



Odyssey Charter School

Nurturing a Lifelong Love of Learning

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| | Date: 09/20/2023 |
| Sept 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)?

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| School Site Goal #1 | Planning, Scheduling, Assignments for 23-24 |
| School Site Goal #2 | Future Projects and approvals |
| School Site Goal #3 | Hiring staff |
| School Site Goal #4 | Culture Focus: Beginning of year activities |

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Goal 1:

Walkthrough Feedback

Planning, Scheduling,
and Assignments

Begins October 2, 2023: Lower School is up first: added feedback and compliance committee follow up

Gala, 76ers night, Open House ahead of choice window, school walkthroughs, iready action steps

Goal 2:

Future Projects

Presented in session today
-RFP committee recommendation is SCG
Fields
-EFF closing date is 09/29
-S&P rating update

Goal 3: Hiring/Human
Resources

Goal 4: Culture Focus

- Our next EPC meeting will be on Tuesday, Oct. 3rd at noon. If you would like to join the OCS Executive Parent Council please contact Ms. Bon  y, audrey.boney@odyssey.k12.de.us
- Our first meeting for the Black Student Union club will take place after school on Tuesday, Oct. 3rd! Students from all backgrounds are now able to sign up.
- The OCS ParentCamp is kicking off on Thursday, October 19th from 5:30-7:30 PM. This parent engagement event is open to ALL families in every grade level. Be sure to check out the parent communication for more information!
- Greek Heritage Night is back!!! November 15th at 7:30 PM the Sixers will be playing the Celtics. Odyssey has the opportunity to win some great gear, go down on the court at the Wells Fargo Center and create lasting memories with your family! More information to come about purchasing tickets!

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| <p>Building Level Updates</p> | <p>Lower <u>and</u> Intermediate Schools</p> <p>Thank you to our staff and families who attended Back to School Night this year. This is an important opportunity to get in-depth information about the academic program from teachers. The next opportunity to engage with teachers regarding students' progress will be at Parent Teacher Conferences in October. We highly encourage all families to sign up. Please reach out to your homeroom teacher to schedule if you have not already signed up.</p> <p>During the first month of school, we focused on establishing Odyssey Owl behavior expectations for Odyssey Owl with the help of our Student Advisors, Ms. Mervine, Dr. Yarram and Mr. Cohen, through Code of Conduct presentations, bus safety presentations, kindness/friendship lessons, and Positive Behavior Support System.</p> <p>This year, each grade level is focusing on a different grounding pillar. The focus areas are as follows: Kinder - "Everything in Moderation/Balance" 1st - "Know Thyself" 2nd - "Ever to Grow/Excel" 3rd - "Everything in Moderation/Balance" 4th - "Know Thyself" 5th - "Ever to Grow/Excel"</p> <p>We also want to give a shout out to our teachers and counselors, who collaborated to roll out our new SEL curriculum focusing on Respect as the first character trait.</p> <p>We look forward to initiating our staff-led school improvement committees this Thursday. Committees will meet on a</p> | <p>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!</p> <p>Intermediate School:</p> <p>See Lower School Update.</p> <p>Additionally, band is up and running, being supported by our music teacher Ms. Lierenz. Students are starting to bring in their instruments as they begin this year's musical journey.</p> <p>Intermediate School Picture Day is Friday 9/22.</p> <p>Middle School:</p> <p>All students in the middle school will be finished with their iReady diagnostic this week. Students will then be utilizing iReady through their advisory class to supplement current ELA and Math course work. This platform allows for intervention for those who need it and enrichment to those that require additional rigor.</p> <p>Upcoming Activities:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Picture Day 9/22/23 ● OCMS Pep Rally 10/25/23 ● OCMS Bonfire 11/19/23 <p>Field trip for Board approval:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● 6th grade field trip to Lincoln Financial Center in Philadelphia, PA in November. | <p>.</p> |
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| | <p>monthly basis to identify, analyze, research, and implement school-wide improvement plans.</p> <p>Our Curriculum, Instruction, Assessment, and Intervention team is hard at work rolling out the new iready progress monitoring platform and following up with data-informed responses to differentiate instruction and accelerate the impact of our CKLA Amplify curriculum.</p> <p>The last week of September into Mid-October we are focused on embarking upon the new Delaware teacher feedback system, DTGSS. Teachers will start with their goal setting meetings with their Dean and then begin the revised observation process, which shifts the focus from the teacher's actions to student learning.</p> <p>Lastly, the lower school thanks our PTO for their support of our entrance mural beautification projects and extends our gratitude to former student, Cooper Pedicone, for installing our Story Walk!</p> | | |
| <p>HS Updates</p> | <p><u>Beginning of the Year</u> OCHS has hit the ground running with having our students back for the 23-24 school year. Schedule changes have been made and students are settling into rigorous curriculum. We are excited to have so many faces filling our hallways again!</p> <p><u>PSAT 8/9 & PSAT/NMSQT - 10/4/23</u> On Wednesday, October 4th OHA8th - 11th grade students will be completing PSAT 8/9 or PSAT/NMSQT, respectfully, on campus. Seniors will be off campus for the day completing asynchronous work.</p> | <p><u>Upcoming High School Events/Field Trips</u> -Friday, 9/22 - HBCU College Fair for juniors and seniors at the Chase Center in Wilmington -Saturday, 9/23 - Parade Band will participate in the University of Delaware's Band Day -Thursday, 10/5 - Acting and Stage Crew Field Trip to Delaware Theater Company -Friday, 10/6 - Computer Science Field Trip to Agilent in Wilmington -Monday, 10/9 - Friday, 10/13 - High School Homecoming Week!! -Volleyball homecoming game -Pep Rally -Soccer homecoming game</p> | <p><u>Sept/Oct. College Visits</u> -HBCU Fair -Howard -UMD -Temple -UPenn</p> <p><u>Travel Requests</u> -Ms. Jannah Bayyan is requesting to travel to Montgomery, Alabama with the DOE for AP African American Studies Program on 11/1 - 11/3. The cohort of educators will visit the Equal Justice Initiative Museum and Memorial in Montgomery, AL. Founded by Delaware's</p> |

