



	Date: 09/15/2021
Meeting: Sept Monthly Board Meeting	Facilitator: Elias Pappas

Our VISION: Open as many doors as possible for our students once they matriculate through our program.
Our MISSION: The Mission of Odyssey Charter School is to prepare students for a lifelong enthusiasm for learning, develop a keen awareness of world citizenship and culture and establish critical thinking and problem-solving proficiency through the added learning of the Modern Greek language and Mathematics focus.
Our CORE VALUES: Ubuntu. Comunidad. Aien Aristeuein.

School Site Priorities: What goals are we focusing on? What data do we have to support this goal (the next 4-6 weeks)?

School Site Goal #1	Beginning of Year Activities, logistics, hiring, enrollment, schedules
School Site Goal #2	COVID Mitigation
School Site Goal #3	Fundraising 2.0, facilities updates
School Site Goal #4	Focus on visual branding, universal branding

Part 2 COVID Updates			
Update 1 COVID UPDATES			
<p>Update 1 COVID UPDATES</p>	<p>Positive Cases: (Data-up to date from 10am this am, looking at cases as of 8/27/21 Quidel testing started, positive cases for building includes quidel tests that have been confirmed on PCR test)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Lower School <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ 2 positive cases ○ 0 positive cases on Quidel ● Intermediate School <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ 7 positive cases ○ 7 positive cases on Quidel <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ 3 confirmed on PCR ● Middle School <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ 22 positive cases ○ 13 positive cases on Quidel <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ 12 confirmed on PCR ● High School <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ 1 positive case ○ 0 positive cases on Quidel ● Campus Summary: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ 32 total confirmed positive cases: 1.6% overall positivity rate ○ 15 confirmed cases through rapid testing/PCR confirmation; 0.75% positivity rate ○ Quidel confirmation rate on PCR: 75% with most errors coming from intermediate school. We have addressed the procedure with them and will continue to monitor as we have not seen this 	<p>Please DO NOT send children to school ill.</p> <p>Vaccination is highly recommended to fight the spread of COVID.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● The positive cases on PCR at Odyssey Charter School on PCR have all been unvaccinated individuals at this time. ● Conversations that vaccination may open up to all children 5 and older by mid-October <p>Dashboard</p> <p>The school will be moving to a dashboard model and will not be sending out email notifications. The dashboard will have a chart for this school year and a chart for weekly numbers. This chart will be updated weekly on Thursday.</p> <p>Please complete a consent for Quidel Rapid Antigen testing if you have not done so.</p>	<p>Most recent Governor Carney Executive Order https://governor.delaware.gov/health-soe/</p> <p>Delaware Update for Schools & Students https://www.doe.k12.de.us/Page/4242</p> <p>Odyssey Charter Dashboard SY 2021.2022 https://docs.google.com/document/d/1ikDfNFHfc9qbHpXzul57jzpxCDDB5VeIY4ey9t-FezQ/edit?usp=sharing</p> <p>Quidel Information: https://ir.quidel.com/news/news-release-details/2021/State-of-Delaware-Selects-Quidel-for-COVID-19-Testing-Program-at-Schools/default.aspx</p>

