

Minutes for Public Meeting of the Odyssey Board of Directors

Date: November 16, 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 Helen Anderson (HA), Recording Secretary Ken Przywara (KP), Eva Jannelli (EJ), Kristin Tuner (KT) Absent: Paul Brooks (PB), Valerie Caras (VC), Jessica Inskeep (JI), Elias Rigas (ER)

Agenda¹

1. Call to Order
2. Pledge of Allegiance
3. Standard Order of Business
 - Public Comments
 - None
 - Previous minutes for October
 - **Motion** to approve as presented. KP 1st and HA 2nd
 - Approved unanimously
 - Head of School Report – Jeff Koss
 - New Advisory Councils
 - Parent – Meeting yesterday, Parent survey data will be shared.
 - Student – Will meet with HOS and SLT to make sure programming and offerings align with student interests. First meeting late November.
 - Teacher – Will meet every six weeks, starting after the break
 - Grant Submissions
 - Applying for the \$20k HOPE award
 - Awarded \$51,946 for The Safe and Support Schools Improvement Grant, to support multi-teared support for students as part of our restorative practices.
 - Longwood Foundation and Welfare Fund – Gathering data for the spring submission
 - Code of Conduct
 - Completed and approved, parents should receive a copy electronically in the coming days

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



- Culture Focus
 - Oct parent camp was a success
 - The deans are reviewing parent survey results.
 - Volunteer Recognition Dinner is tomorrow to show appreciation to all who gave time for the work on buildings 20 and 26.
 - Chat-n-chews are being scheduled, with another tomorrow
- Lower School – Hrysoula Davis
 - Thanks to all for their handling the fire alarm yesterday. Staff, students, and parents all acted as they should and we are proud of them all.
 - Conferences next Monday and Tuesday
 - Patches have been sent home, please follow the uniform policy
 - Redirection room is in full swing where students address incorrect behavior and engage in restorative practices.
 - Green Team is growing lettuce in our cafeteria.
 - Walking & Running Club has started as well.
- Intermediate School
 - 4th Grade DeSSA Social Studies Field Test are this week
 - This is Geography Awareness Week
 - 5th Grade AAA Safety Patrol has 20 students
 - After school programs are continuing to expand
- Middle School – Adrienne Rodriguez
 - Eight-grade step-up day, 11/2, was fantastic. They got to experience high school, extracting strawberry DNA, tie-dye t-shirts, and view the garden
 - Yesterday sixth and eighth took statewide Social Studies DeSSA exams. Score data will follow
 - Nov 9/10th, the 6th grade entered the Lincoln Financial Field through the Eagles team tunnel, and learn about their green initiatives
 - Second annual S.T.E.A.M. Gingerbread Workshop, Dec 2nd
 - Middle School will have its first Science Olympiad Team this spring
- High School – Ashley Lipson
 - College Application Week, Oct 25th, counselors and volunteers met with students before the Nov 1st early decision deadline. Over 140 applications were completed.
 - Acceptances have come in from Penn State, Temple, Michigan Tech, Drexel, U of D, and Neumann
 - Conferences are next Monday and Tuesday
 - Winter Ball will be January 20th, semi-formal dance open to all grade levels, dinner dance, after mid-terms at the Claymont Ballroom
 - Open House Oct 22nd



- Feedback response
 - We have hired a campus security officer for our front entrance
 - Seasonal event calendars will help share cross-school information on happenings and important events.
- Curriculum Instruction and Assessment
 - Amplify material arrived on Oct 14th, we are working with Amplify staff to complete walkthroughs and answering questions and concerns
 - HB 198 Black History curriculum implementation has been compiled, vetted, and approved. It will be shared with the DOE on Monday.
 - Building walkthroughs continue, the focus is on student engagement
 - Digital SAT study was completed, Nov 10, with 83% participation
 - AP Exams were ordered for AP students
- Transportation
 - Oct busses were 99.898% on time for 986 routes
 - Contracts with other schools continue, but OCS routes always come first
- Student Services
 - The ELL department will host two upcoming parent information sessions on Monday and Tuesday
 - Dec 5th, ELL will lead the PLCs for faculty across the four schools focused on best practices for English language acquisition
 - The U of D will provide preference to OCS teachers in their grant supported route to EL certification thanks to our help in the grant process
 - MTSS has begun at the lower to work on areas of need through intervention to better support students with restorative practice and classroom management.
 - Spec Ed department is working on the Dec 1 count to determine compliance
 - Family resources for students with disabilities - 1/13 Benefits and Social Security, 2/2 College night, March Transition Fair, 4/20 Alternative to Guardianship, 5/18 Special Needs Healthcare
- Information Technology
 - Completed the new digital signage throughout campus
 - Completed The Blue Box Theater setup
 - New online calendar reservation system for common areas deployed
 - Planning additional exterior Wi-Fi access points the lower school
- Facilities
 - Welcome back to Jon Stewart
 - Roof on building 26 is holding



