

# Minutes for Public Meeting of the Odyssey Board of Directors

Date: June 21, 2023

Location: Odyssey Conference Room and Teleconference

Start Time: Public Meeting at 6:00 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), Paul Brooks (PB) Eva Jannelli (EJ), Elias Rigas (ER), Absent: Valerie Caras (VC), Georgia Halakos (GH), Jessica Inskeep (JI), Kristin Tuner (KT)

# Agenda<sup>1</sup>

- 1. Call to Order 6:01 PM
- 2. Pledge of Allegiance
- 3. Standard Order of Business
  - Public Comments
    - o Paul Brooks, parent 8<sup>th</sup> grader, expressed disappointment with a lack of academic recognition for the honor academy students. They are not quite high school students, but also not quite middle school students; they worked hard to be the first honors academy class. We need to do better for next year's class.
    - Anteneh Zewde commented on the number of credits needed to graduate from high school, and suggested we make it a bit more clear as how students can hit the 60 credit mark to graduate, but also the benefits of taking more towards college credit
  - Previous minutes for April and May
    - $\circ$  **Motion** to approve the minutes for April 19<sup>th</sup> and May 17<sup>th</sup> as updated. KP 1<sup>st</sup> and PB 2<sup>nd</sup>
      - Approved unanimously
  - Head of School Report Elias Pappas
    - We are very proud of the Honors Academy Scholars, and will gather with the parents in August to get input and suggestions to build on for next year.
    - We are looking toward the fall, as we wrap up some year-end activities.
    - Planning and reviewing data during the summer to prepare schedules and assignments.
    - o Parents Council will meet in August
    - Leadership is planning professional development for 22-23, to be cognizant of academic growth and push students.

- o MTSS meetings have begun, working on goal settings and reviewing data
- EFF Bond refinancing is progressing, with RFPs being prepared so we can align for future projects.
- o HS elevator project RFPs have been published, and we are waiting for responses
- o The Fields Project initial RFPs are ready to be published
- HR is reviewing and fulfilling staffing needs, including our new Intermediate
   School Dean, Dr. Phelps
- Family BBQ was last week with 670 people attending, our on-boarding processes are continue to be refined
- o Back to School Bash will be August 25th
- o The Under the Stars fundraising event will be return early this school year
- o Lower School
  - Reviewing data for mental health and regulation skills will help our students build their academic career
  - Positive reward incentives and new restorative practices continue to show improvement
  - After school programs will continue to grow and expand
  - Looking for families to engage in a Lower School Council to help shape the program and work with leadership

#### o Intermediate School

- Dr Phelps is stepping right into his new role with meeting staff and senior leadership to prepare for next year
- Gathering data and institutional knowledge will be key in making the next year as successful as possible

#### o Middle School

 Staff ended the year with our new RTI system and working on course requests

## High School

- We have a new interim dean, while Ms Lipson is out, Ms McCutchon will be guiding us this fall
- Master schedule is complete with 25 honors sections and 18 AP Dual enrollment sections
- o OCHS continues it's 100% graduation rate
- We will welcome close to 170 freshman this year
- Expansion into the Annex that is Building 20, with additions science and music space

- o Despite the growth, we have only three staff hires left to fill for the fall
- Ms Tracy is leading the American Exchange Project, we are hosting students from across the country to experience OCS, Delaware, and the surrounding areas
- Ms Hooper and Ms Henning have started an adventure for 13 OCS students travelling to Australia and New Zealand
- Ms Petrella will accompany junior Thomas Walder to Greece this sumer through the Harvard Exchange Program
- We are offering 2 new CTE pathways, the K-12 Teacher Academy and Digital Communication Technology

#### o Curriculum

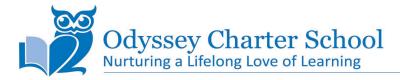
- We will begin rolling out the Amplify for K-5, the pilot was a success and our students will benefit from it
- All AP and SBAC testing has been completed, we are looking forward to sharing the results as they are released
- Professional development planning has begun for the 22-23 year
- Social Emotional Learning curriculum has been purchased for K-5 called Character Strong to provide councilors and teachers with lessons aligned with our strategic behavioral management and support
- iReady will be our assessment platform replacing STAR testing which will align with our forward plan

## Transportation

- We have 3 new busses already in service
- o A bus was vandalized and insurance will replace it
- We have only one opening for drivers at this time
- o Summer routes and contracted routes will continue through the summer
- Tatnall has reached out to our team to be their exclusive provider for sports and activities
- We will continue to put our students first for all transportation needs

