



Minutes for Public Meeting of the Odyssey Board of Directors

Date: April 17, 2024

Location: Odyssey Conference Room and Teleconference

Start Time: Public Meeting at 6:02 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), Valerie Caras (VC), Bridget Davis (BD), Georgia Halakos (GH), Eva Jannelli (EJ), Georgia Kollias (GK), Joel Porter (JP), Kristen Turner (KT) Absent: none

Agenda¹

1. Call to Order 6:04 PM
2. Pledge of Allegiance
3. Standard Order of Business
 - Public Comments
 - None
 - Previous minutes for March
 - **Motion** to approve the minutes for the March 20th meeting as presented. KP 1st and JP 2nd
Approved unanimously
 - **Motion** to approve the legal agreement as discussed in the Executive Session on March 20th. KP 1st and EA 2nd
Approved unanimously
 - Head of School Update – Elias Pappas
 - The schools are knee deep in test preps, practices, and mini boot camps. We look to assist our students quantify their learning progress in the most accurate way
 - Using iReady and other benchmarks we are identifying gaps to help align our students for the standardized assessments
 - SCG has begun the permitting process toward a June groundbreaking
 - Building 27 contractor design process has begun for the renovations
 - Intent to return surveys have been sent for SY25, with staff planning already started in January
 - Return rates look positive, with a focus on solid growth
 - There will be an 11 week summer camp, for K-5, at OCS, open to the public. This will run until the end of August. This year we are look for 75-100 kids per week.

¹ All agenda items are potential action items for which a vote may be taken.



- OCS Family BBQ will be May 29th more details for follow
- Academic and Arts Showcase will be May 9th
- Rally on the Green, May 16th, some of our middle and high schoolers will represent OCS at the rally for charter schools, including Greek dancers
- Lower and Intermediate School – Hrysoula Davis
 - After school activities are expanding with Drama Kids, as well as the Walk/Run Club, and the continued Green Team
 - Growth goals guided with the CIA team and interventionist continue to be adjusted to maximize student growth
 - Students continue to earn Owl of the Month in alignment with our Character Strong SEL Curriculum
 - OCS Health Fair on April 27th and treats with a special person on May 7th
 - Kindergarten Graduation on June 3rd
- Intermediate School – Hrysoula Davis
 - The Culture Team is working on establishing new goals for next school year.
 - The students are preparing for the upcoming assessments
 - Band concert on April 30th (5th) and May 1st (4th)
 - Fifth grade graduation on June 4th
- Middle School – Adrienne Rodrigues
 - This Friday, MS Pep Rally at The Grail, this is an 8th grade fundraiser and getting them psyched for the upcoming state testing
 - Boot camp test prep the week of April 29th to prepare for the testing, with all the hard work at every level, we will see an increase in scores
 - MS Graduation will be June 4th
- High School – Ashley Lipson
 - Junior, Jahi Thomas, has been selected to the Delaware All-State Senior Band
 - PSAT for the OHA and 9th grade was today, nearly wrapping up all testing in the HS
 - Prom is May 2nd, and Graduation on June 1st
 - Course advising and selections will complete in the next week
 - OHA Brainstorming sessions will be tomorrow for the end of the year event
 - Incoming OHA students will have an informational dinner on May 1st
- Curriculum, Instruction, and Assessment - Elias Pappas
 - The academic leadership team will meet bi-weekly through September working on our charter renewal
 - OCS hosted the Delaware Department of Education for their 3rd grade literacy site visit. They met with and visited third grade classrooms, discussed the new reading program, and it was a complete success.
 - Final prep for all the spring testing is complete



