



	Date: 08/17/2022
Meeting: August 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: 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	Hiring staff, updating guidelines for school operations, new committees
School Site Goal #2	Logistics/Enrollment, Code of Conduct Updates, Updated org charts, grant submissions
School Site Goal #3	Facilities move/remodel for building 26,
School Site Goal #4	Culture Focus: Beginning of Year PD with mission alignment focus, Restorative Practices implementation for fall 22-23, Fundraising for new building

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<p>Goal 1:</p> <p>Hiring Staff</p> <p>Updated Operations Guide</p> <p>Creation of Welcome Committee</p> <p>New Advisory Councils</p>	<p>Hired student advisor in building 20, district testing coordinator, continuing process for dean of Intermediate school...named Mr. Cohen Interim Dean</p> <p>Hiring Spec Ed teachers (number remaining?), counselors</p> <p>Finishing updates for student faculty and staff handbook with updated guidelines for conflict resolution process</p> <p>New committee responsible for building culture among new staff...includes planning opportunities for new staff to connect with current staff in non-academic settings but also works to build an OCS Mentor system to help stay connected throughout the year. This team will help plan welcome activities for next month including, staff coming as a result of our expansion, new hires, and new teachers coming from Greece</p> <p><u>Parent</u>: This group will work directly with the head of schools to create processes for more successful communication between families and the 4 schools, but also plan new culture activities, provide solutions to challenges and help communicate these updates to families..We plan to have parent members from every building. We plan to begin meetings by the end of August, and meet every 4-6 weeks. The first one is coming up at the end of the month (tentatively Aug 25)</p>	<p>First 4 teachers were welcomed from Greece using our committee.</p> <p><u>Student</u>:This new group will also meet directly with the head of schools and senior leadership to make sure programming and offerings are aligned with student interests and also to help improve systems. This group will meet every 6-8 weeks and will begin in September. It will be comprised of the elected student government officials for all bands that have student government</p>	<p><u>Teacher</u>: This committee will meet every 4-6 weeks to provide feedback on the progress of our school operations, academics, and culture. They will help provide solutions to enhance the learning experience for students and provide new culture experiences for our staff. We would like representation from all buildings. Please email me directly at elias.pappas@odyssey.k12.de.us if interested. The meetings will begin in late August.</p>
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<p>Goal 2:</p> <p>Grant Submissions</p> <p>Code of Conduct Updates</p>	<p>Charter School Expansion Grant has been submitted. Thank you to all the contributors for helping us put together a very strong proposal. We look forward to hearing from the review committee in mid August. The purpose of the CMO grant program is to support charter schools that serve early childhood, elementary school, or secondary school students by providing grant funds to eligible applicants for the replication and expansion of high-quality charter schools.</p> <p>The updating of the code of conduct has completed the first draft phase. The research based update provides the framework for our educational philosophy including the pillars of success, the shared responsibility model, PBIS, how right brain restorative practices translate into a discipline system, and provides the much needed tiers that highlight the system of support. It is now being reviewed by board members, leadership members, and attorneys. Next we will be asking for feedback from teachers and parents.</p>	<p>Yass Grant: This grant we submitted is for Sustainable, Transformational, Outstanding, and Permissionless education, or STOP, for Education.</p> <p>The STOP principles are the core qualities that form the heart of the Yass Prize—because they have the power to drive educational change for every child. Thank you again to all the contributors that helped us put together a very compelling application! Go Odyssey!</p>	<p>Opportunity Grant: Senate Bill 56 of the 151st General Assembly codified the Opportunity Fund, an additional source of education funding for Delaware public schools intended to support the increased needs of low income and English learner students. We have seen an increased award every year over the last two years and anticipate securing even more funding this year to support our learners.</p>

<p>Culture Focus</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Lower School Building Reveal has over 1,000 people registered. We are excited to host our families on Friday, August 19th. • Connecting with parents/guardians who are interested in participating in the Executive Parent Council. 		
<p>Building Level Updates</p>	<p>Overall Events Update:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. We would like to announce Odyssey Charter has been chosen as 2022-23 First State Favorite's Best Public School in Northern Delaware for the second consecutive year! 2. The Back to School Bash and soft opening of Lower School are scheduled for August 19 (4-7pm) <p>Lower School:</p> <p>With the support of our PTO and student/staff/family volunteers, we have practically transformed building 26. We have repainted all classrooms and 90% of offices, moved all furniture and technology into classrooms, and have completed hallway painting and signage/branding. <i>Thank you for your dedication to our K-2 students and our growing school!</i></p>		

All positions at the lower school have been filled with the exception of long term substitutes and reading specialists, which are in the final phases.

