



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

Date: May 18, 2022

Location: Odyssey Conference Room and Teleconference

Start Time: Public Meeting at 6:05 PM (live and via zoom, see below invite)

Attendance: President Elias Rigas (ER), Treasurer Erin Allard (EA), Recording Secretary Ken Przywara (KP), Paul Brooks (PB), Helen Anderson (HA), Eva Jannelli (EJ), Georgia Halakos (GH), Jessica Inskeep (JI)

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

1. Call to Order
2. Pledge of Allegiance
3. Standard Order of Business
  - Previous minutes April presented
    - **Motion** to Approve minutes as amended AA 1<sup>st</sup> and PB 2<sup>nd</sup>
      - Approved unanimously (Abstain 1)
  - Public Comments
    - One comment about the status of the playground. It had arrived, but not installed, while the scoreboard had been.
    - One comment about the dress code, will it remain? Will students be able to wear sneakers? Mr. Rigas said they would, and more details will follow.
  - Head of School Report – Elias Pappas
    - Covid update – Please don't send a sick child to school.
      - Covid Update - Quidel testing continues
        - a. Slight uptick in Covid, but more increase in flu and strep.
      - Culture update
        - a. Welcome BBQ hosted over 100 new families to much success
        - b. Post surveys have been sent to staff
        - c. OCS ParentCamp team is a full capacity, meeting in Dover on 24<sup>th</sup>
      - General Updates
        - a. May 19<sup>th</sup> Rally on the Green in support of charter schools. OCS students from 5<sup>th</sup>, 8<sup>th</sup> and high school will participate.
        - b. May 19<sup>th</sup> HS Prom at The Waterfall in Claymont
        - c. May 21<sup>st</sup> Color Run 10-1, we need more runners and volunteers
        - d. June 4<sup>th</sup> HS Graduation at Wilmington Grand
        - e. June 3<sup>rd</sup> Middle school graduation at Dickinson
        - f. June 6<sup>th</sup> Intermediate commencement at Dickinson
        - g. June 7<sup>th</sup> Kindergarten graduation at Dickinson
        - h. June 17<sup>th</sup> OCS Golf Fundraiser at Deerfield

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



- Lower School
  - a. Field day is Friday for K-5
  - b. Art exhibit on May 25<sup>th</sup> after school
  - c. Lower school will be moving to Building 26. Grand opening in August, with 6 more classrooms, new playground, and OCS family selected color scheme. Look for updates and calls for volunteers.
- Intermediate school
  - a. All SBAC testing in complete
  - b. 4<sup>th</sup> Grade visited The American Museum of the Revolution
  - c. Field Day is Friday
  - d. 3<sup>rd</sup> grad wax museum, field trips, and other year-end events
- Middle school
  - a. Standardized testing complete
  - b. MS Specialist were nominated for the Innovation and Dedication Award at the Delaware Charter School Network's IDEA Awards
  - c. Field days and Field trips wrap up the month of
- High school
  - a. College acceptances continue to roll in, 50 universities in 22 states
  - b. Prom, awards, and graduation ceremonies are coming
  - c. School choice process continues, looking forward to the largest class of ninth graders yet.
  - d. OCS HS teacher Melissa Tracy selected as one of the 10 Change-Makers for the National School Choice Week, and an Urban Farmer and Gardener Mini-grant
  - e. BPA team competed at the national level and had wonderful results
- Enrollment for year 2022-23
  - a. Registration continues and placement tests have been scheduled.
  - b. Next years 9<sup>th</sup> grade will be a 49.43% increase over last year.
- Curriculum Instruction Assessment CIA
  - a. Budgets are being reviewed
  - b. Academic schedules are being finalized
  - c. K-5 adoption process is moving to stage two. Piloting Amplify in the fall with 4 teachers at each grade level.
  - d. OCS Teacher of the Year, Olga Chaviari, 1<sup>st</sup> Grade Immersion
- Transportation
  - a. March our fleet ran at 99.993% on-time
  - b. Total of 794 routes.
  - c. New routes will be online by June 3<sup>rd</sup>



- Student Services
  - a. ACCESS for ELLs testing is complete, scores will be coming
  - b. Summer Learning Leap is looking for a few more teachers
- Information Technology
  - a. Upgrading to Blackboard Mass Notification continues
  - b. Still waiting on 92 Chromebooks that are backordered
- Facilities
  - a. Scoreboard delivery is complete
  - b. Prepping for the move to building 26
- Fundraising
  - a. Meeting on May 23<sup>rd</sup>
  - b. Sponsorship drive for color run and golf outing
  - c. Reboot of the brick fundraiser begin June 1<sup>st</sup>
  - d. Evaluating the OCS Health Fair
  - e. Bulk mailings using Blackboard will be occurring this summer
  - f. Corporate sponsorship outreach has begun
  - g. Grant focus is on target for larger grant applications
  - h. LGL CRM system will come online this summer
- Human Resources
  - a. Actively recruiting for next year
  - b. CBA contracts and non-CBA letters of intent to renew due May 23<sup>rd</sup>
- Out of state travel
  - a. Melissa Tracy for the FFA National Convention October 26-76
- **Motion** to approve the 2<sup>nd</sup> grade field trip to The American Museum of the Revolution and the Indiana trip for Ms. Tracy in October. KP 1<sup>st</sup>, AA 2<sup>nd</sup>
  - a. Approved unanimously
- Greek Program – Dr. Ioanna Lekkakou
  - Immersion expansion meeting yesterday. Very useful conversation with families.
  - Next week is the Ellinomatheia Exam, largest testing group ever
  - Middle school classes are closing collaboration with the Pierce College students
  - Intermediate school present the Wax Museum of historical people next week
- Financial Review – Jeff Koss
  - Monthly finance report
    - Final budget revenues of \$38,001,999, with 98.7% collected
    - School nutrition supply chain grant for \$47k
    - Working the Cecil County school district to obtain some kitchen equipment for building 26 next year
  - **Motion** to approve monthly budget report as presented. PB 1<sup>st</sup> and AA 2<sup>nd</sup>
    - Approved unanimously



