

ANNUAL IMPACT

Odyssey Charter School



The Filotimo School

REPORT



A LETTER FROM OUR CEO



Dear Odyssey Charter School Family,

I consider it a true privilege to be entrusted with the honor and responsibility of leading Odyssey Charter into the next chapter of our growth and development, a phase we call Odyssey Reimagined. As our nation's Filotimo School, Odyssey is driven by the spirit of empathy, generosity, kindness, collaboration, and dedication to uplifting our community through acts of Filotimo, coupled with the desire to create an excellent learning environment for all students. Odyssey's award-winning Hellenic Education model utilizes the teaching of the Greek Language, from which 30% of the English Language is derived, a strong civics education, and classical thinking, integrated with AI technology for 21st-century learners to create the global change-makers of the world.

At our core, we are united by our mission to prepare lifelong learners who are culturally responsive global change makers who utilize critical thinking and problem-solving skills grounded in the classical teachings of Greek education and language. This approach trains students to use the Socratic Method and inquiry approach to learning while leveraging their unique skills and talents equitably and democratically to create a positive culture where all students can find success. Our growing dual immersion program, innovative hydroponics and aeroponics K-12 program, community food program producing and harvesting over 2,000 pounds of food annually, and high academic outcomes are just a few examples of how far we have already come.

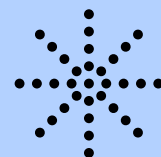
Odyssey Charter School has transitioned from an emerging school to a nationally recognized K-12 network that serves 2,200 students. I believe it is important to set strategic goals to focus our actions on continued growth and development so that all kids have access to an outstanding, permission-free, and transformational education. Academic achievement, facilities improvements and expansion, and community partnerships will serve as the foundation for our comprehensive vision and strategic plan. Odyssey continues to expand its partnerships and affiliations and is excited to enhance our community impact through the grand opening of a new state-of-the-art sports multiplex in 2024, and an innovative learning center in 2025.

The future is brighter than ever for Odyssey Charter School!

With gratitude and excitement,



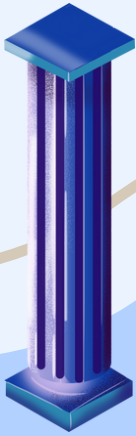
Elias Pappas



OUR MANTRA AND GROUNDING PILLARS

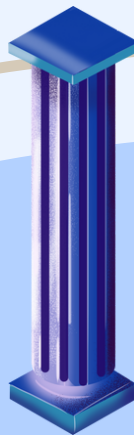
Filotimo, a word with no English translation, intricately weaves together a rich tapestry of values: duty, courage, sacrifice, purpose, pride, commitment, generosity, moral clarity, justice, kindness, empathy, and the unique blend of simultaneous humility and pride. It is the art of leading with the heart, prioritizing humanity at the forefront. As the pervasive force propelling our school, filotimo intricately influences and infuses every facet of our collective endeavors forming the bedrock of our success.

Gnothi Safton



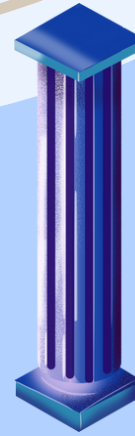
"Know Thyself"
Stay True to Yourself,
Self Actualization

Pan Metron Ariston



"Everything in Moderation"
Finding a Balance

Aien Aristeuin



"Ever to Excel"
Personal and Professional
Reflection, Growth, Success



HOW OUR MODEL WORKS

Education is redefined at Odyssey Charter School, where our innovative model goes beyond traditional methods, preparing students for success in a dynamic world.

1

Through classics education and Greek language instruction, Odyssey immersion students stand as exemplars, with a remarkable 55% representing minorities, and an impressive 99% hailing from non-native Greek-speaking backgrounds. This diverse group of learners consistently achieves extraordinary results, outperforming state averages on standardized tests by an astounding 140-200% in both English Language Arts (ELA) and mathematics.

At the heart of OCS's mission is the embodiment of *filotimo* in action. This ethos comes to life through our groundbreaking hydroponics and aeroponics program, a unique initiative producing over two tons of fresh, sustainable food annually for the benefit of our local community. Beyond academic excellence, this program symbolizes our commitment to holistic education, nurturing values of responsibility, sustainability, and community engagement among our students.