<p>COVID Updates Part 3</p>	<p>problem at other levels. These adjustments are expected based on the volume of testing being performed. Compared to last year, we are testing 2x the amount of students 4x more frequently. Please continue to exercise patience as we work through this process.</p> <p>Testing: Delaware Public Health is partnering with Quidel to offer testing in Delaware Schools.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. Quidel is completing / running testing on children that have consent 1 time per week. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> i. Monday-High School ii. Tuesday- Middle School iii. Wednesday- Intermediate School iv. Thursday- Lower School <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Odyssey has created specific virtual teaching models to deliver live instruction for students who may be quarantined. This is particularly important for students who are close contacts and have no symptoms. The program will offer daily live instruction from our highly qualified teachers. Please look out for communication in the Thursday Throwdowns regarding the specifics of the program at your level as it is adapted to suit the needs of your 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The bus driver shortage is a real thing and it has impacted our school's ability to meet all the needs of the program. In response to the need and the shortage, Odyssey is reaching out to the community to find folks who may be interested in completing the CDL license so we can add more routes. Although our program has redundancy built in, with the current shortage, folks that we had indispach and 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mitigation strategies: The school's use of masks consistently and the practice of keeping classrooms clean, using purified air, utilizing outdoor space when possible both for lunch and during class time, and consistent testing anecdotally indicates the school has been able to maintain stability in the spread of COVID. The school will continue to use these strategies, especially as the fall season comes into play. However,
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	<p>students in their particular grade levels. The program is set to launch next week.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">● We are looking to add more substitute teachers to our team so we could expand our virtual option if/when it is needed. We are reaching out to our community for help. If you know any retired teachers or folks who may be interested in assisting, please reach out to our HR Department at renee.beamer@odyssey.k12.de.us for more information● Odyssey is now looking to enhance after school care to include structured programming. This will allow for our students to participate in more activities here at school while also allowing for us to add a late bus route and alleviate some of the pressure on the transportation system. An update should be coming as we explore programming with vendors. If someone in the community knows of a vendor who can offer programming that will be of interest to our families, please reach out to me with information.	<p>administration are now driving busses for us daily. Additionally, the company we contract to support us, First Student, is dealing with a 40 bus driver shortage as well. These are logistical issues that have caused the state of NJ to call in the national guard for training so they can provide support to transportation. Our school is asking for the community's help in identifying potential bus drivers, retired folks, etc who could help us. We are prepared to incorporate new hires immediately. Because some busses are late in the afternoons due to the multiple runs they are making, We are increasing our availability of snacks to our late bus riders and are offering free aftercare to those riders. We have also revamped our protocols in every building to try and expedite the process per building.</p>	<p>testing may begin to look different based on grade level and situations. In grades that experience random spikes, we will test more frequently. In grades where we are seeing consistently low rates, we will begin to reduce the frequency of testing so we can reallocate resources to grades that need them.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">● Our courtyard that is shared between middle school and intermediate school will now also have a 30x60 tent installed. The school has decided to purchase the tent instead of renting it, so we can use this to help during outdoor activities and recess periods.
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<p>Flagpole initiative and fundraising updates</p>	<p>The buy a brick flagpole fundraiser will officially relaunch in the coming days! Our first plaza with bricks is set for installation later this quarter. The goal is to raise upwards of \$80,000. We continue to encourage everyone to take advantage of this unique opportunity to be a permanent part of Odyssey's history! Please share the information with friends, families, and local businesses who could take advantage of a wonderful advertising opportunity! A courtyard with a bench is being planned for the flagpole around building 21 as a summer/early fall project.</p> <p>Buy a Brick Flagpole Fundraiser</p>	<p>We have hired a development manager who is helping us with large fundraising and grant projects, but also with the creation of specific marketing materials and a strategic plan for the PR piece of the school. Later this month, direct mail will begin for this school year and the following year. We are happy to report that since our high school has been able to return to full operation with very very low COVID rates, we have decided to open up a few more seats for grades 9-11. Direct mail is coming next week regarding this exciting opportunity. If you have or know any high school age students who are looking for a great school and education, please reach out to TRacie Principe at tracie.principe@odyssey.k12.de.us for information about how to enroll. This window will only stay open until September 28th. Thank you!!</p>	
<p>Culture Focus</p>	<p>We are moving our parent education seminar series to the fall when we have rolled out our instructional vision for the entire k-12 system. Parents will have opportunities to learn about Restorative practices in parenting, equity practices, SEL education, mental health, and various topics pertaining to the needs of our 21st century learners.</p> <p>We have created a set of four goals with action steps during our OSC Envisioning session that we can use as a springboard to create our plan for the fall.</p> <p>Proposed Goals</p>	<p>Food Services: feeding over 1400 students per day. This is the largest our program has ever been. We are looking to expand our kitchen in order to meet the growing needs. We would like to order some new high efficiency ovens to help with our kitchen needs. Our development team is looking for community members who would like to donate to the school.</p> <p>Transportation: Daily bussing of kids with activity bus stop</p> <p>Facilities: Completely strip and wax all floors in Middle School, Skylights being replaced, wood re-stained in 21, atrium glass in 21 pressure washed, signage from dupont being removed, signage on campus being updated, new signage in front of 21, updated play areas at building 20,</p>	<p>The PTO is working to launch the students store for the fall, and offer a larger variety of swag that aligns with the uniform policy.</p>

		<p>field scoreboard, bleachers, water system, tent for the courtyard for lunch overflow with subfloor, creation of admin offices centralized in building 21</p> <p>IT: formatting all new chromebooks, online library launched, schoology rollover and update, moving lower school to home access center</p> <p>Marketing: Voted top school in Northern Delaware by 2021 First State favorites</p>	
<p>Building Level Updates</p>	<p>Lower School: We have been working hard to acclimate new Kindergarteners and half our 1st & 2nd grade populations back to the building after a year and a half at home due to the pandemic and making adjustments to improve the efficiency of our procedures. We are proud of how our students are adjusting to assigned seats, mask wearing, COVID testing, and returning to the in-person learning environment!</p> <p>Intermediate School: The intermediate school has hit the ground running! Students are getting used to transitioning around the building. Staff has been working tirelessly to ensure all students are safe and following protocols while at school. We are so happy to have a building full of students ready to learn.</p>	<p>High School: See below</p>	<p>Curriculum: We are looking forward to expanding our curriculum programs throughout the school.</p> <p>In grades 6-12, we are purchasing a new ELA curriculum - McGraw Hill's <i>StudySync</i>. The program "materials meet the expectations of alignment to the Common Core English Language Arts (ELA) standards. Texts included are engaging and appropriate for the grade level. The materials include instruction, practice, and authentic application of reading, writing, speaking and listening, and language work that is engaging and at an appropriate level of rigor for the grade." Teachers will be participating in professional development over the summer to prepare for implementation this fall.</p> <p>We are revamping the K-5 Grading Policy for the 2021-2022 SY.</p>