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| | <p><u>Method Learning</u> Our SAT prep will begin in advisory this week for all students OHA 8th - 11th. Seniors will be taking a Financial Literacy course!</p> | <p>-Homecoming dance -Monday 10/16 - Friday, 10/20 - College Application Week!</p> | <p>Bryan Stevenson, this moving experience brings to light America's history of racial injustice and its legacy. Attendees include AP AAS pilot teachers, Delaware College Scholars and the DDOE Equity Committee. -Senior class would like to go to NYC as a class trip on Friday, 12/1.</p> |
| <p>We hear you!</p> <p>Responses to Parent Feedback</p> | | | |
| <p>CIA</p> | <p>Curriculum</p> <p>Amplify CKLA</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • We are rolling out our new K-5 literacy curriculum, Amplify CKLA. • The CIA team is providing support to teachers through professional development in PLCs and providing support and feedback during in-classroom observations. | <p>Instruction</p> <p>Walkthroughs</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The CIA Team has started walkthroughs and coaching cycles. • The Senior Leadership Team will also be performing monthly building level walkthroughs as a team to look at the successes and needs of each school from an academic and operational lens. | <p>Assessment</p> <p>School Year '23-24 Testing Calendar</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Tentative calendar <p>Fall Benchmark Testing</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • iReady Reading administered during week of 9/11 (1st - 8th) • iReady Math administered during week of 9/18 (1st - 8th) |

