

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

Date: September 20, 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), Recording Secretary Ken Przywara (KP), Bridgette Davis (BD), Georgia Kollias (GK), Eva Jannelli (EJ), Joel Porter (JP), Kristen Turner (KT) Absent: Treasurer Helen Anderson (HA), 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 August
    - **Motion** to approve the minutes for July as updated. BD 1<sup>st</sup> and JP 2<sup>nd</sup>
    - Approved unanimously
  - Academic Update – Elias Pappas
    - Leadership walkthroughs – we have added a feedback loop, and the compliance committee will follow-up on implementation. This will be twice a year full review, beginning in October with one building per month.
    - The Gala will be Friday will be a celebration of our successes, and announcements of future plans
    - 76-ers Foundation and Greek Heritage Night will be November 15<sup>th</sup>
    - Open House will be October 19<sup>th</sup>, also the Parent Camp, and sports game
    - iReady rollout continues – Student loading is a building wide engagement to provide and investment in diagnostic student support
    - Future projects – RFP Committee for The Fields project recommendation, EFF refinancing will close on September 29<sup>th</sup>, and we will soon have an S%P rating
    - Hiring targets have been nearly completed, with 99% hired
    - Executive Parent Council will meet October 3<sup>rd</sup>
    - Black Student Union club will launch October 3<sup>rd</sup>

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



- Lower and Middle School - Hrysoula Davis, Mark Phelps
  - Back to School Night was a success, please sign up for parent teacher conferences in October
  - Odyssey Owl behavior expectations have been the focus of the first month
  - Each grade will focus on a different grounding pillar
  - New SEL curriculum focuses on Respect as the first character trait
  - Staff led school improvement committees will begin to meet monthly to identify, analyze, research, and implement school-wide improvement plans
  - The new DTGSS teacher feedback rating system will start with goal setting as we revise the observation process for our staff with more focus on the students
  - IM Band is officially up and running
  - Picture Days are coming
- Middle School – Adrienne Rodriguez
  - iReady diagnostic testing will be completed Friday, so we can implement coursework in our advisory sessions
  - iReady allows for intervention for those who need it, but also enrichment for those that require additional rigor
  - Picture Days are coming
  - Pep Rally will be October 25<sup>th</sup> and the bonfire will be November 19<sup>th</sup>
- High School – Elias Pappas
  - PSAT October 4<sup>th</sup>
  - Friday HBCU College Fair at Chase
  - Saturday Parade Band will participate at the UD Band Day
  - Acting and Stage Crew field trip to DE Theater Company Oct 5<sup>th</sup>
  - Computer Science field trip to Agilent Oct 6<sup>th</sup>
  - Home Coming Week start Oct 9<sup>th</sup> with volleyball game, pep rally, and soccer game
  - College visits are beginning as we start our college application season
  - SAT Prep course has begun
  - Senior off-campus rewards will begin soon, allowing deserving student to journey to Wegmans for lunch with chaperones



