

OCS Public Board Meeting Minutes

Date May 20th, 2026

Location Odyssey Conference Room and Teleconference

Start Time: Public Meeting at 6:00pm Eastern Standard Time (live and via zoom)

Attendance: Present: President Ken Przywara (KP), Secretary Bridget Davis (BD), Treasurer Costas Fountzoulas (CF), Eva Jannelli (EJ), Dimitri Dandolos (DD), Monica Loughman (ML), Kristin Turner (KT), Joel Porter (JP), Valerie Caras (VC)

Absent: Vice President Georgia Kollias (GK)

Agenda

- Call to order
 - Time: 06:03pm
 - Initials: KP
- Pledge of Allegiance
- Standard Order of Business
 - Public Comments: none
 - Previous Meeting Minutes Approval: April Minutes
 - **Motion** to approve previous minutes as presented- (JP) 1st and (ML) 2nd
 - Approved unanimously
- Head of School Report
 - **School-wide Goal #1: Project updates, building 27 second floor**
 - Permits for the Building 27 second floor renovation have been approved, and the project continues to progress on schedule. Major work completed includes framing, rough-ins, roof replacement, and HVAC installation, with the first county inspection successfully passed. Current work includes drywall finishing, painting, ceilings, and flooring, with projected completion expected between late May and mid-June 2026.
 - **School-wide Goal #2: Filotimo in Action: Staff Appreciation and The Gift of Time**
 - **School-wide Goal #3: Recruitment 2026, step up days**
 - The lottery process has been completed, notifications have been sent to families, and accepted students must confirm their spots by March 20, 2026.
 - **School-wide Goal #4: Culture Plans and Academic Goals**
 - CPI training was provided to administrators and staff on de-escalation strategies.
- Building-level Updates
 - K-5 updates
 - K-5 schools are completing testing and DTGSS observations, which will help guide decisions related to enrollment, staffing, programming, scheduling, instructional materials, student supports, and professional development. Summer learning opportunities and staff committee work are being planned, along with end-of-year classroom celebrations and reflection activities.
 - Lower & Immersion Schools
 - Lower and Immersion Schools are preparing for several end-of-year events, including Field Day on June 2, Kindergarten Graduation on June 8, Step-Up Days, family celebrations, and a PBIS Carnival. Developmental screenings for incoming kindergarten students are ongoing, and enrollment remains open in the lower grades.
 - Immersion School



- The Immersion School is hosting PBIS celebrations to recognize students demonstrating FILOTIMO and ARETE, including a field trip to Longwood Gardens on June 10 and an all-school PBIS celebration on June 12.
- Intermediate School
 - The Intermediate School's upcoming events include a 5th grade field trip to Bellevue State Park, Field Day, a possible pool party, the IS Band Concert, and 5th Grade Graduation. Step-Up Days are also being coordinated for students transitioning into Intermediate School.
- Middle School
 - Academics
 - SBAC testing has been completed, and students are finishing I-Ready diagnostics this week. Fourth quarter interims will be sent to students and families this week, and planning for next year is underway with scheduling adjustments, team development, and new course offerings. Sixth and seventh grade End-of-Year Awards will take place on June 5.
 - Events & Celebrations
 - Middle School students are participating in a grade-level kickball tournament, with championship games and a teacher team finale scheduled for June 4 alongside a staff vs. students soccer game. Both 8th grade teams attended a STEAM Job Fair at the Delaware Museum of Nature and Science. Upcoming field trips include 6th grade to Urban Air, 8th grade to Hersheypark, as well as end-of-year band and business program trips.
- High School
 - Academics
 - P/SAT scores were released, with 53% of tested students improving their scores by 50 or more points. Fourth quarter interim report cards and Trident Award winners were announced, with several students earning membership into the Trident Society for receiving the award eight times.
 - Behavior
 - Through May 15, referrals are down by more than 200 compared to last year, with improved staff morale and fewer negative student behaviors overall. Students participated in a PBIS Field Day in April, and 160 students are scheduled to attend the end-of-year PBIS trip to Dorney Park & Wildwater Kingdom on June 1.
 - Events & Celebrations
 - The second annual Underclassman Awards Ceremony recognized 120 students for achievements in academics, behavior, attendance, and character, with Senior Awards Night scheduled for June 2. Graduation for the Class of 2026 will take place June 3 at The Playhouse on Rodney Square, celebrating the school's largest graduating class to date with 94 seniors. The BPA program traveled to Nashville for national competitions, and the men's volleyball team completed a historic season that included playoff victories and multiple All-State recognitions, along with Coach Stephanie Carini being named Non-Conference Head Coach of the Year.
- Special Education
 - Special Education Updates
 - The Special Education Department continues its Standards-Aligned IEP Initiative in partnership with the University of Delaware Technical Assistance Team. May PLC work for special education teachers focused on exemplar goals, progress monitoring, impact statements, specially designed instruction, and internal audits related to data use and progress monitoring practices.
 - 2026–2027 Planning
 - Planning for the 2026–2027 school year includes articulation meetings between sending and receiving schools, SPIRE literacy training for Intermediate staff, and continued refinement of MTSS and evaluation processes for related service providers. Special

Education Coordinators are also working on Infinite Campus reporting, calibration of needs-based funding practices, and summer preparation for the upcoming school year.