Families are highly encouraged to join us for the following events all hosted on campus on **August 19th:**

- 4-4:30 PM - K Family Orientation - *IS Cafeteria followed by light refreshments in MS Cafeteria.*
- 4:30-5 PM - 1st & 2nd Grade Family Orientation - *IS Cafeteria preceded by light refreshments in the MS cafeteria at 4pm.*
- 5-6 PM - Lower School Building Reveal - *Building 26, Lower School.*
- 4-7 PM - PTO Back to School Bash - *OCS Athletic Fields.*

Postcards and OCS Patch delivery:

- **Families, please note that we are changing our postcard delivery process this year.** Families are asked to pick up postcards and patches before the Lower School Orientations/Building Reveal on August 19 (**3-4 PM on August 19** in the Small Gym (between the MS & IS cafeteria)
- Any postcards that are not picked up on Friday 8/19 will be mailed home on Monday 8/22.
- Any iron-on patches that are not picked up on Friday 8/19 can be picked up at sneak a peek on 8/26

Intermediate School:

This year will bring many exciting changes to Odyssey as a whole and to the Intermediate school - we are offering activities for students to participate in outside of their regular academic schedules as well as during the school day.

- 5th grade AAA Safety Patrol
- Bank at School program
- After-school programs: e.g. Science Explorers Classes, Young Rembrandts Art Classes, Fusion Freestyle Martial Arts

IS Teacher Assignment Cards and Uniform

Patches: Grades 3-5 Teacher Assignment Postcards will be available at the ***PTO Back to School Bash 8/19/22*** from 4:00-5:30 p.m. Postcards not picked up during this time will be mailed home the week of August 22, 2022. Uniform patches ordered by July 12th, will also be available for pick up at that time.

New Intermediate School Student Orientation:

Thursday, August 25th from 4:00-5:30 pm
New 3rd Grade, 4th and 5th Students and their families are invited to attend an orientation on Thursday, August 25th from 4:00-5:30 pm. The orientation presentation will start at 4:30 pm with new students and any available staff. This event will be held in the IS Cafeteria.

Middle School:

The middle school is pleased to announce that it is almost fully staffed! We are still in search of a special education teacher.

MS would like to welcome aboard Jocelyn Whitwell who will be joining our administrative team as an additional student

	<p>advisor. Ms. Whitwell's office can be found in building 20.</p> <p>Upcoming Events:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Back to School Bash 8/19 ● New Teacher Orientation 8/22-8/23 ● In-service week 8/24-8/26 ● Sneak-a-Peek/New Student Orientation 8/25 ● 6th Grade First Day of School 8/29 		
<p>HS Updates</p>	<p>HS</p> <p>We would like to remind all students new to the high school (9th grade, 8th grade Honors Academy, and transfer students) that we are hosting our New HS Student Orientation on Thursday, August 25th from 5:00-6:30pm. The presentation will start at 5:00 and be followed by an ice cream social to get to know fellow students and staff!</p> <p>All High School students are reminded that the Annual Chromebook Agreement and \$25 Chromebook insurance must be paid at the start of the year. All forms and insurance payments are due by Friday, Sept. 9th. Please see the communication sent out last Friday for more details!</p> <p>Scheduling for high school students is also moving right along, and students and staff are being placed in classes. We anticipate</p>	<p>School Choice - HS</p> <p>Our Open House for new High School Students looking to join us in the 2023-24 School Year will be held on Saturday, October 22nd. We can't wait to welcome our new owls!</p> <p>We are also recruiting families who would potentially like to host a foreign exchange student in the fall! If you are interested, please email ashley.lipson@odyssey.k12.de.us</p>	<p>Recognitions - HS</p> <p>The HS would like to recognize the following accomplishments this month:</p> <p>Congratulations to rising 11th grade student, Reuben Busick-White! Reuben was selected for the prestigious Congress-Bundestag Youth Exchange Program. Reuben will spend the year traveling to Germany as one of 250 students selected across the country. This program is co-sponsored by the US Department of State and the German Bundestag. He will participate in cultural and political activities, such as a visit to the German Bundestag, meeting German government officials, participation in intercultural seminars, excursions to historical sites, and more. Congratulations, Reuben!</p>