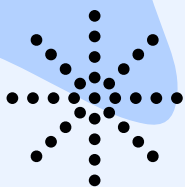
2

3

Our permissionless model touches over 2,200 students per day, solidifying our position as the second-largest public charter school in Delaware. This expansive reach reflects our dedication to providing quality education to a diverse student body, fostering an environment where every student has the opportunity to thrive academically and personally.

Investors who choose to support OCS appreciate our standing as one of only a handful of charter schools graded by S&P. This designation not only underscores our commitment to financial transparency but also serves as a testament to the strategic allocation of funds, ensuring that every contribution to Odyssey Charter School is a direct investment in shaping a brighter future through the education of our children.

4

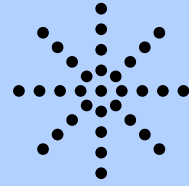


"Do not train a child to learn by force or harshness; but direct them to it by what amuses their minds, so that you may be better able to discover with accuracy the peculiar bent of the genius of each"

- Plato, *Philosopher*



THE YEAR IN REVIEW



As we reflect on the academic journey of the past year, it is with great enthusiasm and pride that we share the highlights that have shaped success at our school. From academic achievements to innovative programs and spirited community engagement, this review captures the essence of a year marked by growth, resilience, and the collective efforts of our dedicated faculty, students, and supportive community.

Spring

Our Food Studies CTE program was honored with the 2023 “Superstars in Education and Training” award from the Delaware State Chamber. This recognition not only underscores the program’s excellence but also highlights its impactful contributions to education and training in our community. We are immensely proud of the dedication and innovation demonstrated by our students and educators within the Food Studies CTE program.

Summer

Odyssey Charter School secured the “First State Favorite” title from Delaware Online for the third consecutive year. This reflects the school’s educational significance and its resonance with the local community, affirming the impact we make beyond the classroom. It’s worth noting that our S&P rating, a result of our commitment to financial transparency has allowed us to secure grant-backed debt financing through EFF. This fortifies our position, ensuring sustainable growth and the unwavering delivery of an outstanding learning journey for our students. It is a harmonious blend of community support and fiscal responsibility propelling us forward with confidence and resilience.

Fall

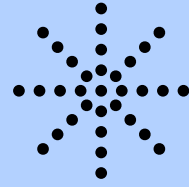
Shining a global spotlight on our exceptional educators, we are delighted that Melissa Tracy, Odyssey’s Food Studies CTE teacher, emerged as a Top 10 Finalist for the esteemed Global Teacher Prize. Her recognition on this international platform is a testament to the dedication, creativity, and transformative impact she brings to education. Melissa Tracy is not only a source of inspiration locally, but she stands out as the sole representative from the United States among the finalists, a remarkable testament to the caliber of educators at our school.

Winter

Odyssey Charter School was named a finalist for the YASS Prize, the Pulitzer of education. This recognition, which comes with a \$500,000 award, exemplifies our commitment to fostering excellence through Hellenic education. As YASS Prize finalists, we stand in the top 0.2% of educational innovators nationally, recognized among a select group of institutions dedicated to inventive practices and student success. This achievement further reinforces our position as a trailblazer providing an exceptional educational experience for our students.



