

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

Date: August 17, 2022

Location: Odyssey Conference Room and Teleconference

Start Time: Public Meeting at 6:03 PM (live and via zoom, see below invite)

Attendance: President Anamaria Anagnostou (AA), Vice President Erin Allard (EA), Treasurer Paul Brooks (PB), Recording Secretary Ken Przywara (KP), Helen Anderson (HA), Jessica Inskeep (JI), Eva Jannelli (EJ)

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

1. Call to Order
2. Pledge of Allegiance
3. Standard Order of Business
  - Previous minutes July presented
    - **Motion** to Approve minutes as amended EA 1<sup>st</sup> and HA 2<sup>nd</sup>
      - Approved unanimously
  - Public Comments – Valerie Caras
    - Question regarding lower school drop-off procedure for this school year.
    - Concern about unisex uniform options, rather than boy/girl selections.
  - Head of School Report – Elias Pappas
    - Goal 1
      - Hiring Staff - Hired student advisor for bldg. 20, district testing coordinator, named Mr. Cohen interim dean of the intermediate school. Hiring the remaining 4 Special Ed teachers, with 5 critical role to fill before the school year starts.
      - Ops Guide - Finishing updates for student, faculty, and staff handbook with updated conflict resolution guidelines
      - Welcome Committee - Welcomed first 4 teachers from Greece. Transitioned into their new homes and our homes while waiting for some accommodations to be ready.
      - Advisory Council - Parent Council will work with HoS to improve communication process between 4 schools, plan culture events. First meeting beginning of Sept. Student and Teacher Councils will begin when the school year starts.
    - Goal 2
      - Grant Submission – Charter School Expansion Grant has been submitted. We are waiting for response, probably end of Aug. Other grants have been submitted as well.

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



- Code of conduct is being reviewed by council. Once that is complete, it will be shared with all stakeholders.
- Cultural Focus
  - Building review this Friday for the new Lower School. Building is ready early. Staff and parents support was the key to getting the building ready so quickly, so thanks to all.
  - OCS is 2022/23 First State Favorites' Best Public School in Northern Delaware for the 2<sup>nd</sup> consecutive year
  - Back to School Bash and opening of Lower School August 19<sup>th</sup> 4-7
  - Thanks to the PTO for covering the cost of the playground equipment
  - Orientation sessions will touch on introducing the culture of our school for the new students
- Lower School
  - Transformation of 26: Painting, technology, signage, furniture, and so much more.
  - All staff positions have been filled, except a long-term substitute and reading specialists.
  - Family Orientation on Aug 19<sup>th</sup> for ribbon cutting and Back to School Bash.
  - Postcard and OCS patch delivery will be on the 19<sup>th</sup> and Sneak-A-Peak day.
- Intermediate School
  - Beginning some new programs this year: Safety Patrol, Bank at School, and new after-school programs for science, art, and martial arts.
  - Postcards and OCS patches delivery will be on the 19<sup>th</sup>
  - New student orientation will be August 25<sup>th</sup>
- Middle School
  - Nearly fully staffed
  - Events this month: Back to School Bash 8/19, New Teacher Orientation 8/22, In-service week 8/24, New Student Orientation 8/25, and first day of school 8/29
- High School
  - New Student Orientation on Aug 25<sup>th</sup>
  - Chromebook agreement and insurance due
  - Schedules will be out next week
  - Summer work is a requirement, including reading a novel
  - School Choice Night Open House on Oct 22
  - Looking for international exchange student host families



- Eleventh grader, Rueben Busick-White has been selected for the Bundestag Youth Exchange program, and will spend this year in Germany
- Enrollment Update
  - We continue to register new students for the coming year. Over 2,000 students enrolled, and about 140 additional pending.
- Curriculum Instruction and Assessment
  - Summer placement tests have been completed
  - Instructional resources are being ordered
  - Scheduling is nearly complete
  - K-5 Reading Pilot will compare the new Amplify program with our current curriculum throughout the year.
- Transportation
  - Delivery of our four new busses has been pushed to next week
  - We are looking for additional busses and spare parts to avoid downtime
  - We will run routes for Charter School of New Castle and other after school programs for area private schools
  - Bus route emails will go out early next week with bus number and stop details
- Student Services
  - ELL is reviewing all surveys for screening
  - CIA and Student services will review data to help problem solving
  - New K-3 reading specialist to be hired
  - Working on special education training for our staff
  - Special Ed student scheduling is being reviewed
  - Hiring five new secondary special ed teachers for this school year
- Information Technology
  - Building 26 is ready with wifi, projectors, smart boards, paging, and phones.
  - Copier installs will be complete before school opens
  - Installation of additional interior cameras and wifi access points continues
- Facilities
  - Building 26 is ready
  - Flag pole project for building 22 will be Sept/Oct
- Food Service
  - Free and reduced lunch program is limited this year
  - Fresh Fruit and Vegetable Grant will provide a snack 3 days a week



