

	Date: 1/18/2023
Meeting: January 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	parent advisory council, walkthrough feedback and action steps
School Site Goal #2	Grant writing and updates
School Site Goal #3	Academic Updates
School Site Goal #4	Culture Focus: Survey results and next steps

Goal 1:			
Parent Advisory Councils	Parent: meeting scheduled for 1/31/23. We are planning a school preview day so invited families from the lottery can visit the school and get to know about the culture and programs. The date has been set for 03/04 from 4-6pm.		
Walkthrough Feedback	The school is using walkthroughs to progress monitor major initiatives both in culture and in academics, specifically because culture of the classroom drives academic success.	In our first walkthroughs, we observed the use of community charters in classrooms and behavioral management systems we are utilizing. Overall, one trend is that there has been a significant shift to the use of visible and consistent behavioral management systems like classroom charters, with over 75% of classes observed utilizing them with sampling size of 68 classrooms.	Academically the school is implementing systems that promote literacy in all grade levels and across all disciplines. We have adopted the mantra that "we all teach literacy". Research indicates that when students are provided with consistent structures that promote mastery in reading, writing, and comprehension, students are able to become better critical thinkers and problem solvers. In reading, based on the testing data, we have identified target 2 (key ideas) as the area of focus in addition to analysis within and across texts, hence the need to promote cross curricular collaboration with respect to literacy. We are also promoting writing in all subjects as it is a more holistic approach to improving literacy.

Goal 2:			
Grant Submissions	We have applied for the HOPE Impact awards which could earn the school a \$20,000 award. We will keep you posted on our progress.	SSSIP: The Safe and Supportive Schools Improvement Grant provides support for schools in implementing multi-tiered supports for students, resources for curriculum and social, emotional and behavioral support systems. Odyssey was awarded \$51,946! This grant will be used to continue our work in restorative practices, resources associated with our tiered support system, and the perception surveys we now provide throughout our organization.	The OCS grant writing team is gathering data, architectural plans, and other related documents to submit applications to The Longwood Foundation and the Welfare Foundation in the spring 2023 cycle. Initial intake meetings have occurred for both.
Goal 3:	Academic Trends Considerations: The preferred educational model as a response to COVID included a block schedule in the High School where students completed entire courses within the semester. This schedule is common in the state as an approach to learning during COVID and was incorporated by many schools. With the standardized tests being offered at the end of the year and courses ending at mid year, students did not revisit content on the exam. We have since changed to year long alternating block schedules.	During the 2021 school year, students and families opted into the exams by coming on Wednesdays so data is not reflective of the general population of the school both by quantity and diversity.	

Culture Focus	Our third OCS ParentCamp will be held on 1/26/23 from 4:30-6:30 PM catering to our IS and MS families. Register for the event today!	In response to our perception data from Panorama, we have made sure to implement	Again, in response to Panorama data, we have implemented community circles in all classes to help build better relationships in our classes.We have also updated our tier 1
	 Executive Parent Council meeting took place on 1/17/23 with a focus on planning the next open house for families who applied and have been accepted. Chat and Chews are in full swing and we're looking forward to our next group of staff providing us with 	more culture events in the schools, which for this month include winter programs, and special events like senior events during the month of December.	interventions to include these circles and strategies like 5x10 non-academic check-ins to help teachers better support the process.
	feedback from all departments on 1/19/23. The Delaware Blue Coats came out on 1/10/23 to implement their Books and Basketball program, which was a major success for our K-2nd grade scholars! The purpose		
	of this event was to promote our school-wide literacy initiative and build lasting connections with our community. This event will also take place for our IS scholars in March! Black History Month is a few weeks away and plans are underway to celebrate!		

Building Level Updates

Overall Events Updates

Lower School:

Welcome back and Happy New Year! Καλή Χρονιά!

Greek Culture: Lower school students experienced an arts-and-crafts version of the Greek cultural tradition, Vasilopita, upon their return to school in Greek Culture class. Students created "cakes" (vasilopita) out of paper plates and searched for the lucky coin (flouri), just the way Greek families do on New Years Day.