#### Student Services

- ELL Team is reviewing new students and preparing to administer screening this fall
- MTSS Summer Learning Leap will run July 11<sup>th</sup> through August 3, with bussing provided
- Spec Ed team will review new students and the summer program



## Information Technology

- Hardware replacement for the 22-23 year has begun, with new student device orders placed and processing returned devices
- Most of our classrooms are already ready for the fall, with two high school classrooms under construction
- New multi-lens AI camera is being used for board meetings and school events
- Prepping for new student and staff accounts

#### Facilities

- HVAC running in all buildings
- Annex building renovations nearly complete

#### Food Service

Year end audit, adjusting as needed for next year

## Fundraising

- Health fair and Golf outing were both successful
- Planning the fall gala for September 22<sup>nd</sup> to present The Fields Project and attract donors with the committee meeting later this month
- Starting and official OCS Instagram and updating our donor database

# Safety and Security

Alice training will take place this summer

#### Out of State Travel

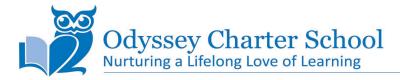
- Harvard exchange trip to Athens in June
- Motion to approve out of state travel as presented 1<sup>st</sup> KP 2<sup>nd</sup> ER
   Approved unanimously

## o Greek Program – Eva Jannelli

- The Harvard exchange program taking a high school student to Greece for three weeks
- Working with the new teachers coming from Greece in mid-August

## • Financial Report – Jeff Koss

- Monthly finance report May
  - o Final budget revenues are \$43,127,839 with 99.8% collected
  - o Golf outing profit of \$10-15k is expected once accounting is complete
  - Elevator contractor bids are due
  - o The Fields Project Committee has approved the RFP for bids
  - EFF bond refinance process continues

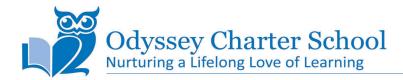


# o Final Budget for FY 22-23

- Enrollment of 2234 student, an additional 111 students across mainly K, 6<sup>th</sup>, and 9<sup>th</sup> grades
- o Rent proceeds from St Thomas and The Grail
- o Includes \$950k in transportation contract income
- o Teacher salary increase in the new CBA and COLA for admin staff
- o Decreasing the budget for substitutes and temp teachers
- o Grant spend-down for expansion will finish within deadlines
- Cecil County public school will donate equipment for building 20
- o Transportation will add used busses if they become available
- o Chromebook refresh and a new IT help desk employee
- o Grant applications and partnerships will continue to grow
- Inferred expenses include parking lot repair, replacing carpeting, and an additional reading specialist
- Motion to approve proposed final budget. ER 1<sup>st</sup> and PB 2<sup>nd</sup>
   Approved unanimously

## 4. Committee Reports

- Citizens Budget Oversite Committee Evan Winokur
  - No quorum, will meet next month
- Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion
  - No update
- Greek Program
  - No update
- Fundraising Committee
  - We will begin strategic planning
- Accountability
  - No update
- Safety and Security
  - No update
- Strategic Planning Committee
  - No update
- PTO
- No update



- Non-AHEPA Nominating Committee Elias Rigas
  - Reviewed a number of excellent candidates
  - o New Board Members presented, who will begin at the July meeting
    - o Community Representative Georgia Kollias
    - Parent At Large Representative Joel Porter
    - Teacher Representative Bridget Davis
  - Thanks to all who applied, we have many committees who could use your assistance, time, and talent
  - Thanks to outgoing board members, Paul Brooks and Elias Rigas for all you have done during your tenure
- 5. Old Business
  - None
- 6. New Business
  - None
- 7. Good of the School
  - Next month we will need to refresh the committee memberships, please consider throwing your hat into the ring to help
- 8. Motion to Move to Executive Session KP 1st and PB 2nd
  - Approved unanimously 7:14 PM
- 9. Return from Executive session 7:30 PM
  - Motion to approve the Head of School contract and increase the education allotment for the senior leadership as discussed. ER 1<sup>st</sup> and PB 2<sup>nd</sup> Approved unanimously
- 10. Motion to Adjourn PB 1st and ER 2nd
  - Approved unanimously
  - Meeting adjourned 7:31 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: June 11, 2023 at

Topic: OCS Monthly Board Meeting - Public Session

Time: June 21, 2023 06:00 PM Eastern Time (US and Canada)

https://us02web.zoom.us/j/88489803681?pwd=T0c1UE9peTk4aytZckpjeUhmQXFEZz09

Meeting ID: 884 8980 3681 Password: 2020

Dial by your location +1 301 715 8592 US (Germantown)