	<p>that students should see their class schedules in late August!</p> <p>We would like to remind all students that Summer Work is a requirement this year. All HS students should be doing math on Khan Academy, keeping up their Greek on DuoLingo, and reading a novel!</p>		
<p>Update on school priorities</p>	<p>Enrollment: We are continuing to register our new students for the 2022/2023 school year. New families are being informed regarding forms/documents that are still owed to complete registration. We now have over 2000 students enrolled with about 140 more pending.</p>		
<p>CIA</p>	<p>Curriculum</p> <p>Placement Assessments</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> New incoming middle school and high school students have come in throughout the summer to get acquainted with OCS and take placement assessments in ELA and mathematics. If you are a new MS 	<p>Instruction</p> <p>Budgets</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Approved Instructional Resources related to instructional needs are being ordered for SY 22-23. <p>Scheduling & Courses</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Scheduling is being completed for SY 22-23. 	<p>Assessment</p> <p>District Testing Administrator</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> We have hired the District Testing Administrator - congratulations to Christine Vinton. Ms. Vinton has transitioned from eight years of being a seventh grade math teacher here at

	<p>or HS student and have not had a chance to visit, please reach out to your Dean and/or Jackie McCutchon to schedule a time.</p> <p>SY 22/23 K-5 Reading Curriculum Pilot</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> In progress is preparation for next school year's full-year curriculum piloting of the Amplify CKLA Reading Curriculum. Four teachers at each grade level (Immersion and FLES) will conduct the pilot. The goal is to determine if there is a difference in reading achievement for students who were taught using the Amplify reading program compared to those who were not. Data will be analyzed and disaggregated to determine effectiveness across all groups; EL, Spec-Ed, Immersion, and non-Immersion. Teachers met with Amplify on Monday, 6/13 where they received materials and began planning for next year. Additional PD will take place 8/23 with Amplify Representative from 7:30 a.m.-3:00 p.m. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> We are actively working with IT to roster students into different online instructional platforms. <p>Professional Development</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Trade-in days and back to school professional development has been communicated to Deans and Managers to share with their staff. 	<p>OCS. We are excited to have her on the team!</p>
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Financial Update

- Revenues received during July includes receipt of the preload amounts for State funding. Final state funding amounts will be determined and distributed after the unit count is certified.
- Local revenue from the districts should be funded at 35% in September. The per pupil amounts have not yet been formally released. Preliminary estimates from the State Charter School Finance Office are suggesting a possible larger increase in per-pupil local funding than budgeted.
- July is a 3 pay month, full debt service payment also takes place during July.
- As is typical, some FY22 budgeted invoices will be processed in FY23.
- Consolidated Grant voluntary submission completed, funds to likely be loaded in late August/September, recodes and reallocations to follow.
- In transportation, all required documents for the Board approved financing for the 4 new (used) fleet buses have been submitted prior to the rate lock expiration. In addition, an opportunity to partner with another community charter school to provide transportation services is being finalized. As noted previously, a purchase to secure an additional spare bus (2018, under 50k miles) is also being finalized under the \$50k

	<p>threshold. Unfortunately, the used bus marketplace is rapidly thinning, this is identified as an excellent opportunity to enhance the OCS fleet. The approved minor modification from 2022 includes an additional enrollment expansion, thus this additional bus will create redundancy for our own routes, allow contracted services for neighboring schools, and continue the preparation towards SY2023-24 and beyond.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● To-date, \$136k of expenses have been coded to Federal funds out of the preliminary budgeted amount of \$1.8mill. ● Projections of a final cash balance will take place after additional data is able to be gathered and provided (unit count, staffing stabilization, etc.). 		
<p>Transportation</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Bus delivery was pushed to the week of 8/15. ● We are still looking to purchase a few more buses and have a few feelers out to ensure we have enough spares this year. Part shortages and major repairs are backlogged and could cause issues if we do not have enough spare buses. ● As a true community school we are helping our charter partners and running 2 routes for the Charter 	<p>Transportation Monthly Dashboard: is on the website, Transportation updates will be there as well.</p>	