OUR FUTURE



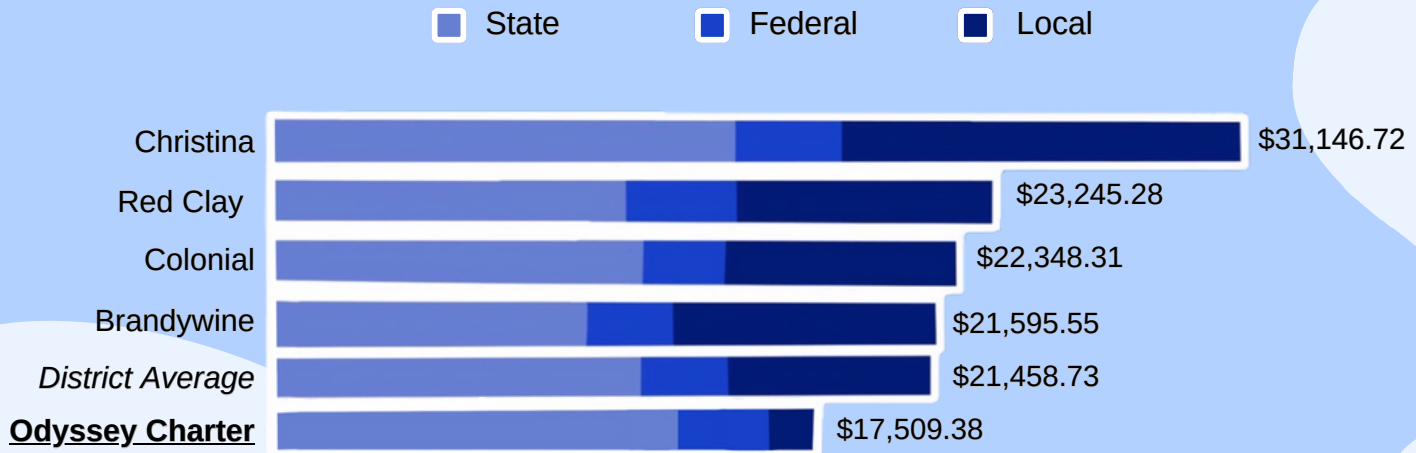
OCS has forged a strategic partnership with SCG Fields, a distinguished turf company celebrated for its expertise in transforming NFL, MLB, and MLS stadiums nationwide. With the successful completion of the site survey, we are now advancing into the exciting phase of preliminary designs. Anticipated with great enthusiasm, the state-of-the-art multiplex project is firmly on course for its grand opening in the fall of 2024.

Odyssey Charter School is thrilled to unveil the upcoming addition of a cutting-edge learning center on our campus, housed in Building 27. Boasting two dozen classrooms, this innovative space is set to embody 21st-century education principles, complete with design labs where creativity fosters progress.

As we approach the final stages of selecting an architectural firm, the impending collaboration promises to bring forth a design that aligns seamlessly with our vision. Upon the firm's selection, renderings will be provided for community feedback, with the expected opening of our new center in the fall of 2025.



AVERAGE REVENUES PER PUPIL BY DISTRICT FOR 2021-22



Odyssey Charter School prides itself on delivering the highest quality free and public education to its students, yielding academic outcomes that consistently outperform state and local districts. However, the per pupil funding is consistently less than the district averages and neighboring school districts we serve. With supplemental funding sources, like our annual campaign, the incredible impact of an Odyssey education can become even greater. Our goal is to be able to utilize our annual campaign to address the approximately \$3,000,000 Odyssey pays for facilities that are not funded through current school finance systems, translating to approximately \$1,500 per student in required supplemental funding.

Note: Average revenues per pupil were calculated by dividing revenues by student enrollment based on the September 30th unit count. Vocational technical school districts and charter schools are funded differently than traditional school districts.



DONATIONS AND FUNDRAISING

New Money Bond

\$10 million

YASS Prize

\$500,000

**Filotimo in Action
Fundraising (Green
Initiative, Gala, Athletics,
and Other Events)**

\$200,000

OCS PTO
\$80,000 Net Proceeds

Generous and Notable Donors

*YASS Prize
No Child Goes Hungry INC
Highmark BCBS
Meridian Bank
RW Baird
Bryn Mawr Trust
Sustainable Energy Utility INC
Green Our Planet Studios
I Could Do Great Things Foundation
LAIRP
DE Foundation for Science and Math
FFA National
New Castle Conservation District
OCS PTO
Stephanie Pandelidis
Anamaria Anagnostou
Erin Allard
John Nicholson
Mary Gildea
Elias Pappas
Kajia Sarmousakis
Justin Dougherty
Rachel Sunita*

WE'D LIKE TO THANK THE FOLLOWING PEOPLE FOR THEIR SUPPORT

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

Staff and Faculty
PTO
Parent Council
Volunteers
Generous and Notable Donors