- CBOC – Evan Winokur
  - Met this evening.
  - Reviewed PCard transactions for March and April
  - Reviewed approved minutes, and reviewed financials just presented

#### 4. Committee Reports

- Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion – Helen Anderson
  - Raised the question of how we would handle DE&I as the school population grows. How will we bring the new families and student into the culture and provide them enough resources to integrate smoothly. Mr. Pappas explained the Owls Welcome BBQ was a first step. New trips in the beginning of the year to help bring new students into the culture. Community charters in the classrooms will help reinforce norms. High school students will also begin to act as mentors. Sneak-a-peak and welcome events will help identify resources. Camping trips and other events will add expenses, so we need to look for support. Restorative circles will help, as will the built in culture time in the schedule. We will need access to resources as the year progresses. We will have 20-25 new teachers, and we will need them to be brought up to speed. The new processes for on-boarding will address much of this with PD, we are also bringing back mentoring. The code of conduct will also need to be updating this year. The PD for the Greek program will also be rebooted. The high school will also need to be prepared for the influx of Greek immersion students as they progress. Discussion around what expansion is possible with regard to required Greek courses after Greek math ends. How can we broaden the curriculum for Greek after 6<sup>th</sup> grade through high school. Dr Lekkakou added that we are adding an elective class in middle school. The Greek department also wants to add more courses as well.
- Immersion – Annamarie Anagnostou
  - Parents love that the students are speaking Greek. Parents are looking for some inclusion in aspects of the language, so they can keep up with the kids.
  - Greek Festival is June, after the graduations.
- Fundraising – Georgia Halakos
  - We are meeting on Monday
  - Discussion continued about which building will get the next brick project with building 26 coming online. Please support OCS in any way you can. We get no facilities money from the state, so we rely on events to raise money to help cover costs and fund growth.
- Finance Committee – Erin Allard
  - No meeting since last board meeting
  - Meeting next week regarding next year's budget and bus purchase financing
- PTO Report –
  - None



- New Business
  - Jeff Koss - Discussion about the 27<sup>th</sup> Pay. State pays bi-weekly, rather than twice monthly. Every ~12 years this creates an additional pay cycle. We will have an impact on the full-time employees. The state portion should be funded, but local funding is not expected. Proposing that we fund the balance of the 27<sup>th</sup> pay. We would need approximately \$200k. We may see additional local funds, but we simply don't know at this time.
  - **Motion** to approve the move to the full 27<sup>th</sup> pay period for school year 22-23, with OCS covering the potential gap. AA 1<sup>st</sup> and EJ 2<sup>nd</sup>
    - Approved unanimously
  - Jeff Koss – Discussion about the student population growth next school year. As we are losing revenue from the loss of Academia, we are expanding our student headcount to cover the budgetary shortfall.
    - Enrollment 9/30/21 – 1988. Approved modification 9/30/22 - 2133. Alternate projection 9/30/22 – 2143. Rather than load the kindergarten with new students, we will focus on growing middle and high school. This will add a cohort in 6<sup>th</sup> as well as more students in 9<sup>th</sup>. Pausing the additional Kindergarten will allow us another year to plan for the growth through the grades. We are currently staffed for the 9<sup>th</sup> grade growth with the added honor academy kids from 8<sup>th</sup> grade. There was discussion about the projected number of students in 6<sup>th</sup> grade, with potentially 34 marked as leaving in eSchool. This may mean 25% of the 6<sup>th</sup> graders will be new to OCS. We may need to review data more realistically so that we can have a better picture of the fall and the impact on the budget
    - Ken Przywara – Should we, as the board, discuss and approve the move into Building 26<sup>th</sup>? Discussion evolved to discuss the budget impact of the move to use the building. What planning and prep will be needed and what facility resources and funds will be associated with the move. Next meeting we will have more insight into the costs of the move and timeline. With Wegmans opening, we need to also consider student traffic flow from building to building.
- 5. Motion to move to Executive Session AA 1<sup>st</sup> and KP 2<sup>nd</sup> 8:40 PM
  - Potential Executive Session topics
    - Discussion of potential real estate transaction – 29 Del. C. § 10004(b)(2)
    - Discussion regarding qualifications for job – 29 Del. C. § 10004(b)(1)
- 6. Return to Public Session – 9:41
- 7. Adjourn AA 1<sup>st</sup> and HA 2<sup>nd</sup>
  - 9:41 PM



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: May 7, 2022 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 26, 2022 06:00 PM Eastern Time (US and Canada)

Join Zoom Meeting

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