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| | <p>SEL Curriculum</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The school purchased a Social Emotional Learning Curriculum for grades K-5 called Character Strong: PurposeFull People. This program is successfully being rolled out by homeroom teachers during their SEL Block. We are already in Month 1 - Week 2 of the Respect Unit. <p>Grant</p> <p>YASS Grant</p> <p>OCS was named 1 of 64 finalists in the nation for the 2023 YASS Prize. Focusing on Sustainable, Transformational, Outstanding and Permissionless education, OCS was recognized for our immersion model we offer to our diverse community. As quarterfinalists, we have already secured \$100,000 and will continue on to potentially win the \$1,000,000 prize.</p> | <p>Professional Development</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> We are planning ahead for our October 13th Professional Development (in-service day). Our staff will be attending conferences across the state: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Shape Conference for our Physical Education Teachers Visual and Performing Arts Conference for our Art, Drama, and Music Teachers Select Social Studies and ELA teachers will be attending a conference on HB 318 (Holocaust and Genocide) in Dover Equity Conference provided by the DDOE CKLA Training provided by Amplify iReady Training for homeroom teachers in grades K-8 | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> iReady Math administered during week of 9/25 (K) iReady Makeups administered during week of 9/25 iReady Results disseminated during week of 10/2 <p>Dibels 8</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Working with mClass and Amplify to get rostering correct in order to assess grades K through 3 in Dibels Team has been trained and ready to test once the platform is up and running Testing should begin the week of 9/18 Trying to get done as quickly as possible for accurate BOY benchmarking info <p>PSAT Administration</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> October 4th, 2023 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> PSAT 8/9 PSAT/NMSQT Staff trained for administration during 9/18 Faculty Meeting <p>DeSSA Test Security Training</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Required by ALL STAFF by 10/30 for State of DE compliance Pushing into PLCs to discuss training week of 9/25 |
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| <p>Financial Update</p> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 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, recodes and reallocations to follow. Interest income funds received in Local District Transfers. Odyssey Charter has been awarded \$100k for the YASS Grant. This competitive grant is awarded to schools who demonstrate excellence in education and a commitment to innovation. The grant was written to assist with costs associated with the renovation of Building #27. Debt Service payment processed in August. To-date, \$210k of expenses have been coded to Federal funds out of the budgeted amount of \$1.7mill (increasing to \$2.4mill in Final budget from carryover projects). 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"> We are still updating our 23-24 Routes for OCS and are in full swing running routes. After Sept. 30th things will calm down a bit and we will update route times to be more exact. | <p>Transportation Monthly Dashboard: is on the website.</p> | |

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| | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● K-5 Families thanks for being patient with us as we have been getting faster at loading our youngest learners at the lower school. Soon they will be professionals. | | |
| <p>Student Services</p> | <p>(MLL) ELL</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● The ML team welcomes Amanda Ramsey, our new full-time intermediate and secondary ML teacher. Ms. Ramsey will be working with grades 4-12 this year. ● The ML team is currently engaged in intake testing on all four campuses for approximately 165 eligible incoming students. | <p>MTSS</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● New additions to our MTSS team are the following; <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Lindsay Neff K-12 Instructional Coach ○ Melissa Burden K-2 Math Interventionist ○ Joanne Laurant 3-5 Math Interventionist ○ Ronni Gates- 3-5 Reading Interventionist ● Monthly Problem-Solving Team meeting dates have been set for the school year, PST will work together using data to make decisions for students who are showing a need in behavioral, social-emotional, and/or academic areas ensuring that we focus on approaching the whole child when planning intervention action steps. ● K-5: Beginning of the year testing is taking place using I-Ready for Reading and Math and DIBELS 8 is being used to screen Kindergarten-Third Grade looking for deficits in foundational reading skills. ● K-5: our first intervention cycles will begin once all initial screening is completed, providing teachers and interventionists a starting point for our first cycle of MTSS. | <p>Special Education</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● ED and psychologist working on the 60 day transfers and making sure students are correctly coded for the 30th count. ● Working on data for federal indicators to DOE |