- Food Service
 - Please complete your meal benefit form, this is an annual form
 - Giving of Thanks Meal was an exciting event for all schools
- Fund Raising
 - Planning for Gala 2.0 targeted for May 6, 2023
 - Health and Wellness Fair Committee has a date of April 29th
 - We are working with national and local vendors for the health fair
 - We have selected a vendor for peer-to-peer fundraising for the health fair and the 5K event, Give Butter will allow us to lower expenses with providing better service
 - Quarter Newsletter will be coming out soon
- Human Resources
 - Special Ed and all staff positions have been filled, or are scheduled to be so
 - Faculty and Staff Handbook is nearing final draft for board approval
 - Preliminary CBA negotiations meeting took place in November
 - OCS recruiting event set for late March, planning to begin next month
- Safety and Security
 - During school hours a campus security representative has been monitoring our campus due to the increase in traffic with the opening of Wegmans
 - Traffic and flow data is being gathered and will aid in the next steps of managing the front of our campus
 - A Safety and Security meeting is planned for early December.
 - ALICE training in January will complete campus training
 - The new stop sign has not affected our traffic flow at this time
- Board Approval
 - Tenth Grade trip to Washington, DC, The Holocaust Museum, Dec 16 or 19
 - Retroactive approval for lower school music teacher for a PD session in Washington, DC. Going forward requests of this nature will be handled by prior notification, even if it's email request between board meetings.
 - a. **Motion** to Approve travel as presented. EA 1st and HA ^d
 - b. Approved unanimously



- Greek Program – Eva Jannelli
 - Lower school teachers have begun preparing winter songs
 - Intermediate and Middle school will begin outreach to schools in Greece, the goal is to practice the language with Greek students of the same age
 - High school students will study winter traditions in Greece and world
 - Immersion Expansion committee had the first meeting to discuss goals and next steps, and going forward meetings will be on the second Wednesday of each month
- Financial Report – Jeff Koss
 - Monthly finance report October
 - Preliminary budget revenues of \$41,376,294, with 65.6% collected
 - \$400,000 decrease in state funds due to lower than budgeted unit count, additional income of \$600,000 local funding from last fiscal year
 - **Motion** to approve monthly web report. KP 1st and EA 2nd
Approved unanimously
- Citizens Budget Oversight Committee – Evan Winokur
 - We added two parents to the CBOC
 - Met early today, cancelling Dec, will meet in January
 - Reviewed audit, p-card transactions

4. Committee Reports

- Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion –Eva Jannelli, Paula Lowe
 - The outreach program had the fourth OCS food drive this week to provide canned goods and turkeys to families in our OCS community.
 - Fourteen baskets have been requested from our food pantry
 - We have also provided coats and meet the needs our families
 - Our students, the honor society, technology club, and others have stepped up to provide support
- Immersion – Annamarie Anagnostou
 - Meeting second Wednesday of every month to help grow the Greek program
- Finance Committee – Jeff Koss
 - The investors, based on our solid financial performance has suggested moving from quarterly to annual meeting. This is a testament to our stability.
- Fundraising Committee – Jeff Koss
 - We are looking for assistance as we work on planning events and finding additional funding resources.



- Accountability Committee – Erin Allard
 - We are looking to get a pulse of the school. We will work on an anonymous engagement survey for the staff to measure areas of where we need to focus. To hear what excites them about OCS, how we can support them, and what challenges they may have
 - Gathering candid feedback will provide us data on what our action plans will be and what we need to address
 - We are reviewing our plans for parent and staff involvement, and how we can protect confidentiality as needed.
- Safety and Security – Evan Winokur
 - There were discussion about additional entrances or exits from the campus. The costs, limits, and neighbors are all factors to be considered, as well as the DOT and legal impact. It will be part of the strategic planning
 - There was discussion about the lower school fire alarm. Evacuation went smoothly; students were moved to another building. We committed to a reunification to dismiss students early. DEMA will work with us on an after-action report.
- Strategic Planning Committee - Anamaria Anagnostou
 - We are trying to plan a workshop in January
- PTO Report - Anamaria Anagnostou
 - Designer Bag Bingo was a success
 - Joe Corbi's pizza delivery this Friday
 - Turkey Trot K-5 on Nov 29th, to benefit the security gate at the front of Campus
 - Santa Breakfast is Dec 10th

5. Old Business

- Grants Update – Jeff Koss
 - Covid related grants – ESSER III grant has 24 months remaining. Used for an ELL coordinator, CIA coordinator, Chromebook refresh, summer recovery program, additional paraprofessionals, 6-12 ELA curriculum, and HVAC maintenance. These helped our students recover from learning loss, these costs will become part of our future planning budget. Going forward will continue evaluate going forward
 - DE Charter School Expansion Grant – Budget items include K-5 Amplify, High school elevator, HS entrance renovation, additional Chromebook, furniture, and other supplies. Grant began October 1st and ends Sept 30, 2023.
 - High school elevator was prioritized due to the 2 floor programming of students schedules in the building



6. New Business
 - None
7. Good of the School
 - None
8. **Motion** to Move to Executive Session - EA 1st and KP 2nd
 - Approved unanimously 6:15 PM
9. **Motion** to Adjourn HA 1st and EA 2nd
 - Approved unanimously
 - Meeting adjourned 7:56 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: November 8, 2022 at www.odysseycharterschooldel.com/

Odyssey Zoom is inviting you to a scheduled Zoom meeting.

Topic: OCS Monthly Board Meeting - Public Session

Time: November 16, 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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