- Curriculum - Amplify rollout continues, CIA Team walkthroughs and coaching cycles have begun
- Professional development day, Oct 13<sup>th</sup>, will include our staff attending conferences across the state
- YASS Grant – OCS is 1 of 64 quarter finalist, and secured a \$100,000 prize, vying for the \$1,000,000 prize
- Transportation routes are still being updated, finalizing after the Sep 30 unit count
- Student Services – ML team is engaged in intake testing in all 4 buildings for 165 eligible incoming students
- Special Ed and psychologists are working on the 69 day transfers and making sure students are correctly coded
- IT has been rolling out technology, assisting in the iReady roll-out, classroom build out, and access
- Facilities team is completing classroom buildout and the building 26 project
- Food Service has a 33% increase in the amount of meals served
- Fundraising has focused on utilizing our food service for the gala to control costs and increase quality of the fare
- Safety will require ALICE training for all new staff
- Greek Program – Ioanna Lekkakou
  - We welcome 7 new to OCS teachers from Greece teaching K-12
  - Planning for Oxi Day has begun, with MS and HS performing on Oct 30<sup>th</sup> in The Blue Box Theatre
  - Greek assessment testing will happen this month
  - Working with Pierce College for the 6<sup>th</sup> year
  - Greek Program committee meetings will begin Oct 4<sup>th</sup>
  - OCS Greek Department signed a memorandum of understanding with the University of Delaware and the Biden School of Civil Rights to develop programs that reinforce the idea of democracy in our daily life with dialog and inclusion in our daily life.
- Out of state travel
  - 6<sup>th</sup> Grade trip to Lincoln Financial Field in November, date TBD
  - Ms Bayyan to Montgomery, AL with the DOE for AP African American Studies Nov 1-3
  - Senior class trip to NYC on Dec 1<sup>st</sup>
  - CIA Team to iReady Symposium in Philadelphia Oct 19<sup>th</sup> & 20<sup>th</sup>
  - Elias Pappas to Cleveland, Oct 9-11 for the YASS Conference
  - Kindergarten field trip to Milburn Orchards in PA on Oct 11<sup>th</sup> and Nov 2<sup>nd</sup>
  - 76ers Game at Wells Fargo, Philadelphia, Nov 15<sup>th</sup>
  - **Motion** to approve travel as presented BD 1<sup>st</sup> and JP 2<sup>nd</sup>

Approved unanimously



- Financial Report – Jeff Koss
  - Monthly finance report August
    - Revenues are \$25,843,179 with 56.2% collected
    - YASS Grant of \$100,000 for building 27
    - Enrollment is at 98%, right now 2185 students
    - EFF rate lock took place Sept 15<sup>th</sup>
    - HS Front entrance project is nearing completion
    - RFP Committee for the Architectural Services for Building 27 renovation will need board member support
    - **Motion** to approve monthly web report. JP 1<sup>st</sup> and BD 2<sup>nd</sup>  
Approved unanimously
    - Third party audit is not yet ready for board review, so we will need special board meeting next week.

#### 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
  - New vestibule in the high school
- Strategic Planning Committee
  - No update
- PTO – Kerry Norris
  - PTO Board will attend The Gala
  - Movie night for IM will be Sept 29<sup>th</sup>
  - Fall Book Fair will be Oct 9-17<sup>th</sup>, schedule will be out Oct 1
  - Trip to Ramsey's Farm for K-2
  - Designer Bag BINGO will be Nov 4<sup>th</sup>



5. Old Business
  - None
6. New Business
  - The Fields Project – RFP Committee
    - Recommendation from the committee for the project is SCG
    - Based on scoring rubric of overall draft project plan
    - Design and permitting process will begin next
    - Draft projects were not the final vision, the fine details will follow
    - Grandstand, parking, playground placement will all be considered
    - Construction would begin late spring, with a projected fall grand opening
    - **Motion** to agree with committee's recommendation to proceed with engaging SCG to take on The Fields Project EJ 1<sup>st</sup> and KP 2<sup>nd</sup>
      - Approved unanimously
7. Good of the School
  - Students will provide testimonials at The Gala
  - Helen Anderson is at a DOE conference this evening
8. **Motion** to Move to Executive Session - BD 1<sup>st</sup> and JP 2<sup>nd</sup>
  - Approved unanimously 7:15 PM
9. Motion to approve the discussion item in Executive Session – JP 1<sup>st</sup> and KP 2<sup>nd</sup>
  - Approved unanimously
10. **Motion** to Adjourn BD 1<sup>st</sup> and JP 2<sup>nd</sup>
  - Approved unanimously
  - Meeting adjourned 7:30 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: September 12, 2023 at

Topic: OCS Monthly Board Meeting - Public Session

Time: September 20, 2023 06:00 PM Eastern Time (US and Canada)

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

Meeting ID: 884 8980 3681 Password: 136806

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