	<p>School of New Castle. Their routes start on 8/22.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Transportation Communication went out Thursday 8/11 ● We ask that your student uses their regular mode of transportation starting with Day 1 of school. This makes it smoother for our learners who are learning many new routines at school. ● Call us or email if you need anything. 8/18 we have training all day and will not be available by phone. 		
<p>Student Services</p>	<p>ELL</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● As new registrations come in, the ELL department is reviewing who needs to be part of the ELL screening based on the survey completed by families. Please know if a student has another language other than english in the home on their registration we will be screening for ELL services in the fall ● New Curricular support for our students receiving EL services called Lexia. Lexia is an adaptive blended learning program that accelerates the development of literacy skills for students of all abilities, helping them make that critical shift from learning to read to reading to learn. 	<p>MTSS</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● CIA and Student services are in collaboration to support student struggling by implementing scientific, evidence-based interventions within a Multi-Tiered System of Support for the areas of : 1) Written Expression, 2) Reading, 3) Oral Expression, 4) Listening Comprehension, 5) Mathematics, 6) Behavior, and 7) Social-Emotional Skills. ● CIA and Student services will be working with the school administration, teachers and through the problem solving teams to review student data to determine student needs and how to best meet their needs. ● Addition of a new K-3 reading specialist to help support early intervention and state initiatives (Senate Bill 4 which focuses on implementing the Science of 	<p>Special Education</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Student have been scheduled using the Stetson model to reviewing student scheduling based on need ● As of 8/9/2022 there are currently 191 non-speech special education students and 61 speech only, Manager of Student services will be running cognos reports weekly as we go into the 30th count. ● Working on the special education training for our staff next school year focused on the collaborative teaching model including inclusive practices to support all students ● In the process of of hiring 5 new secondary special education teachers for the 2022-2023 school year as our

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Screening for ELL Services will begin at the start of school to identify student in need of services. 	<p>Reading for Kindergarten through Third Grade) involving the success of reading.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Reviewing our MTSS structure to better support students to remain in school through classroom management, and restorative practices as title 14 outlines in support of decreased out of school suspension. 	<p>enrollment has increased to support our special education students</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • EDs are working to identify new special education students in the school for next year and completing the 30th count for the state • At the secondary level many students receiving services through their IEP will have a class instead of an elective to help support direct instruction in their IEP goals including their transition goal. This class is aimed to support the growth and acquisition of skill areas of need. if you have addition question please feel free to contact the Manager of Student Services Stephanie.demayo@odyssey.k12.de.us • In the high school there is student course addition for students receiving supports that equate to an LRE B or C. This will be an additional special education class to support transitional life skills needed to support students in their post secondary outcomes, • Hired 9 new full time paras to support the needs of students k-12 receiving special education services.
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<p>IT</p>	<p>As of 8/10/22 Lower School Infrastructure is complete, that the building has Wifi throughout the building, internal Paging is available and all phones are active. 90% of Teacher desktops are set up and ready for login.</p> <p>30 of 32 Epson projectors have been installed in the classrooms of BM26, we are waiting for our backorder from CDWG to be processed, The remaining 2 are back ordered so the classroom will start off the year with a desktop projector.</p> <p>Copiers are scheduled for installation in August, I need to confirm the dates.</p> <p>Chromebook ordering for the new year is delayed by the OMB for new vendor issues, Jeff Koss is working to get the matter resolved and approved, but we will not likely have the new chromebooks for grade 3,6,9 in time. We will begin the year with previous chromebooks we have in stock and swap them out after we get delivery of the new devices.</p>	<p>We are still in need of installing an interior camera for the building, we are waiting for our camera order to arrive.</p> <p>We also plan on installing 4 outdoor access points around BM26 to provide WIFI access around the building and playground.</p> <p>We still have to wire up the new sound system in the LS cafe for lunch announcements.</p> <p>All Student accounts have been rolled forward for the upcoming year, and that information is being provided by Classlink to all our partner Services to create all needed accounts for students.</p>	
<p>Facilities</p>	<p>Prepping building 26 for lower school relocation</p>	<p>Most painting and moving is complete.</p> <p>Working on HVAC issues in building, exterior beautification</p> <p>Flag poles (2) arrived. Holes have been dug for foundation work.</p>	