- Curriculum, Assessment and Instruction
 - Professional Development & Curriculum
 - Odyssey is partnering with Educational Leadership Services to support leaders in strengthening difficult conversations and improving PLC effectiveness. The curriculum team is also preparing for the 2026–2027 school year by aligning instructional budgets, planning summer curriculum work, and developing upcoming math and literacy initiatives with school leaders.
 - Instruction
 - Instructional leaders are beginning planning for the 2026–2027 school year, focusing on instructional priorities, teacher and student supports, and continued program growth. Schools are also working on staffing, hiring, and scheduling to ensure a strong start to the next year.
 - Assessment & ML Update
 - SBAC testing is concluding this week, with final assessments scheduled for Friday, following a smooth administration process. ACCESS testing has been completed, and the ML department has resumed in-class support and small group instruction to meet student learning needs.
- Operations
 - Culture and Climate
 - Odyssey is expanding partnerships with community organizations to strengthen mental health supports and provide preventative resources for students and families before the school year begins. Efforts are also focused on improving family access to school and community resources while increasing community involvement across the school. In addition, development continues on a Climate, Culture, and Engagement Survey for students, staff, and families to help identify trends, guide supports, and inform future decision-making.
 - Transportation Report
 - The school is currently interviewing and hiring additional drivers to ensure full staffing for the upcoming school year.
 - IT Report
 - Technology work in Building 27 continues, with most internet wiring completed and installation of cameras, Wi-Fi access points, digital signage, and IP clocks underway. Staff are also preparing for end-of-year inventory and device collection using a new asset management system. Chromebook purchases for next year have been approved for fall 2026 delivery, and IT work for new classrooms and the main office in Building 20 will begin after the school year ends.
 - Facilities
 - The flooring project in the Building 20 Biomedical Labs is halfway complete and expected to finish by the end of the week. Facilities staff are also preparing for upcoming end-of-year events, including graduations and award ceremonies. To support operations, additional custodial candidates are being interviewed to strengthen staffing and reduce workload demands on the current team.
 - Food Services
 - Food Services will cater the Family BBQ on May 29, Senior Day breakfast and lunch on June 2, and the Golf Tournament on June 15.
 - Safety & Security
 - Door replacements across campus are nearing completion, with remaining 2026 safety funds planned for additional security upgrades, including camera and door access improvements. Speed bumps were also repaired, and a new one was added behind Building 23.
- Human Resources
 - No report included
- Fundraising and Development Report
 - Events & Community Engagement
 - Odyssey hosted and participated in several major events, including the Family BBQ, Academic and Art Fair, Charter Rally in Dover, the Philadelphia Greek Parade, and welcomed Greek officials to observe the school's Greek program. The school also raised \$50,000 during its 4th



Annual Gala and celebrated staff during Staff Appreciation Week. Upcoming events include graduations, move-up ceremonies, and the annual Golf Outing at Delcastle Golf Course.

- Marketing, Grants & Enrollment
 - Odyssey continues work on a redesigned school website expected to launch in June 2026. The school is actively pursuing several grants, including initiatives supporting leadership development and Science of Reading implementation. Enrollment remains strong, with acceptance rates significantly higher than last year and over 87% of families already confirming re-enrollment for next year.
- Teacher Recognition & Athletics
 - Middle School science teacher Matthew Sturdivant was named OCS Teacher of the Year and submitted for Charter School Teacher of the Year recognition. Athletics celebrated a historic season, including the boys volleyball team reaching the state semifinals and multiple students and coaches earning All-Conference and Coach of the Year honors. Planning is also underway for expanded athletics branding, summer rentals, and the launch of the “Win the Day” planner initiative for student-athletes next fall.
- Greek Report
 - The Greek Report shared positive feedback following a visit to the Building 27 second floor renovation, noting strong progress on the newest immersion classrooms. Recruitment and hiring efforts for Greek teachers are ongoing through the visa process, with interviews beginning back in January. The Department of Education will sponsor two J-1 visas this year to support staffing needs. The Greek Immersion program will continue expanding into 5th grade next year, immersion reaching 9th grade next year.
- Financial Update
 - Update: The March 2026 financial report reflects a strong budget position, with revenues slightly above projections and expenditures below budget. The organization continues to maintain a positive surplus, including after encumbrances, demonstrating solid fiscal management and financial flexibility heading into year-end.
 - Revenues
 - Final Budgeted Revenues: \$61,170,392
 - Revenues to date: \$62,665,326, which represents 102.44% of the total budgeted revenues for the year
 - Expenditures
 - Final Budgeted Expenditures: \$51,933,293 (including contingency).
 - Expenses to date: \$46,444,914 and encumbrances of \$31,022 which represent 89% of the budget.
 - **Motion** to approve the web report as presented 1st (ML) 2nd (DD)
 - Approved unanimously
- Board Approvals
 - Out of State Travel:
 - Elias Pappas and Dr. Ioanna Lekkakou, Athens, Greece, June 30-July 2 2026 Summit of charter schools, organized by the Greek Ministry of Foreign Affairs (Sec. Gen for Greek Abroad) - Dr. Lekkakou liaison of the event and Coordinator in the US.
 - Josh to Arizona Sept. 21-23 for School Bus Fleet Connex award ceremony.
 - Fall OOS Travel: August 26-28, 2026 - Camp Odyssey for Freshman, Camp Saginaw in Oxford, PA. and August 28, 2026 - Camp Odyssey for Seniors, Camp Saginaw in Oxford, PA.
 - **Motion** to approve OOS Travel as presented 1st (EJ) 2nd (JP)
 - Approved unanimously
- Committee Reports
 - CBOC: no report at this time
 - Finance Committee: The Finance Committee met on May 13 and continued work on transitioning from the current system to a new model. A working version using one month of data has been developed and is showing positive results. The committee is also exploring the creation of a Mercury account, with additional updates and potential changes forthcoming.



- New Business/Good of the School
 - None at this time
- **Motion** to move to executive session- (ML) 1st and (BD) 2nd
 - Approved unanimously
- **Motion** to adjourn- (BD) 1st and (ML) 2nd
 - Approved unanimously
 - Meeting adjourned at 07:45 pm