- Fund Raising
  - Lower School “Under the Stars” events, August 19<sup>th</sup> and September 10<sup>th</sup>
  - PTO Brick Campaign will begin again in September
- Human Resources
  - Hiring and on-boarding continue
  - Filled 71 of the 96 positions, interviews continue
  - Temp agencies are queued up as well
  - Training, SOP, and best practices continue to be developed
  - Personnel updates and new hires will be in the system by Aug 22
- Safety and Security
  - All front doors laminate will be installed next week
  - ALICE safety training will be September 16<sup>th</sup> for 6-12 and Oct 7<sup>th</sup> for K-5
- Out of State Travel
  - Senior Trip to North Bay, North East, MD on Aug 29<sup>th</sup>. Permission slips are pending approval, cost will be \$30. Details will go out tomorrow.
  - **Motion** to Approve out of state travel to North Bay, North East, MD on Aug 29<sup>th</sup> for the Senior class. KP1st and EA 2<sup>nd</sup>
    - Approved unanimously
- Greek Program – Dr. Ioanna Lekkakou
  - The Greek Program will have 6 new classrooms in the lower school
  - There will be 2 new cohorts in 1<sup>st</sup> grade immersion
  - Translation of the 5<sup>th</sup> grade immersion and FLES program is nearly complete
  - All Greek program staff attended a DEO training session Aug 1-5
  - The PTO purchased ~160 Greek books from Greece for this year for The Book Fair
  - All Greek program positions have been filled
- Financial Review – Jeff Koss
  - Accounting audit is being completed for Sept meeting
  - Monthly finance report July
    - Final budget revenues of \$41,376,294, with 53.5% collected
    - Funds are loading as expected
    - Bus purchases have been finalized before rate increase
    - Additional used bus has been identified for possible purchase
    - **Motion** to approve monthly web report. KP 1<sup>st</sup> and PB 2<sup>nd</sup>  
Approved unanimously
- Citizens Budget Oversight Committee – Evan Winokur
  - No meeting this week
  - Looking for parent volunteers to review financials



#### 4. Committee Reports

- Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion – Helen Anderson & Eva Jannelli
  - No meeting yet
  - Outreach pantry need restocking for the upcoming year
- Immersion – Annamarie Anagnostou & Helen Anderson
  - No meeting
  - Looking for parent volunteers
- Fundraising – Jeff Koss
  - Meeting weekly to prepare for the Sept 10<sup>th</sup> Under the Stars Gala
  - Pledge cards and logistics have been the focus. Lighting, beverage, tent
  - PayPal and checks will be accepted, working on a better online process
  - Preparing for the Grant applications
  - Getting the building 22 brick project rolling again in Sept.
- Finance Committee – Erin Allard
  - Check-in meeting with bond holders was routine
  - On-site audit results will be next month
  - No monthly meeting
- PTO Report – Annamarie Anagnostou
  - Focus on the events next week. Food, water ice, volleyball bake sale, water slide, spirit wear sale, used uniform sale.

#### 5. New Business

- New committees
  - OCS Accountability Committee – to provide oversight on operations, transportation, academics, personnel, and areas of the school that need attention or oversight. A catchall for opportunities that may lack a process, policy, or procedure, and assist any stakeholder with navigating to them.
    - **Motion** to create the Accountability Committee – KP 1<sup>st</sup> and JI 2<sup>nd</sup>
      - a. Approved unanimously
    - Board volunteers, Helen Anderson, Erin Allard, and Ken Przywara
      - a. We will notice our first meeting and ask for parent volunteers
  - OCS Safety & Security Committee – to help prepare for any safety concerns
    - **Motion** to create the Safety & Security Committee – KP 1<sup>st</sup> and HA 2<sup>nd</sup>
      - a. Approved unanimously
      - b. Board volunteers to be determined



6. Good of the School
  - Excited to see building 26
7. Motion to Adjourn EA 1<sup>st</sup> and EJ 2<sup>nd</sup>
  - Approved unanimously
  - Meeting adjourned 8:10 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: August 10, 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: August 17, 2022 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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