



	Date: 09/21/2022
Meeting: September 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>Hiring Spec Ed teachers: still hiring permanent teachers, using subs to support.</p> <p>faculty and staff handbook: will be finished next week.</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..The first one occurred on August 25. Another one is scheduled for tomorrow to organize our plan of action for the coming months.</p>	<p>All teachers were welcomed from Greece using our committee. Last one was last week. All teachers from Greece are in place with housing.</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>Culture Focus</p>	<p>Odyssey Charter was awarded \$750,000 for the charter school expansion grant. 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 been completed. 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 on the docket for approval in this board session.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • OCS Executive Parent Council has started and we have representation from each building! The next meeting will take place on 9.22.22. • The next ParentCamp will be held on 10.20.22 in the high school building catering to our Lower and High families. Be sure to check your email for more information. 	<p>Yass Grant: This grant we submitted is for Sustainable, Transformational, Outstanding, and Permissionless education, or STOP, for Education. We find out if we advance in early October.</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>

Building Level Updates	<p>Overall Events Updates:</p> <p>Open House Oct 22, 10-1</p> <p>BTSN Sept 28-29</p> <p>Lower School:</p> <p>Lower school staff have enjoyed getting to know our new students during the first weeks of school and look forward to watching them flourish at OCS! Thank you to those of you who supported our Gala Under the Stars Fundraiser!</p> <p>Culture & Climate Assemblies were held during the week of 9/12 for all K-2 students. Behavior expectations and the forthcoming Code of Conduct were reviewed with students in assemblies and will be reviewed with families during administrative parent information sessions at Back to School Night on 9/28 and 9/29 from 5:30-6:30 PM (details in parent communication).</p> <p>Prevent Child Abuse DE presentations occurred in all Kindergarten classrooms the week of 9/12 and will be rolled out in 1st and 2nd grade in October.</p> <p>Fire Safety presentations will be held on 9/21 and 9/27 for all K-2 students, followed by our first announced fire drill occurring before the end of September.</p> <p>Please review the Parent Volunteer Process in the Lower School Parent Orientation Slides (linked in the weekly K-12 Parent Communication) to get involved!</p>		
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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

Middle School:

The middle school is in full swing. Almost all Chromebooks have been distributed and students are hard at work starting the 2022-23 school year on a path of rigor and enrichment!

On Friday, September 16th a group of MS teachers volunteered their time to paint building 20 to help give it a fresh new look!

Please join us at our Back to School Night to gain a deeper understanding of what the middle school students are accomplishing.

BTSN dates and times:

- 9/28- 6th & 8th Grade 5-6 PM
- 9/29 7th Grade 5-6 PM

HS Updates	HS	School Choice - HS	Recognitions - HS
	<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 students who have turned in their paperwork and insurance fee have received their chromebooks!</p> <p>Back to School Night will be held on Thursday, September 29th. We invite all families and their students to attend from 5:00-6:00pm!</p> <p>Homecoming is coming! Our High School Homecoming events are soon to come during the week of 10/10-10/14. The week culminates with our Homecoming Dance. The dance will be held at the Mill Creek Fire Hall from 7-10pm on Friday, 10/14. Tickets will go on sale October 3rd!</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 from 10:00am-1:00pm!</p>	<p>The HS would like to recognize the following accomplishments this month:</p> <p>Congratulations to OCHS Junior, Carlos Arriaga! Carlos was selected as a College Board National Recognition Program awardee and has received the National Hispanic Recognition Award. This prestigious award is earned because of his strong academic achievement as well as his outstanding performance on PSAT exams! Congratulations, Carlos!</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. As of 9/21/22 at 1pm, there are 2,099 students enrolled, 38 invited-pending-acceptance. Each family is being contacted every business day by phone and email. The approved Charter amount is 2,133 with 5% allowance above or below that amount.</p> <p>Mailers advertising recently vacated seats in grades 9 & 10 have been sent via bulk mail.</p> <p>Billboards and radio ads for Oct. 22nd Open House for SY23-24 are being finalized</p>		
<p>CIA</p>	<p>Curriculum</p> <p>Amplify</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● K-5 will begin piloting Amplify for ELA September 19th ● September 19th Building Deans and CIA Coordinators will participate in Leadership Training for the program ● October 7th K-5 Teachers will have a virtual check-in with representatives from Amplify 	<p>Instruction</p> <p>Coaching</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● The CIA team has begun working with teachers to begin their coaching opportunities. Coaching includes <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Observations ○ Planning ○ Classroom Management ○ Assessments ○ Best Practices ○ Additional Supports <p>Walkthroughs</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● The Academic Leadership Team of each building will begin walkthroughs of instruction this week. The first walkthrough 	<p>Assessment</p> <p>District Testing Administrator</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● STAR Testing has been rostered, a 30 day window starting September 19th for grades 1 through 8 and Spec Ed students in the High School. ● Aimsweb has been purchased as a math benchmark for Kindergarten for Fall, Winter and Spring, as well as progress monitoring and additional resources for grades k-5. ● PSAT 8/9 & PSAT/NMSQT 10/11 scheduled for October 12th, 2022. Ordering and planning has begun. ● DeSSA Test Security Training has been pushed out to all staff members.

