Math in Greek: 20%
- Content Transfer & Academic LD: 15%
- Science, some Social Studies in Greek: 15%
- Greek Language: 15%
FLES vs. Immersion Program Full Academic Day

FLES
- Greek: 23%
- English: 77%

Immersion
- Greek: 44%
- English: 56%
DE made a bid to house an international company’s HQs
DE lost out to Belgium due to our lack of a multilingual workforce
DE is now working to empower our students with the gift of languages
What is Immersion?

A school program that immerses students in two languages within the school setting so they become bilingual.
How Immersion Works at OCS
Immersion at OCS

- This bilingual educational model will promote students’ academic development in both English and Greek.
- 50% of instruction will be provided in Greek (Math and Science) and 50% in English (ELA and Social Studies).
- As a result, students will learn:
  - skills needed in social situations AND
  - become academically proficient in two languages.
For the design of the Curriculum for the Greek Language we took into consideration the

- Common Core State Standards and
- World-Readiness Standards for Learning Languages (ACTFL)
OCS students’ expected level of proficiency:

- at the end of grade 5: Intermediate
- at the end of grade 9: Advanced
## Language Proficiency in Elementary School

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Novice Low</th>
<th>Novice Mid</th>
<th>Novice High</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>- Speak in lists &amp; memorized phrases</td>
<td>- Speak in phrases</td>
<td>- Speak in phrases</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>- 25-50 words</td>
<td>- Limited to memorized chunks</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>- No language creation</td>
<td>- Ask &amp; answer simple questions</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>- Introduce self and others</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
The Case For Language Education
A recap of why OCS is an excellent learning environment
Why learn foreign languages?

- Knowledge of other languages allows us to view the world from different viewpoints and thus expand the limits of our native language.
**Why a DLI program?**

- Immersion programs are claimed to be *the* most effective way of learning a foreign language within a school setting.
- Important benefits for children:
  - Linguistic advantages
  - Cognitive benefits
  - Positive cross-cultural attitudes
  - Academic Benefits
Bilingual students seem to have an advantage over their monolingual peers

- better working memory
- better at coping with distractions
- superior problem-solving skills
- greater mental flexibility
- greater capacity for creative thinking
Other gains

- **Socio-economic**: students with knowledge of several languages are better prepared for life; (we live in an internationalized society; better job prospects in the labor market)
- **Positive cross-cultural attitudes**: Students are exposed to customs, ideas and perspectives of a different culture
Learning a rare foreign language gives students a competitive edge in a niche market

Students will enhance their critical thinking by learning a second alphabet

Students will become better standardized test takers due to an increased knowledge of English words of Greek origins