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| IT | <p>Student devices have been collected for Summer updates and storage. we will retire 12th, 8th, 5th, and 2nd grade devices.</p> <p>10 month employee badges, keys and devices have been collected and stored for the summer. Everything will be reissued at the start of PD in August.</p> <p>Placing order for new K, 3,6,and 9th grade devices this month.</p> <p>We are 80% complete with new classroom setup. We await the construction of 2 classes in High School to begin.</p> <p>Please note the new 3 way camera being used for Board meetings.</p> | <p>We are also in the process of offboarding non returning staff accounts.</p> <p>Working thru Summer move orders for some buildings. This is an ongoing process over the summer.</p> <p>We will begin the account roll forwards for students in the state AD, then followed by the year rollover in Eschool. That sets off a sequence of events that will culminate with all student accounts ready for the new academic year around Mid August.</p> <p>We will be updating about 130 users in Classlink this summer. Currently these users use a different method of accessing their classlink accounts. We want to migrate them over to the state AD method, which will require them setting up their recovery options again. We will be working individually to make sure users are you and running again before the start of PD in August.</p> | |
| Facilities | <p>HVAC- All buildings</p> <p>HS Building Main Entrance improvements</p> <p>HS Building Elevator Project</p> | <p>Checking all units for optimal operation. Quarterly air filter change-out completed.</p> <p>Double glass doors installed. Single glass door installed. Brick work around doors installed. Steps and ramp installation being planned.</p> <p>Contractor has been approved by the School Board. Will start as soon as the front entrance has been completed.</p> | |

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| | <p>High School Classroom and Lab Addition</p> <p>Custodial Staff</p> <p>Facilities Staff</p> <p>Architectural RFP for building 27 design</p> <p>Lower School Courtyard Upgrade</p> <p>Lower School Classroom Door Windows</p> | <p>All work 100% completed in time for the start of school. Waiting for backorder on science tables with sinks. Rooms populated with classroom furniture.</p> <p>6 Full Time / 8 Part Time - Evening Pending one hire for PT day work Total: 15</p> <p>1 Department Manager 1 FT Supervisor 4 FT Facilities Assistants Total: 6</p> <p>Received four responses to RFP. Creating a committee to evaluate the four companies and make a recommendation..</p> <p>Corrected drainage problem and dangerous tree roots exposure in and around the courtyard behind the lower school. Leveled the ground and removed some trees along with adding playground mulch to the entire area. Now a safe area for the children to play.</p> <p>15 classroom doors did not have windows. Installed 8 windows with 7 more to be installed.</p> | |
| Food Service | <p>We are currently wrapping up the end of the year audit, reviewing findings and making adjustments accordingly. During the summer, we will be working on updating applications for families and completing the 2023-24 application.</p> | | |

Fundraising/
Development

Fall Gala, Under the Stars, will be on Friday, September 22nd, 7 PM to 10 PM at the Blue Ball Barn, please [RSVP](#) at your earliest convenience. Our objectives for the Fall Gala this year are to present our turf field capital campaign for the 2023-2024 school year. We plan to fundraise through ticket selling, onsite and online raffle and donation.

- Ticket Sales and Marketing: We released the official invitation and have been actively promoting the Gala through various channels, including social media, email campaigns, and internal network. We encourage board members to actively promote the event within your networks. Please consider to share the invitation to 10+ people in your network.
- Sponsorship and Donations: Efforts are still ongoing to secure sponsorships and donations to further enhance the event's success. Support and involvement in securing sponsorship would be greatly appreciated.

In addition to planning the Fall Gala, the process of rebuilding our capital campaign

page and our donor database using Little Green Light CRM system has already begun. We plan to identify our recurring donors and major contributors to express gratitude for their loyalty.

The initial research stage for sports game fundraisers and 2024 golf outing has commenced.

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| <p>Board Approvals</p> | <p>Out of State, Country, etc trips</p> <p>Out of State Travel:</p> <p>The CIA Team: Curriculum Associates - iReady Mid-Atlantic Leadership Symposium in Philadelphia on October 19th and 20th</p> <p>Elias Pappas requires board approval to represent OCS at YASS Conference and semi-finalist announcement in Cleveland, Ohio on 10/9-10/11. Airfare and accommodations are provided by YASS project.</p> <p>Lower School: Kindergarten Milburn Orchard (PA) field trip October 11 & Nov 2</p> <p>Sixth grade field trip to Lincoln Financial Center in Philadelphia, PA in November.</p> <p>76ers game at the Wells Fargo Center in Philadelphia on Nov 15</p> <p>NYC for seniors 12/01</p> | | |
| <p>Safety and Security</p> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ALICE training will need to be scheduled for all new OCS staff as the date was filled up for our only fall PD. | | |

[Click here for entry checkpoint description and details.](#)

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