Benchmark Assessments: Middle of the Year benchmark testing will run through the end of January and will be used to track student progress, create intervention groups, differentiate instruction, and inform extension activities.

Literacy Development:

- The lower school welcomed the Blue Coats in our Books for Basketball literacy promotion event on January 10.
- The lower school Literacy Committee is launching its first tangible initiative, titled *Reading is Everywhere: Thinking outside the box to promote literacy in previously unused times/spaces.* If you visit the building, look for supports around the building.

Grading Day (January 20th)

After school clubs: We are excited to announce the initiation of the Walking & Running Club! The Green Team will also be up and running soon. Be on the lookout for an after-school coding club as well!

Intermediate School:

Winter Sing-along

Date: Tuesday, Dec. 20, 2022

Time: 2:00-2:45

Location: The front of the Intermediate School

Grades: 3-5

All Staff Intermediate School classes in Grades 3-5 participated in the program singing a variety of holiday songs in the English and Greek languages.

Over 850 students, staff and family members attended the school-wide event.

Grades 3-5 SBAC Interim Testing in Reading and Math Preparing for PPL coverage IS Crisis Team developed and implemented

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.

The Bank at School program has really supported financial literacy for our students with over ten students weekly making deposits with the banker at school.

- 12/5/22 Dress Code
- Month of November 2022 referrals
- Increase student safety-Zone recess
- Bank at School
- 5th grade AAA Safety Patrol- 19 students participating

- Regular classes will <u>not</u> be in session on Grading day, January 20th and student attendance is <u>not</u> mandatory.
- Child care will be offered to all who sign up using the form linked in the weekly parent communication.
- Families interested in child care must sign up.
- Buses will run on a half day schedule (12:25 PM dismissal from LS), or students can be picked up by car.
- Optional sessions will also be offered by teacher invitation for students who would benefit from additional opportunities to demonstrate mastery of academic skills in a small group setting.

Real-World Application of Learning:

- We commend all grade levels (K-2) on organizing a field trip (on and off campus) this marking period.
- Please complete the volunteer paperwork linked in the parent orientation slides in the lower school corner of the weekly parent communication to support and chaperone our field trips!

Owl of the Month: December Owl of the Month certificates were announced last week for the character trait *caring*. The 2nd Marking Period Owl of the Month ceremony will be held in May.

Parent Information & Collaboration Sessions:

 New Early dismissal time this year for students will end at 2:45 p.m. at the Intermediate School. This has increased the number of students in school for their entire school day.

Middle School:

- Midterm exams are taking place this week. Data from the exams will help us determine student progress on state standards in the first semester.
- The middle school is proud to offer a new STEM team this year competing in the Science Olympiad. The team sponsor and some team members will be speaking at a future board meeting sharing their innovative competition models for this year's event.
- Middle school administrator's along with other members of the senior leadership team are participating in courses for the new teacher evaluation system DTGSS.
 This system is a learning focused model vs. our current teacher-focused model.

				nool administrative team will be hly interactive and dynamic ns to better understand and c on the Code of Conduct and ies starting next month. Be on our first invitation in February. Activities: In team interest surveys were in the 1/12/23 parent munication. Please fill it out if are interested. Inope to introduce a coding club te February. Be on the lookout in interest survey. Wrestling is still underway for e who signed up.	hosting maparent ses gain feedbe Bullying potent the look for the look	
--	--	--	--	--	--	--

HS Updates	HS
	We are currently working our way through midterms here at the high school, and students have completed 6/8 as of today!
	The third marking period will begin on Monday, 1/23 with a B day.
	College acceptances are rolling in, including 70+ total acceptances to 39 different schools in 16 different states.
	Over the past month, our seniors have grown their merit aid reports from half a million to over a million dollars! Congrats, Class of

2023!

The Snow Ball Dinner/Dance, held Friday,

January 20th, is coming up this week! We are excited to share this dance with our students.

School Choice - HS

Our choice window remains open, and students can apply to join us at OCHS on SchoolChoiceDE.org! We will host admitted students for visit days beginning in February and also will launch our second cohort of the OHA Honors Academy in February as well! We are excited to continue to grow the high school!

