

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

Date: August 16, 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), Bridgette Davis (BD), Georgia Kollias (GK), Eva Jannelli (EJ), Joel Porter (JP), Kristen Turner (KT) Absent: Valerie Caras (VC), Georgia Halakos (GH)

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

1. Call to Order 6:02 PM
2. Pledge of Allegiance
3. Standard Order of Business
  - Public Comments
    - None
  - Previous minutes for July
    - **Motion** to approve the minutes for July as updated. EJ 1<sup>st</sup> and KP 2<sup>nd</sup>
      - Approved (Helen Anderson abstained)
  - Academic Update – Elias Pappas
    - Metrics and data analysis is based on standardized test scores, observational walkthroughs, perception data from students, stakeholder feedback, and administration feedback
    - Considerations taken in are a statewide plateau, 2<sup>nd</sup> year of optional SATs, 2<sup>nd</sup> year of post COVID data, inconsistent reinforcement blocks for study or tutoring for all grade levels, no collaborative common planning time, last year of STAR assessments vs SBAC/SAT, understanding SBAC does not equate to graduation or success, and 8 grade student data includes a large percentage of new to OCS students
    - Detailed data discussion regarding trends of measured student performance year-to-year and by cohort
      - State of Delaware showed declines of 29% in ELS and 35% in Math
      - New students to OCS need accelerated instruction to get to grade level
      - Retention and matriculation affect proficiency, the longer a student is with OCS the better we are able to close the gaps
      - The immersion program is successful in accelerating learning

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



- PSAT scores for 8<sup>th</sup> Grade honor academy were at 73% of benchmark in the fall, and 96% in the spring
- Overall the program is staying even, and we need to implement a plan to accelerate
- Full charts are available
- Action plan for this academic year
  - Evidence of a lesson planning with structure daily, visible agendas and daily writing with paper and pen
  - Access to honors courses and programs for all students raises the bar
  - Challenge our high performing students
  - Balance support services to leverage resources to evenly assist students
  - Motivation strategies for test taking
  - Support teachers who need resources
  - Align ELA and math with Greek language and math
- High School - Jackie McCutcheon
  - AP and Dual Enrollment 2023 – 10 AP courses, 2 DE courses, 60% of seniors had one college level course, with 190 enrollments
  - AP and Dual Enrollment 2024 – 25 Honor sections, 14 AP courses, 5 DE courses, with 282 enrollments
  - 8<sup>th</sup> Grade OHA – students met their spring assessments with 96%
  - Detailed discussions around the 9<sup>th</sup> grade slide
  - Detailed discussions around the AP courses and scores slide
  - Focus strategies
    - a. Distribution of resources – Spec Ed, curriculum, teacher support
    - b. Evidence of lesson planning structure – clear objectives, visible agenda, writing daily, checks for understanding – provides access
    - c. PSAT & SAT level higher order thinking questions – increase rigor, setting the bar for academic success
    - d. Motivations strategies – sports, field trips, and other privileges as rewards
  - Regular check-ins with students are important
  - Full presentation available
- Middle School – Adrienne Rodriguez
  - Large influx of new students last year
  - Study hall will change to enrichment and intervention time
  - All students will use I-Ready, which will challenge and help identify weakness for each students at their level, not grade level
  - Increased tier 2 and tier 3 interventions with smaller groups



- Intermediate School – Mark Phelps
  - Aligning structure to assessment and social emotional learning like as previously discussed
  - Assist students to share who they are to help with academic growth
  - Character Strong program will help with SEL needs
  - Temperature checks and identifying where students have SEL needs in order to succeed academically
- Lower School – Hrysoula Davis
  - Aligning with IM school and SBAC assessments
  - Character Strong program will help support our students
  - Preparing young learners with progress monitoring with I-Ready
  - More frequent checks with the students and curriculum
  - Discrete steering and aligning with our K-12 program
  - UofD Positive Behavior Support Team for K-5
- Greek Program – Ioanna Lekkakou
  - When you want an elephant to grow, you do not weight the elephant, you feed the elephant. OCS wants to grow the students, by feeding them
  - Immersion students in all grades improved their proficiency by about 7% more than the non-immersion students
  - Table data is available
  - Ellinomatheia exams were taken by a record 46 students, with 41 passing, including twenty immersion 5<sup>th</sup> graders
  - 6 new teachers this year, there are always some visa challenges
- Out of state travel
  - **Motion** to approve Ms Tracy to take her Principles of Plant Growth to Longwood Gardens in October, day to be determined. KP 1<sup>st</sup> and HA 2<sup>nd</sup>  
Approved unanimously
- Financial Report – Jeff Koss
  - Monthly finance report June
    - Revenues are \$25,671,990 with 55.9% collected
    - Transportation revenue per pupil will increase by 8%
    - M&T loan payoffs for bus purchases
    - Grail rentals have been \$12k for the June and July
    - RFP Committee for The Turf Project has met
    - EFF credit board has approved moving forward
    - S&P rating will be August 31st
    - **Motion** to approve monthly web report. KP 1<sup>st</sup> and HA 2<sup>nd</sup>  
Approved unanimously



- **Motion** to authorize Board President to review and sign final agreement with EFF as presented, after review by our financial consultants. KP 1<sup>st</sup> and JB 2<sup>nd</sup>

Approved unanimously

#### 4. Committee Reports

- Citizens Budget Oversight Committee
  - No update
- Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion
  - No update
- Greek Program
  - No update
- Fundraising Committee
  - The Gala will be September 22nd
- Accountability
  - No update
- Safety and Security
  - No update
- Strategic Planning Committee
  - No update
- PTO – Elias Pappas
  - OCS magnets will be given to each child
  - New vending machines for the IM and The Grail
  - Back-to-school night will be August 25<sup>th</sup> 3-6



5. Old Business
  - None
6. New Business
  - None
7. Good of the School
  - None
8. **Motion** to Move to Executive Session - EJ 1<sup>st</sup> and JB 2<sup>nd</sup>
  - Approved unanimously 8:11 PM
9. **Motion** to Adjourn JB 1<sup>st</sup> and HA 2<sup>nd</sup>
  - Approved unanimously
  - Meeting adjourned 8:35 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 9, 2023 at

Topic: OCS Monthly Board Meeting - Public Session

Time: August 16, 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)