

Minutes for Special Public Meeting of the Odyssey Board of Directors

Date: August 29, 2024

Location: Odyssey Conference Room and Teleconference

Start Time: Public Meeting at 6:00 PM (live and via zoom, see below invite)

Attendance:

- Present: President Erin Allard (EA), Vice President Ken Przywara (KP), Treasurer Helen Anderson (HA), Secretary Joel Porter (JP), Bridget Davis (BD), Costas Fountzoulas (CF), Eva Jannelli (EJ), Georgia Halakos (GH), Georgia Kollias (GK)
- Absent: Kristen Turner (KT), Valerie Caras (VC)

Agenda¹

1. Call to Order - 6:02 PM
2. Pledge of Allegiance
3. Public Comments:
 - Title IX
 - Erin Allard read emailed comments from:
 - Sydney Fowser (Student)
 - Ronnie Gates (Staff)
 - Eva Jannelli read a comment given by a parent wishing to remain anonymous
 - John Nicholson (Parent)
 - Aurora Nicholson (HS Student)
 - Paula Lowe (LS Nurse)
 - Thomas Walder (HS Student)
 - Melissa Rineer (MS Parent)
 - Lori Jones (Staff | MS & HS Family Crisis Therapist)
 - 5th Grade Honors Program and Gifted and Talented Program
 - Heather Yacabell
4. SY2024/5 Code of Conduct Revisions
 - Elias Pappas reviewed this years' revisions focus on components that were vague and difficult to implement. All OCS Board members' feedback was implemented and includes specific language that was requested by board members, community members, administration, students, etc.
 - **Motion** to approve the revised Code of Conduct 1st EJ and 2nd CF
 - Motion approved unanimously
5. Out of State Travel for Mr. Pappas

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



- **Motion** to approve OOS travel 1st KP and 2nd JP
 - Motion approved unanimously
- 6. Sex-Based Harassment and Grievance Process (2024 Title IX revisions)
 - Board Commentary
 - EJ – Our job is not to debate laws but to implement them as applicable. Our focus should be on the consequences of not implementing beyond just the DOE, but of community trust, and how our parents, students, supporters, and donors perception of OCS. Reminder that filotimo is putting the needs of others beyond our own.
 - GK – it is the board’s responsibility to facilitate and protect students’ pursuit of education, not stand in the way
 - CF – shared personal experience throughout career of colleagues who were protected by laws such as this and expressed desire to see these changes at OCS as well.
 - KP – we would be wise to be part of continuing the AHEPA and American tradition of fighting discrimination
 - JP – shared agreement with preceding comments, and had questions pertaining to implementation and certain wording:
 - What would happen if we implemented changes that align with the Title IX revisions and the Supreme Court rules to repeal them (referring to the lower court injunction upheld by US Supreme Court pending a future hearing)? Would we have to revert the document?
 - a. EA: Legal counsel drafted the revised document in such a way that it aligns with the Title IX revisions and complies with the previous wording of the law. Should the SC repeal the revisions, OCS would still be compliant.
 - Shared concern about inclusion of a “subjectively” clause. Can OCS help identify how a subjective offense could be qualified? What is meant by “subjectively” and how do we reconcile that?
 - a. EA: additional context deferred to Mr. Pappas as it is the Board’s role to make and approve policy, and the administration’s role to implement.
 - b. Elias Pappas: we would seek legal counsel and law enforcement for every event and evaluate the evidence for the case. Subjectivity does not take away from objectivity, and a preponderance of evidence is still required to support a notion to move forward. Ultimately, it is legal counsel’s job to
 - HA – it is the board’s responsibility to look at the bigger picture and ensure rights are given across the board.
 - **Motion** to approve the Title IX-aligned revisions GK 1st and HA 2nd
 - Motion approved unanimously



7. **Motion** to Adjourn GK 1st and KP 2nd
8. Meeting adjourned 6:49 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: August 27, 2024

Topic: OCS Special Board Meeting - Public Session

Time: August 29, 2024 06:00 PM Eastern Time (US and Canada)

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

Meeting ID: 884 8980 3681 Password: 130806

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