

## **Odyssey Charter School Board Meeting Summary**

**September 17, 2025 | 6:00 PM**

**Odyssey Conference Room & Zoom**

The Odyssey Charter School Board of Directors met on September 17, 2025, with President Ken Przywara calling the meeting to order at 6:03 p.m. Following the Pledge of Allegiance, the Board approved the minutes from the August 20 and August 28 meetings as presented. There were no public comments.

### **Head of School Report**

Head of School Elias Pappas provided updates on the school's strategic priorities and the successful opening of the 2025–2026 school year.

A major highlight was the completion of the ground floor of Building 27 and preparations for its official grand opening on September 18. Leadership also reviewed beginning-of-year professional development activities, operational logistics, enrollment planning for the 2026–2027 school year, and schoolwide efforts focused on culture-building and academic goal setting.

### **Academic and School Updates**

Building-level updates focused on the successful start of the academic year. School leaders reported that staff and students have transitioned smoothly into the new school year with an emphasis on instructional readiness, positive behavior supports, and establishing strong academic expectations.

Preparations are underway for upcoming school events and activities across all grade levels.

### **Curriculum, Instruction, and Assessment**

Curriculum and Instruction leadership reported on several professional learning initiatives, including:

- The statewide professional development day scheduled for October 10.
- An additional professional development day planned for October 20.
- Ongoing Delaware Teacher Growth and Support System (DTGSS) goal-setting meetings with staff, scheduled to be completed by mid-October.
- Completion of annual assessment schedules to ensure readiness for state and local testing throughout the school year.

### **Transportation**

Transportation Director Josh Baran provided updates on staff development and future planning. Transportation staff will participate in the Delaware School Bus Roadeo safety competition on

October 10, and planning has already begun for transportation needs in the 2026–2027 school year, including coordination with the Business Office and bus vendors regarding future fleet purchases.

## **Special Education**

The Board received an update on the continued implementation of the Standards-Aligned IEP Initiative in partnership with the University of Delaware Technical Assistance Team. Additional support structures have been strengthened through the work of the Special Education Coach and Special Education Coordinators to ensure consistent implementation of services and supports across the organization.

## **Operations Updates**

Information Technology staff reported ongoing improvements to school operations, including updates to the front office intercom system and building access technology.

Human Resources reported that all payroll system updates had been completed successfully and that the first payroll of Fiscal Year 2026 was processed on September 16.

Facilities leadership was recognized for their work supporting the successful opening of Building 27 and for maintaining focus on the needs of individual school buildings across the campus.

Food Services reported a successful start to the school year, with efforts focused on efficient breakfast and lunch distribution and support for school events through catering services.

## **Fundraising, Development, and Enrollment**

Development and fundraising updates included ongoing marketing efforts, grant development initiatives, and recognition programs supporting school growth and community engagement.

Enrollment remains strong, with a total student population of 2,424 students across all schools and grade levels. Leadership shared enrollment data by building and discussed continued planning for future recruitment efforts.

## **Safety and Security**

The Board received updates regarding school safety initiatives, including plans to utilize grant funding for the installation of new vestibule doors designed to enhance campus security and visitor management procedures.

## **Greek Program Report**

Greek Program Coordinator Dr. Ioanna Lekkakou presented the results of the Ellinomatheia examinations, highlighting student achievement and continued success in Odyssey's Greek language immersion program.

## **Financial Report**

Business Office leadership presented the monthly financial report and provided a follow-up update regarding the cost analysis previously requested by Board members. The analysis has begun and is expected to be a long-term project requiring additional review and data collection.

Board member Dimitri Dandolos requested a future meeting with the Business Office to further discuss cost-accounting measures and reporting methodologies.

The Board unanimously approved the monthly Finance WEB Report as presented.

## **Board Actions**

The Board unanimously approved all out-of-state travel requests presented during the meeting.

## **Good of the School**

Board members recognized the outstanding efforts of staff, families, and volunteers who assisted with the move into Building 27 and helped ensure a successful opening of the new facility. Their contributions were acknowledged as a significant factor in the smooth start of the school year.

## **Adjournment**

With no further business before the Board, the meeting was adjourned at 7:14 p.m. following unanimous approval by the Board.