		<p>focus will be on building strong relationships.</p> <p>Professional Development</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">● ALICE Training took place on Friday 9/16 for our 6-12 staff. Teachers and staff left the training feeling more prepared and ready.● K-5 Staff will be completing their training on Thursday, October 6th.	<ul style="list-style-type: none">● AP students have enrolled in AP classroom.
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Financial Update

- Local revenue from the districts should be funded at 35% in September.
- Consolidated Grant voluntary submission completed, funds to likely be loaded in late September, re-codes and reallocations to follow.
- Odyssey Charter has been awarded \$750k for the Charter School Program Grant. This competitive grant is awarded to schools who demonstrate excellence in education and a commitment to innovation. The funds will be used to expand and improve our program so students can continue to enjoy all the benefits of an Odyssey education.
- In transportation, two additional contracted routes have been formalized for a neighboring charter school, which will result in approximately \$160k in gross revenue over the course of the school year.
- The Under the Stars fundraiser on September 10th was a large success; there were approximately 90 attendees, including New Castle County Executive Matt Meyer and State Representative Mike Smith. The estimated net income from the event is anticipated to be between \$14-15k.
- To-date, \$405k of expenses have been coded to Federal funds out of

	<p>the preliminary budgeted amount of \$1.8mill.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 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"> • After the first few weeks of school our routes and times have settled into place. Thank you for your support! • All Students must ride the bus that they are assigned. Switching buses or riding a bus without us knowing is a safety concern for both rider capacity and our ability to know where students are at all times. • If you want to make a bus change, please give us 72 hours. • If your Where's the Bus app isn't working or following the wrong bus, e-mail or call us and we will fix it that day. • If you know someone who wants to drive a bus or has a CDL please have them call our office, we need more bus drivers! 	<p>Transportation Monthly Dashboard: is on the website, Transportation updates will be there as well.</p>	
<p>Student Services</p>	<p>ELL</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • We have received a record number of multilingual students entering Odyssey this year, with 85 new students in Kindergarten alone. The ELL team is busy processing intake assessments and enrollment before 	<p>MTSS</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Kindergarten is being supported with tier 1 supports for Social emotional learning in terms of sensory and spatial awareness from our OT in collaboration with homeroom teachers to support building capacity to 	<p>Special Education</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • As of 9/16/22 there are currently approx. 180 special education students not including speech IEPs. Of those; 115 basic; 29 Intense and 4 complex. As we complete the 60 day

	<p>the end of the month. We are so excited to welcome so many new students and families speaking dozens of languages from multiple continents to enrich our multilingual community.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• We are also proud to partner with Lexia Learning this year to support individualized instruction for our English Learners in grades K-5. We will be using Lexia English to support our entering and emerging English learners and Lexia Core5 to support academic language acquisition for our developing and emerging students. We are looking forward to a great year welcoming so many new multilingual students and families to our program!	<p>support kiddos within the classroom</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Designated instructional times in each school have been established by the deans to support instruction in areas of need students may have based on the data from beginning of year testing (testing types vary based on building please reach out the CIA or Dean if you have further questions)• 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 Reading for Kindergarten through Third Grade) involving the success of 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.	<p>evaluations and IEPs these numbers may increase and increase our numbers as we head into the 30th count.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• 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• Odyssey Parent Council for student with disabilities dates and and topics 6pm-8pm:<ul style="list-style-type: none">○ 10/11/202- Welcome to special education○ 12/13/2022- Navigating your child's IEP○ 2/23/2022- Best practices○ 5/25/2022- Transition to adult life• Other family resource for student of transition age 14-21 years old Supported by the New Castle County Transition Team (Place TBD)
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			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ 10/3/2022- Mental Health for students with disabilities ○ 1/13/22 Benefits and Social Security for students with disabilities ○ 2/2/22 College night for students with disabilities ○ 3/22 (TBD Transition Fair ○ 4/20/22- Alternative to Guardianship ○ 5/18/2022- Special needs healthcare for students with disabilities
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IT	All grades from 1st to 12 have received their Chrome devices	We also plan on installing 4 outdoor access points around BM26 to provide WIFI access around the building and playground.	
Facilities	Accepted 80 donated student desks and chairs from The Independence School Working on HVAC issues in building and roof issues outside of building		

