



## Minutes for Public Meeting of the Odyssey Board of Directors

Date: April 21, 2021

Location: Odyssey Cafeteria and Teleconference

Start Time: Public Meeting at 6:02 PM (live and via zoom, see below invite)

Attendance: President Elias Rigas (ER), Vice President Anamaria Anagnostou (AA), Vice President Erin Allard (EA), Treasurer Rodrigo Torres, (RT), Secretary Ken Przywara (KP), Paul Brooks (PB), Valerie Caras (VC), Helen Anderson (HA), Eva Jannelli (EJ), Georgia Halakos (GH), Maryann Yarram (MY)

### Agenda<sup>1</sup>

1. Call to Order
2. Pledge of Allegiance
3. Meeting led by Ken Przywara
4. Standard Order of Business
  - Previous minutes March 17 presented
    - **Motion** to Approve minutes as presented AA 1<sup>st</sup> and EA 2<sup>nd</sup>
    - Approved unanimously
  - Public Comments Val Caras
    - No comments submitted prior to the meeting
  - Head of School Report, Elias Pappas - 90 Day Plan
    - Covid update – on-site testing will continue to be available
      - Tested 734 on campus, with 13 positive results caught following the Spring Break’s virtual week.
      - More than 50% of the staff have completed both vaccinations.
      - Lower School – 406 students are in-school 4 days a week, 182 remote.
      - Intermediate School – 63% of the population are back in the building.
      - Middle School – 57% of the population are back in the building
      - High School - 40% of the students are in-school 4 days a week.
      - We are reviewing changes from the CDC and our health data
    - Fundraising – the Flagpole initiative had begun. The goal is to raise over \$80,000. We have sold 79 bricks, and laid the foundation for the first flagpole in front of Building 21. We are continuing to meet with consultants and volunteers on the fundraising system. We will finalize hiring a school development consultant in the coming days.

<sup>1</sup> All agenda items are potential action items for which a vote may be taken.



- Culture Focus – A parent education event in the next few weeks will help explain how the equity based grading will enable us to target individual learning needs and provide support.
  - The diversity and inclusion workshops for the leaders is continuing, 3 of the 6 sessions have been completed
  - April 15 we hosted a meet-and-greet with stakeholder, families, and our school support team. Discussed new carline procedure as we return.
  - Our support teams are attending faculty meetings to provide updates, answer questions, maintain transparency, in order to increase communication across the schools.
  - Greek Independence Day celebrations were a success, and the Freedom Plaza event was viewed by thousands.
  - To celebrate our successes, four graduation events will be held this June. Students completing grades K, 5, 8 and 12 will be able to celebrate with friends and family in safe outdoor events.
  - There will also be a celebratory staff picnic in mid-June.
  - PTO Book Fair will be in the gym between buildings 21 and 22
- High School Update – College applications submitted by our seniors, 193, with 71% applying to at least 1 school. Merit scholarships of over \$1.4 million has been offered to 33% of our students. 106 acceptances in 13 states.
  - We are poised to accept our largest incoming 9<sup>th</sup> grade class. All students joining our freshman class will receive a Class of 2025 welcome kit.
  - Shannan Beck we recognized as a recipient of the CollegeBoard Counselor Recognition Program, on of 4 in the state, and only one in a charter school.
  - Melissa Tracy was selected at and Eagles/Axaita All-Pro Teacher of the Year
- Middle School
  - Dr. Alexander Mylonas defended her doctoral thesis at the end of March.
    - a. Dr Mylonas explained how her thesis will benefit students. Specifically, how our middle school students can become better global citizens. Lowering discipline rates can result in more positive involvement in non-traditional learning opportunities.
  - National Junior Honor Society – 38 of our 7<sup>th</sup> graders will be inducted.
  - Business Professional of America – 16 Middle Level members are going to participate in the BPA National Leadership Conference.
    - a. Four are being recognized for completing the Ambassador Torch Awards, the highest level. Asvika Gobinathan, Arya Gupta, Haasini Potluri, and Subiksha Srinicasan Vidya. Ms. Vidaya has been selected as the BPA Middle Level Representative for Delaware for the next year.