- Departments – Elias Papas
 - All budget requests were due on April 12th, and the academic leadership team will review and access for the upcoming school year
 - We have hired more drivers recently to replace some departing drivers, be patient at they learn routes
 - We are looking to purchase more buses, details to follow
 - Problem Solving team meetings continue monthly, discussing student needs, supports, and data tracking
 - Learning Leap will run July 9th through August 1st, ½ days, Mon-Thurs
 - We are hiring spec education instructors, and working on adjusting resources
 - IT is finishing the HS door project and the conversion to the Infinite Campus
 - Food Services is in the HUC event at Holy Trinity and they will provide “fresh greens and herbs” from our gardens
 - Annual Appeal is ready to be sent, the goal is to address the \$3 million dollars OCS pays for our facilities
 - Out of State Travel
 - 3rd grade to Philly Zoo on May 1st
 - 5th grade to the Franklin Institute, on May 28th
 - **Motion** to approve the travel as presented. KP 1st and EA 2nd
Approved unanimously
 - Dr Lekkakou, May 31st - June 3rd, to Boston for the 10 Summer University
 - **Motion** to approve Dr Lekkakou’s travel. BD 1st and EJ 2nd
Approved unanimously
- Greek Program – Ioanna Lekkakou
 - The Greek American schools in the US traveled to Greece to discuss education. Five of the six schools were present, and other governmental ministers were interested in our program. We met for 3 hours with parliamentary leaders, including the Greek Vice President. Our immersion program was the stand out, and generated much interest among all attendees. We gained an advantage in our visibility within Greece. We have ministry contacts now, so we can discuss more interactions with their departments. We expect this support to also aid in getting our Greek teachers visa approvals more quickly.
 - Tenth Summer University is a 4 day event starting May 28th. Participants from universities and Greek dignitaries. Dr. Lekkakou will speak on Saturday about our immersion program, highlighting the dual language education model.



- Met with the DOE to discuss having a state test for Greek, in addition to Spanish and Mandarin. We will pilot the test in the end of May with the 6th grade immersion
- Interviewing applicants from Greece to get the best of the best for OCS
- General discussion about out of state travel
 - Condition of the probation or should it continue? Thresholds, or consent agenda?
 - We will look into it
- Financial Report – Jeff Koss
 - Monthly finance report March
 - Revenues are \$47.6 million with 103.6% collected
 - Substitute expense are rising higher than expected, but salaries are reduced due to attrition
 - Golf fundraiser is underway
 - SCG approved exploratory plans, we may have challenges with storm water retention and crosswalks
 - No field construction until June, pending permitting
 - Aiming for Aug 12th for one field to play on, lights and bleachers later
 - New sign will go up this month
 - Build 27 contractor completed their walkthrough
 - HS entrance project nearly complete, elevator shaft work in May
 - **Motion** to approve March monthly web report. KP 1st and EA 2nd
Approved unanimously
 - Turf Field change order III
 - Addition of safety netting around baseball and softball fields
 - Reduction of field shape, which reduces turf costs
 - This will not adjust our loan amounts
 - **Motion** to approve the change order to add safety netting between fields 1 & 2 at cost of \$120k and to change the shape of the turf fields, reducing the turf costs by \$72k. KP 1st EA 2nd
Approved unanimously
 - Bus Purchase
 - Expand the bus fleet by two 2024 units with A/C, with \$142k per bus
 - Financing will be through Santander Bank with roughly 5.9% for 5 years
 - Investigating purchase of 10 passenger vans, through state auctions, which could be included in the Santander loan
 - **Motion** to approve the deposit of \$1,000 toward the purchase of 2 new busses, and locking the rate, for \$142k per bus with Santander Bank. KP 1st and EA 2nd
Approved unanimously



4. Committee Reports

- Citizens Budget Oversight Committee
 - Meeting to review financial transactions without findings
- Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion
 - No meeting
- Greek Program
 - Update provided above
- Fundraising Committee
 - Health and Wellness Fair includes P2P fundraising
- Accountability
 - No update
- Safety and Security
 - No meeting
- Strategic Planning Committee
 - No update
- PTO
 - No update

5. Old Business

- Changes to the uniform policy, cell phone policy, and family filotimo volunteer contribution.
 - It was proposed that we hold the vote until next meeting
 - Allow the community to read the approved minutes from last month
 - All changes would be part of the code of conduct currently being prepared
 - Changes will be highlighted, code of conduct will be “signed and returned”
 - Topics will be covered in back to school and orientation sessions



6. New Business
 - None
7. Good of the School
 - None
8. **Motion** to Adjourn EA 1st and BD 2nd
 - Approved unanimously
 - Meeting adjourned 7:20 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: April 7, 2024

Topic: OCS Monthly Board Meeting - Public Session

Time: April 17, 2024 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)