Food Service	<p>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 the food service tab. Forward all completed applications to Kim Wolanski. Also, please note that a new form is required every year. Forms DO NOT carry over from year to year. Also, any balances that your child had pre-Covid is still owed to the school. You can check the account online at myschoolaccount.com. Money in parenthesis is a negative balance. Any questions please do not hesitate contact me - kim.wolanski@odyssey.k12.de.us</p>		

**Fundraising/
Development**

- In the process of hiring a Development Specialist that will complete, coordinate, and administer future events, solicitations, and administrative functions.
- The Under the Stars event was a great success! We'd like to thank our donors, sponsors, attendees, and raffle participants for making the event truly special. Thank you letter processing and final accounting are underway.
- Planning for Gala 2.0 is underway, targeting May 2023 as a potential date.
- Continuing our partnership with the Philadelphia 76ers, we are finalizing the details on a fundraiser on November 2nd at the game between the 76ers and Washington Wizards. The success of last year's event will be built upon for seamless logistics, varying price points, and an accompanying raffle for the event. The goal is to raise \$10k for school operations.

The following - Submitted by Carl Colantuono

Since our last report we have participated in two Lower School rebranding events.

	<p>On August 19th we had a combined event with the PTO that filled the lower school with parents, teachers, and community members. With over one thousand attending – attendees had the opportunity to tour our newly renovated lower school classrooms. This was by all accounts a hugely successful event.</p> <p>We followed this with a fund-raiser to our extended community with the Under the Stars Fundraiser held September 10th on our grounds under a tent. The evening event did feature a view of a star lit sky, as well as dinner, cocktails, music, and fun. We held an auction featuring a trip for two to Greece for which tickets were sold contributing significantly to the event success as a fundraiser. Jeff Koss has created a preliminary Income and Expense sheet showing a nice profit for this fundraiser which no doubt will be reported separately in this report. <i>(Not stealing Jeffs thunder regarding the net)</i></p> <p>The event photographer has released a google file holding all the photos of the event.</p> <p>We are planning on adding future events like this to our annual fund-raising calendar. To that end the Fund-Raising Committee will be meeting by zoom call on Monday September 26th at 4:30 PM. The only agenda Item will be to conduct a SWOT analysis of the event. We hope to identify our best path forward in planning future events.</p> <p>Results of the Fund-Raising Committees review of the event will be presented as a committee report at next month's Board Meeting.</p> <p>Work on the Brick Campaign continues just now including ramped up communications via social</p>		
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media, email blasts as well as flyers sent home with students, we will soon see signage listing names of sold bricks at the High School and Lower School sites. The Intermediate school bricks are expected to be delivered this week with installation to follow in short order. While all sites will be installed prior to calendar year end there is still time to [get a brick](#) for this phase for the High School or Lower School sites.

Time has been invested in interviewing candidates for the approved development department expansion of a single FTE for the department. Preliminary results have been forwarded to the Management team and HR folks for additional action.

Since our last Board Meeting, we have executed plans to engage our major Grant makers in required pre meetings to present our vision and strategy for your next 5years in terms of Capital expenditures.

We met with Thère DuPont of the Longwood Foundation and his staff to review our plan to submit a grant application in the current fall cycle. This presentation took place on September 22nd. Our management along with members of our Board presented our plans. Thère offered point for point feedback regarding his recommendations for our submitting a request for 1.25 million with an application that demonstrated 4 or 5 Educational outcomes, this application would need to have detailed bids for the proposed construction projects. He further advised that assuming we had tracked according to our plans we could submit a second grant in the third year for later phases of our proposed work. Upon reviewing our ability to submit the