As of this afternoon, OCHS was officially approved to begin the Digital Communication and Work Based Learning programs for the 2023-24 School Year! We are still awaiting additional decisions but are excited to continue growing our CTE offerings and course selections for our growing student body!

Recognitions - HS

The HS would like to recognize the following accomplishments this month:

Congratulations are in order for our 2022 OCHS Men's Soccer Team! The team was honored by DSOA (Delaware Soccer Officials Organization) with the Sportsmanship Award at the recent All State Banquet. Congratulations to these young scholar-athletes and their coaches!

We would also like to recognize Arnav Taduvayi, OCS Sophomore. Arnav was honored recently with the Delaware STEM Council Community STEM Educator Award. Along with his sister, he founded Girls Tech Together, a STEM education and equity nonprofit.

Arnav is one of our 10th graders taking the AP CSP course this year. He is also Treasurer in the high school TSA club and Vice President of the sophomores' student council. Additionally, last week he was selected to be a DE State TSA Mentor, preparing to run for a TSA State officer for SY23-24. What an honor!!

We hear you! Responses to Parent Feedback	We are working on updating the paving in the traffic lane between middle and intermediate school. We hope to have repairs completed shortly.	We have created seasonal events calendars to supplement the Weekly communications so families across schools are aware of the exciting happenings across our schools!	
CIA	Amplify Amplify Amplify Amplify Pilot Teachers participated in a professional development session on January 3 focusing on enhancing planning and practices. Amplify also offered sessions on the Science of Reading and MTSS at CharterCon on January 13. HB 198 Per the legislation, the Department of Education has submitted the statewide HB 198 report for the 2022-2023 school year to the Governor, members of the General	Coaching The CIA team is continuing to work with teachers in different capacities. Coaching includes: Observations Planning Classroom Management Assessments Best Practices Additional Supports Professional Development Odyssey Charter School hosted the Delaware Charter Network Conference (CharterCon) on January 13, 2023. Five	Assessment District Testing Administrator Winter Benchmarks are underway STAR Dibels Aimsweb Interim Assessments for DeSSA Assessment data will be shared at the completion of the Winter Benchmark window DeSSA SS preparation for February window Benchmark/Assessment Calendar for the remainder of the year

Assembly, and the Director of the
Division of Research. The report is
now a matter of public record and is
available on the DDOE website. You
can access the report on the DDOE
website here: Educational Data
Reports.

If you have any questions about where we are, what we are working on, and where we are going, feel free to email Juliana Sheehan at juliana.sheehan@odyssey.k12.de.us Charter Schools participated in four sessions throughout the day sharing in connections, collaborations and best practices. Presenters included DDOE, faculty and staff from participating charter schools, and outside vendors. Thank you to our staff that presented and all those that shared in a great day!

- During the week of January 30th, the CIA team will visit all PLCs and discuss the assessment analysis that took place.
- Focusing on literacy in grades 6-12, we will review the writing strategy RAFT that was implemented in all classes and introduce additional strategies that can be implemented.

Walkthroughs

 The Academic Leadership Team is on their fourth round of building walkthroughs. The focus is still on the importance of literacy in all content. DTGSS training is underway for administrators to prepare for the roll-out in school year 23-24

Financial Update	 The final payments of funding from local districts have been processed. The final majority of payments from the State have been processed. Adjusting funding will be expected for the duration of the year for known adjustments, degree changes, and PPL/payout reimbursements. As expected, the month of December represented a 3-pay month, the 2nd of 3 during FY2023. SSSIP Grant funds of \$52k have been awarded to the School. Viable financing options for upcoming capital project items in the exploration process. Local banks and CFDI firms are providing options that align with the School's current debt timeline. Preliminary planning for next school year have begun as over 1,100 students have applied through the choice system to OCS. 		
Transportation	 Our fleet ran at 99.998% on time for all buses K-12. Our K-5 Buses Ran 100% on time in December. We ran 870 total school routes in December grades K-12. Working through our next bus purchase for the 2023-2024 School Year. We are looking at purchasing 5-6 units. 	Transportation Monthly Dashboard: December is on the website.	