- School Priorities
  - The attendance policy is in the final revision focusing on supporting our families. The updated grading policy is also moving forward.
  - The updated grading policy has been implemented to create more transparency and equitable outcomes for all learners.
  - Developing an updated policy for homeless and foster youth
  - Branding - upgraded flower beds, new signage, reorganizing lobbies and branding of our athletic fields.
- Financial Highlights – Jeff Koss
  - OCS awarded a 1.9 million dollar grant for American Rescue Plan ESSER III
  - ESSER II funds are being reallocated to cover other Covid related costs
  - Savings on snow removal and heating, added to our budget savings
- Transportation
  - CDC guidelines continue to limit busses to 23 students and siblings
  - Added 2 OCS bus routes for 46 more riders
  - Continue working on carpool line management and flow.
- Financial Review – Jeff Koss
  - March monthly report presented
    - **Motion** to approve monthly report as presented. EA 1<sup>st</sup> and HA 2<sup>nd</sup>
    - Approved unanimously
  - WSFS Loan early repayment on small loan to adjust loan terms
    - **Motion** to pay WSFS loan and to alter loan agreement changes. EA 1<sup>st</sup> and AA 2<sup>nd</sup>
    - Approved unanimously
- Greek Program - Dr. Marina Mattheoudakis
  - Final dates for Ellinomatheia exams will be in October.
  - 3 OCS high school students applied for the scholarship granted by the Center for Hellenic Studies Harvard in Athens, and we await their selection of a winner.
  - Dr. Alexandra Mylonas earned her doctorate in education.
  - Niki Tantalou completed the universal design for learning certificate core credential level II
  - Maria Paraponiari was nominated as education community leader in the Rybakov Preschool Award in Europe, 21,000 teachers competed for this award.
- CBOC – Evan Winokur
  - No report this evening



## 5. Committee Reports

- Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion - Eva Jannelli
  - We met last week, and it was well attended. We need more people to assist to move things forward.
  - Our April in-service day will host Principle El on the topic of Classroom Leadership in a Changing World: Addressing Equity, Social Justice and Culture.
  - Thanks to the PTO for the ability to purchase a showcase for building 21, in which we placed 2 traditional Greek costumes, including one from our founder.
- Immersion - Anamaria Anagnostou
  - Our Greek teachers have to translate our curriculum into Greek, so that we remain aligned, which is an undertaking, and the effort is often overlooked.
  - We are looking at how we will expand the program past 5<sup>th</sup> grade.
  - Please join our committee to help build our program
- Fundraising – Georgia Halakos
  - Working on a system to organize our fundraising efforts.
- PTO Report – Kaija Sarmousakis
  - Book fair this week, we are adding times for students and parents to shop
  - Bingo May 22, look for the link
  - Flagpole brick fundraiser for building 21 in being finalized.
- Communications – Maryann
  - Working on Board Bytes and internal communications.

## 6. New Business

- Need a small team to work on minor updates to the school by-laws in the next weeks.

## 7. Good of the school

- Motion – Move to accept the school calendar as presented for 2021/22. AA 1<sup>st</sup>, EA 2<sup>nd</sup>
  - Discussion – this is the general campus calendar, school level details will follow
    - Approved unanimously

## 8. Executive Session

- none

## 9. Adjourn AA 1<sup>st</sup> and HA 2<sup>nd</sup>

- 7:00



# Odyssey Charter School

Nurturing a Lifelong Love of Learning

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NOTE: These Agenda Items may not be considered in sequence. Pursuant to 29 Del. C. § 10004(e)(2), this Agenda may be changed to include additional items, including executive sessions, or to delete items that arise at the time of the meeting.

Initial Agenda Posted: April 14, 2021 at [www.odysseycharterschooldel.com/](http://www.odysseycharterschooldel.com/)

Odyssey Zoom is inviting you to a scheduled Zoom meeting.

Topic: OCS Monthly Board Meeting - Public Session

Time: April 21, 2020 06:00 PM Eastern Time (US and Canada)

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/88489803681?pwd=T0c1UE9peTk4aytZckpjeUhmQXFEZz09>

Meeting ID: 884 8980 3681

Password: 2020

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Find your local number: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/kc8A5f5U64>

Building #20, Barley Mill Plaza  
4319 Lancaster Pike | Wilmington, DE 19805  
T: 302 994 6490 | F: 302 994 6915  
[www.odysseycharterschooldel.org](http://www.odysseycharterschooldel.org)