



Minutes for Public Meeting of the Odyssey Board of Directors

Date: March 17, 2021

Location: Odyssey Cafeteria and Teleconference

Start Time: Public Meeting at 6:08 PM (live and via zoom, see below invite)

Attendance: President Elias Rigas (ER), Vice President Anamaria Anagnostou (AA), 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)

Agenda¹

1. Call to Order
2. Pledge of Allegiance
3. President Elias Rigas – Took a moment to thank the students, staff, volunteers, and families of OCS unrelenting support of our school community through this pandemic to get us to where we are now.
4. Standard Order of Business
 - Previous minutes 2/17 presented
 - **Motion** to Approve minutes as presented PB 1st and EA 2nd
 - Approved unanimously
 - Public Comments Val Caras
 - Parent letter – Questions regarding testing after spring break, and reasoning for the virtual week after break.
 - Parent letter – Question regarding communications to parents when their child has been tested for Covid.
 - Head of School Report, Elias Pappas - 90 Day Plan
 - Covid update – on-site testing will continue to be available
 - Teacher vaccination update will be upcoming. There were events last weekend which gave staff the opportunity to get vaccinated. We will gather those stats. We are hoping for 85% vaccination by late Spring.
 - We have had 2 positive cases of Covid, which were able to catch and follow protocols to successfully contain, and prevent an outbreak.
 - High School - 40% of the population is attending in person.
 - Middle School – 64% of our students are attending in person.
 - Intermediate School – 57% of the population are back in the building.
 - Lower School – 54% of our young learners have returned in person.
 - After Spring Break, we will require a covid test, as this will take at least 2-3 days to complete, we decided to be virtual, so we could ensure a safe return to in-person instruction.
 - We are reviewing changes from the CDC and our health data

¹ All agenda items are potential action items for which a vote may be taken.



- Fundraising – the Flagpole initiative had begun. The goal is to raise over \$80,000. The brick can have family names or messages; information has been sent from the PTO. We are building the infrastructure to support a more cohesive approach to fundraising to address all our needs. This cloud based database will provide one source of information as we build the fundraising capacity.
- Culture Focus – The gradebook polices for the middle and high school are being implemented. A parent education event after Spring Break will help explain how this will enable us to target individual learning needs and provide support.
 - The diversity and inclusion workshops for the leaders is continuing, 2 of the 6 sessions have been completed
 - March 11th we hosted a meet-and-greet with stakeholder, families, and our school support team. 50 families attended, another in coming in April.
 - In an effort to increase communication across the school, our support teams are attending faculty meetings to provide updates, answer questions, and maintain transparency.
 - Greek Independence Day celebrations will occur around March 25th, look for more details of all the events.
 - We will host 4 graduation events this year for students completing grades K, 5, 8 and 12. These milestones will be marked in early June.
 - PTO Student Store will open shortly
- High School Update – College applications submitted by our seniors, 183, with 71% applying to at least 1 school. Merit scholarships of over \$1.1 million has been offered to 30% of our students. 92 acceptances in 12 states.
 - Admitted students visited the school for our first “Step Up” day. The event highlighted what sets our school apart, and gave them a chance to see it in person.
 - High School Principle Ashley Lipson – introduced Jackie Brandt to report on our Business Professionals of America chapter members who competed in various events with other Delaware high school students. OCS students brought home BPA Student of the Year, several other awards and certifications.
 - High School Senior Nidhi Patel, the BPA Student of the Year, thanked her chapter and their support staff. It was an honor to shine as an Odyssey Owl in both the program and the competition.
 - We are proud of our BPA groups in the high school, and the middle school.



- School Priorities
 - Student Services Vision, Recovery, and Audit has begun and will proceed to help our teachers assure all our students' needs are addressed
 - The attendance policy is in the final revision focusing on supporting our families. The updated grading policy is also moving forward.
 - Financial Review – Jeff Koss
 - Provided final budget details
 - Changes to food services, aftercare, square footage increase, rent, fundraising, stimulus assistance, and the impact of Covid on all our programs
 - **Motion** to approve final budget as presented. KP 1st and EA 2nd
 - Approved unanimously
 - February monthly report
 - Early loan payment, SR2 funding, we are expecting a surplus
 - **Motion** to approve monthly report as presented. AA 1st and MY 2nd
 - Approved unanimously
 - Greek Program - Dr. Marina Mattheoudakis
 - Preparing 20 MS students for the Ellinomatheia Exam in May, and offering free additional instruction to help them be ready
 - Mathematical Kangaroo Competition will be May 22. 52 students will be participating. This is an international math and logic competition in Greek.
 - Greece's Bicentennial events will be held on March 23 and 25, so that all our students can participate. There will be parades, Greek dancing, and surprises.
 - CBOC – Evan Winokur
 - No report this evening
5. Committee Reports
- Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion - Helen Anderson, Eva Jannelli
 - We are meeting regularly and have an open invitation to all to join
 - We want to tackle some of the major issues that need to be addressed
 - DEI is beginning to be topic of discussion in more meetings, which is wonderful
 - Maryann Yarram explained that Principal Thomas-El, an inspirational speaker, will be at one of our 4/30 staff in-service days. He focuses on empowerment, and reaching one's full potential, and a broad understanding of the effects of race in our community
 - Immersion - Anamaria Anagnostou
 - We are preparing for the Bicentennial Celebrations
 - Please join our committee to help build our program
 - Fundraising - Maryann Yarram
 - Working on our system and how we can support the flagpole initiative.
 - PTO Report – Kaija Sarmousakis
 - Flagpole brick fundraiser is underway, 4 websites to purchase bricks
 - School store will open soon
 - Book fair April 19-30



- Communications - none
- 6. New Business
 - None
- 7. Good of the school
 - Discussion centered around the positive comments in the Zoom chat feed, and shows that we are heading in the right direction. Encouraging positivity.
- 8. Executive Session
 - none
- 9. Adjourn PB 1st and AA 2nd
 - 7:09

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: March 7, 2021 at www.odysseycharterschooldel.com/

Odyssey Zoom is inviting you to a scheduled Zoom meeting.

Topic: OCS Monthly Board Meeting - Public Session

Time: Jul 15, 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

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