	If you know someone who wants to be a bus aide, please have them contact the transportation office.		
Student Services	The ACCESS testing window opens 2/1 and runs through 3/17. Our team is preparing to complete 1,200 tests during this time in Listening, Reading, Writing and Speaking. A tentative schedule can be found here. OCS is being represented on the DDOE Multilingual Learner (ML) Steering Committee. This committee will revise the current Delaware strategic plan for English Learners.	At the Charter School Network state wide PD 1/13/2023 Dr. DeMayo presented during a session on the regulations associated with MTSS to fellow charter school teachers and how we can best implement them to support compliance through best practice. Middle of Year Benchmarking began on Monday January 9th K-3 DIBELS Assessments 1-5 Star Math 2-5 Star Reading MTSS Fall Cycle continues through Jan 23, 2023, with the Winter Cycle beginning February 6,2023- student groups are flexible and will change as new data is available. Addition of a new K-3 reading 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.	 Interviews are being set up to hire two new High School Special education teachers to support our students. We are beginning to look at our numbers for the upcoming year to identify what additional staff may be needed to support our special education students.

IT	Completed Digital signage in LS, 1st floor HS,		
	BM20, and working on 1st floor		
	Intermediate.		
	Completed color copier integration to		
	separate out color print quotas from the		
	Black & white quotas.		
	Starting fiscal 23-24 budgeting process and		
	capacity planning.		
Facilities	HVAC	All units up and operational.	
	Staff	All staff in place. 12 employees and 2 temp	
		agency employees	
	Sidewalk salt	Over 2,400 pounds of calcium chloride in stock	
	Sidewalk sait	for sidewalks	
	Kitchn Projects		
	Ritchii Frojects	Installing water line drain and electric for new	
		kitchen appliance.	
	Classroom Projects	Working with the architect on new main entrance	
		for HS building.	
		_	
	Elementary School	Going through the architect selection process for	
	,	new elevator for the HS building.	
	Main EntrANCE improvements - HS		
	HS Building Elevator Project		
Food Service	Thank you to all the families that have filled		
	out a meal benefit form. If you have not		
	done so, please fill one out as soon as		
	possible and submit it to us for processing.		
	The forms can be found on our website		

under t	the food service tab. Forward all	
complet	ted applications to Kim Wolanski.	
Also, ple	ease note that a new form is required	
every ye	ear. Forms DO NOT carry over from	
year to	year. Also, any balances that your	
child ha	ad pre-Covid is still owed to the	
school.	You can check the account online at	
myschoo	olaccount.com. Money in parenthesis	
is a neg	gative balance. Any questions please	
do no	ot hesitate contact me -	
kim.wola	anski@odyssey.k12.de.us	

Fundraising/
Development

- OCS <u>Annual Appeal</u> update the Annual Appeal copy has been created. The Campaign would be supported with a corresponding Social Media Campaign.
- We have begun solicitation on our Targeted <u>Health Fair</u> Partners; using partners appeal content created for this engagement. We should be in a position to share our initial partners with next month's report.
- Since our last report our Marketing and Social Media efforts have netted the school an additional forty-five (45) new families who now follow our content. We now boast a total of two thousand two hundred and eighty-seven followers. (2,287) Also, we now have over 300 Linked In followers.
- Our recent <u>Giving Tuesday</u>
 <u>Campaign</u> netted a
 seven-hundred-dollar gift (\$700.00)
 with a pending corporate match for
 a fourteen-hundred-dollar total
 (\$1,400.00).

	•	
Human Resources	Collective Bargaining Agreement Negotiations began in January, with tentative goal of a April/May completion date. • Handbook must align with CBA. Revisions being reviewed by legal counsel and OCSEA for final Board approval.	
	Recruiting Events:	
	 On campus recruiting even being planned for 3/28/2022- volunteers to great guests and man tables needed. Odyssey will be attending several external recruiting fairs in March and April in Middletown and surrounding areas. 	
	2022-2023 HR planning commenced first week of January:	
	 Voluntary internal transition request process will open in March to all employees. Stay interviews being scheduled. Job postings to pool candidates will go live before end of January. 	
Board Approvals	Out of State Trips for Board Approval:	
	High School Art - National Gallery of Art on April 25th, Washington DC	

Safety and Security