	<p>Middle School: The middle school is currently working on student schedules. Please look for an email coming soon with instructions on subject selections for elective classes.</p>		
<p>HS Updates</p>	<p>HS</p> <p>Revamped pathways to increase flexibility, created integrated honors courses to create a more competitive transcript for our students when applying out of state, added AP courses and expanded program</p>	<p>School Choice - HS</p> <p>N/A</p>	<p>Recognitions - HS</p> <p>All 60 of our seniors graduated in time despite the challenges of COVID-19!</p>
<p>Update on school priorities</p>	<p>Enrollment: Our projected enrollment for this year is approximately 2000 students with 2020's enrollment data indicating 1926 students.</p>	<p>DEI:</p> <p>Creating a school wide focus through our professional development for the year, action steps based on work completed through 4th dimension</p>	<p>Stakeholder communication updates:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. Parent/Student Surveys will be conducted by a national normed independent company. These anonymous surveys will focus on school culture, climate and safety. We will use this data to drive our future decision making. The first such survey will be distributed in the fall semester and the second one in the spring to monitor our

			<p>progress toward goals set from the feedback we receive on the fall survey.</p>
<p>Visual Branding</p>	<p>A major focus of our campaign this year is to improve the visual footprint of the school. You may have noticed tremendous efforts made to maintain all our flowerbeds, manicure our athletic facilities, place new signs outside buildings, reorganize lobbies and entryways, etc. We are also in the process of placing signage on all our school buildings to remove previous designations associated with prior occupants of the buildings.</p>	<p>The athletic fields are being branded with our logo and block letters on the sidelines as a centerpiece of competitive sports. Our teams have received new uniforms and we have seen success on the field as well, with soccer, baseball, softball and track all seeing success in competition. Our next step is to install the bleachers and scoreboard. Currently we are working through the logistics and will have them installed in the coming months. The Parliament of Owls is starting to soar!!! GO OWLS GO!!</p>	

Financial Update	<ul style="list-style-type: none">● Revenues received during July included a receipt of the preload amounts for State funding based on the May 1st unit count. Final State funding amounts will be determined and distributed after the September 30th unit count is certified.● Local revenue from the districts should be funded at 35% in September. The per pupil amounts have not yet been released.● July included a 3-pay payroll cycle as well as the lump-sum debt payment for the fiscal year.● Federal funding for the Consolidated Grant and ARP/ESSER III were not made available during July or August. However, the funding is anticipated in September, when expense recoding can take place to spend federal funds as budgeted.<ul style="list-style-type: none">○ To-date, \$178k of expenses have been coded to existing Federal funds out of the preliminary budgeted amount of \$1.96mill.		

<p>Transportation</p>	<p>Thank you so much for all of your support and patience as we strive to improve our arrival and dismissal process in all of our buildings.</p> <p>Please read through your building level communications as changes are made weekly to improve both arrival and dismissal.</p>	<p><u>Bus Driver Shortage:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • As many of you already know, Delaware is currently facing a bus driver shortage. OCS is currently down 3 Full Time Bus Drivers. This is the first year in 5 years that we do not have a waiting list of drivers, and everyone in our office with a CDL from our mechanic to our dispatchers are driving routes to fill in for missing drivers. • Our Contractor (First Student) is experiencing the same but on a higher level, they are short 40-50 drivers. 	<p><u>Next Steps for Transportation:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • We are working hard to fill spots with drivers who already have a CDL and have started an extensive training program here at OCS to recruit and train new drivers who will stay at OCS. This is not a quick fix, because getting your CDL and three endorsements needed (P,S, and Air Brake) to drive a bus will take at least 3 – 6 months. • If you have a friend, neighbor or family member who might consider this rewarding job, please ask them to contact OCS's Transportation Manager Evan Winokur, by phone or by e-mail. • We currently are training 8 people to get their CDL
<p>Student Services</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • ELL <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ New ELL Coordinator coming to use with a plethora of experience. Working in Delaware many years ago with the EL population and the past year has worked in DCPS as an instructional coach. Her expertise and background will be a huge asset to the 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • MTSS <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Assessment has begun for MTSS <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ DIBLS NEXTgrade k-3 ■ STAR Testing for 2 and up ○ October Problem Solving team will begin to meet to review student needs at each school to determine intervention ○ Working with the other charters and DOE to support 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Special Education <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Prong Two of State Audit was 100%! All correction were made and were correct

	team! Welcome to Dr. Laura Favatas!	with best practice in the new areas of support	
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