	<p>Flag pole project for building 22</p> <p>Scheduling inspections for fire alarms systems, fire sprinkler systems and fire extinguishers in all buildings.</p>		
<p>Food Service</p>	<p>SY2021-22 represented the most meals ever prepared and served by the OCS Food Service program. SY2022-23 is likely going to return to pre-COVID processing, so this is one of the reminders for families to fill out the meal benefit forms for next school year. Forms will be uploaded to the website and sent to families in July.</p>	<p>An e-mail was sent to all families with instructions for completing the Meal Benefit Form. We ask that all families either complete the form on line or fill out a hard copy and return to us as soon as possible.</p> <p>We are excited to announce that we have been awarded the Fresh Fruit and Vegetable Grant for the 2022/2023 school year. Students in grades K-5 will receive a snack of either a fresh fruit or vegetable 3 days a week. The snack will be distributed to the students either during the snack time or movement break.</p>	

**Fundraising/
Development**

The Fund-Raising Committee met by zoom call on June 30th; the committee will again meet on August 2nd

§ We invite all to Save the Dates & plan on attending the following events.

o Lower school - “Under the Stars” fundraisers. Elias’ plan for a two-part event the first slated for – August 19th, as an in-house event targeted to parents and staff; with a second event slated for September 10th to focus on our friends and sponsors. Both are to be executed as fund raisers with raised funds to support the lower schools rebranding and new playground equipment.

o Since our last meeting – work has advanced on the following:

§ Work on registration links, sponsors site and Solicitors card

§ Work on Pledge cards and outlining Logistics needs continues.

Other Development work in progress or planned:

PTO brick campaign re-target this campaign to families in September as well as include the brick offers in the corporate campaign to be executed in September. We hope to begin regular status reporting in September with the return from Greece by the Brick Campaign Coordinator Michael Roussos.

Our Health Fair Leadership Volunteer committee is set to meet on August 24th. This meeting will focus on setting fundraising goals, a budget as well as outlining actions needed to execute the event, including the recruitment of volunteers. With the potential of realizing significant donations from a peer-to-peer fundraising scenario with regard to the Health Fair project we are exploring low-cost software solutions capable of managing team fundraising.

	<p>Our next Development Newsletter is scheduled for the month of September. We are considering the value of sending this in advance of our Sept 10th event.</p>		
Human Resources	<p>Hiring, On-boarding, Retirements, Internal Transfers, and Separations in preparation of FY23 school year continue. Although there is a nation-wide shortage and issue in securing talent, OCS continues to find success; 71 of 96 positions have been accepted to date. Applications continue to be received as interviews continue.</p> <p>Consistently worked with Temp agencies all summer to ensure availability of Substitutes. Requested 50 subs be on standby as of 8/24 in anticipation of possible COVID absences after summer break.</p> <p>Training, SOPs, and best practices continue to be developed for all staff, leaders and new hires. Revised draft of Employee Handbook will be finalized in time for the new school year.</p> <p>FY23 personnel updates and new hire entries will be finalized in PHRST by 8/22 in time for issuance of first FY23 paychecks.</p>		

	<p>Exit interview survey sent to all separating employees who did not respond/participate in formal Exit Interview process to date. Responses requested by 8/26/2022.</p>		
<p>Board Approvals</p> <p>Safety and Security.</p>	<p>Senior Trip to North Bay (North East, MD) on August 29th.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Safety laminate is being installed on the front doors of all buildings the weeks of 8/15 and 8/22 2. ALICE Training scheduled for all staff in grades 6-12 on 9/16 (Async. Day For students in grades 6-12) <p>And on Oct. 7th. all staff in grades K-5 and make up day for anyone who missed this training on 9/16.</p> <p>This is mandatory in person training for all OCS staff.</p>		