	<p>required detailed bids we have opted to submit our application in the Spring cycle (March).</p> <p>One September 1st we participated in a similar pre meeting with Chris Grundner regarding our presentation proposal for a grant to both <u>Welfare and Creslea Foundations</u>. This pre meeting once again went well and we expect to apply for funding from these two additional foundations. Filing deadline is October 15th.</p> <p>The plan to evaluate and build a team to execute a Health Fair Event in 2023 has gained enough steam to formally add it to the calendar of Fund-Raising Events. The event is proposed as a team FundRaising Event to raise funds for our Campus Health efforts. While much needs to yet happen, we are moving forward with evaluation of team and peer to peer software tools, identification of our Healthcare partners and potential attending vendors lists. We also hope to build a volunteer committee to join our assigned staff members to help conduct the event. We have reviewed the proposed plan with the PTO president in hope of coordinating a walk or run on the same day. The proposed date for the event is April 29th, 2023.</p> <p>While still working to clean up after the UTS event we will be moving to advance the following campaigns and activities as we advance through the fourth quarter.</p> <p>Continued support of the Fund-Raising Committee</p> <p>Ongoing efforts for the Brick Campaign</p>		
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	<p>Ongoing support of Enrollment Activities – assisting as needed.</p> <p>Publish Quarterly Development Newsletter</p> <p>Conduct a Follow-up Annual Appeal</p> <p>Execute a Corporate Campaign – offering yearlong sponsorships. To feature funding opportunities to include:</p> <p>Scoreboard & Athletics; Teachers & Student Activities; Culinary Program; Music Program; Clubs & Capital Campaign Projects</p>		
<p>Human Resources</p>	<p>Initial 2022-2023 paychecks issued to all returning employees, 8/26, and new hires, 9/9.</p> <p>Specialized Temp Agencies are working to identify Credentialed Educators, in Special Education, Music and Spanish.</p> <p>OCS HR is scheduled to participate in a Career Fair at DSU, 9/27, to continue building relationships and spreading the word that Odyssey is a premier employer in the State.</p>		
<p>Board Approvals</p>	<p>Greek Heritage Night with OCS at 76ers Game - November 2nd</p>	<p>Board Approval Request: AEP - High School</p> <p>We are seeking board approval to begin the process of recruiting interested students for the program titled American Exchange</p>	

<p>Safety and Security.</p>	<p>Meredith Hooper - 12/1/22- 12/4/22 - National Council for the Social Studies Conference - Philadelphia, PA</p> <p>4th grade field trip 3/15, 3/22 - Museum of the American Revolution in Philadelphia</p> <p>Out of State Field Trips for Board Approval:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● 7th grade field trip to the National Constitution Center in Philadelphia PA on 10/4 ● 6th Grade end of year trip to Philadelphia Zoo May 2023 ● 6th Grade Field Trip to Lincoln Financial Field in Philadelphia for their Green Initiative in late October <p>Psychologist- ADOS training at University of Minnesota- Driven to Discover. Permission to attend this conference which is needed to support the evaluation process for compliance and best practice for students who may be eligible for Autism classification as it pertains to the Delaware state regulations.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Safety laminate is being installed on the front doors of all buildings and was pushed back because of supply issues. TBD when it will be installed. 2. ALICE Training scheduled for all staff in grades 	<p><u>Project.</u> We need board approval because this program offers out-of-state travel.</p> <p>6-10 students in the current senior class will travel in pairs to different locations throughout the United States in summer 2023. See a map of potential locations by clicking here. Each student ranks their top choices during the application process. During the exchange, each student will stay with a local family of a student who is also participating in AEP. During the 7–10-day exchange, students will experience the culture of the town. At some other point in the summer, a small group of students from another part of the country will visit Delaware. Our participating OCS students would host them for 7-10 days.</p> <p>Due to substantial funding from major partners like the Ford Foundation and MacArthur Foundation, any student who participates in a weeklong exchange in another part of the country <u>pays nothing</u>. The experience is valued at roughly \$2000.00. It includes flight, excursions, food etc. This means that this opportunity is available to every single OCS senior! Moreover, each host family receives a \$200.00 stipend to offset the cost of gas and food. Our 6-10 OCS students will help plan an itinerary for the group of students being hosted in Delaware in Summer 2023. The average budget for the week is \$3000.00. <u>Odyssey pays nothing</u>.</p> <p>I will meet with students in the spring to help coordinate the itinerary. Moreover, I will</p>	
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	<ul style="list-style-type: none">- 6-12 on 9/16 - complete- Oct. 6th. all staff in grades K-5 and make up day for anyone who missed this training on 9/16. <p>This is a mandatory, in person training for all OCS staff.</p>	<p>assist with registering interested students and identifying host families. If the program is successful, and we opt to continue, we can add more students each year. According to the organization, their hope is for at least 75% of our students to participate. The plan is for the exchange to always be free. Odyssey would be the first school to offer this program in Delaware. It would greatly assist our students in the college application process and at a larger level, help produce empathetic human beings.</p>	
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