

Meeting of The Odyssey School Board of Directors
Wednesday, March 19, 2014
4:00pm – 6:00 pm
Professional Development Room

In Attendance:

Board Members - Jason Fritz / Marcia Fulton / Chad Harman / Heather Lamm / Jon Liu / Andrew Mohraz / Peter Sherman / Jason Shiroff / Justin Silverstein / Illana Poley

Erin Miller
Kendra Padgett

Welcome & Public Comment
No Public Comment

Approval of the Minutes
February Board Meeting Minutes Approved

The Board reviewed the minutes from the Meeting of The Odyssey School Board of Directors Wednesday, March 19, 2014 and a voted via email. Motion to approve the minutes Andrew Mohraz, motion second Jon Liu. Minutes Approved.

Executive Director Update: Marcia

TCAP - complete - kids worked hard

CMAS prep picks up - Window is 4th and 7th - Social Studies - April 15th - 17th; 5th and 8th Science: April 22nd - 25th

Adventure - did some industry standards research - decided no parents sleeping in tents; permission forms have been updated for risk management by a group Andrew found - will go out this spring

Moving forward with Gender waiver - working with Bill Bethke on this issue

Auction May 10th - please be there and bring folks

Janus Site Visit - next Monday - potential for strong math PD support

Staff will have discussion about technology use moving forward, curriculum and eventually how to leverage time with our given resources.

2014-2015 School Calendar Update & Vote

Back ground:

Process: Erin presented to Staff Council. Staff Council pushed back on what adventure hours should and shouldn't count as educational hours, as well as additional contact days and hours. The main wonder/concern centered on defining the flow of the day and are students and staff getting what they need by adding time to the day? Parent's primary focus was on alignment with DPS.

The proposed calendar started with 175 days and now has 173 days. The school day is not lengthened by 15 minutes, per the original proposal. The number of days will be increasing from 171 days for the 2013-14 school year to 173 days for the 2014-15 school year. There will be one less fall break day and one less full Passages day.

Motion to approve the Calendar Heather Lamm, Motion second by Peter Sherman. Heather proxy vote for Erin Wilhoite. Motion Approved

Who Is Odyssey/Calendar Task Force Discussion

Issues raised during the calendar discussion are part of a broader discussion regarding Odyssey (who we are). Board meeting in April and May, as well as July board retreat, will begin the process to name the issues and define a task force to lead this initiative. Need to have community buy in. Need to build trust with all constituents. Should we have an objective facilitator? Need to have clear outcomes and objectives to the process.

Executive committee will work on next steps.

2013-2014 Budget Update (summary under separate attachment)

Projected year-end budget outcome: currently looking at a positive variance of \$27K

The biggest changes have been in the PPR, supplies / materials, technology, and healthcare. Healthcare expenses were based on 100% participation; four staff members did not participate. PERA expenses are budgeted based on district guidance - this year's expenses were positive to guidance. The number of English language learners, temporary salaries and staff expenses for professional development were also minor variances to budget.

2014-2015 Budget Discussion

(Executive Session – Personnel Matters (See C.R.S. § 24-6-402(4)(f)(I))

Motion to move to executive session Andrew Mohraz Motion Second by Illana Poley.

Motion to end Executive session Justin Silverstein Motion Second Heath Lamm

Revised Accountability Plan Review & Discussion

Discussion lead by Peter Sherman

Goal is to finalize an accountability plan for 2014-15 school year in April or May.

Focus of the plan is on what can be measurable. Need to work out some final metrics. The plan is still a draft.

A big wonder is how are we using data like Star to provide norms and baseline data. Need to develop assessments and metrics that balance internal measures versus external measures. There are standards for reading and math.

Every child below standards needs more than one year's growth. Every student at standards needs one year's growth.

Issue: current assessments do not all directly align with DPS and State standardized testing.

Governance Committee: Bylaw Amendment Review & Discussion

Discussion lead by Andrew Mohraz

Bylaws were last amended in 2007. Need to define how we are currently making decisions today and define procedures that map appropriately. The plan is to vote on revised bylaws in the April meeting, so that revised bylaws will be active for the May parent rep elections.

Need clarification on the number of directors on the board. 15 voting or is it 15 nonvoting. The consensus is 15 voting members with a minimum 11 members.

Need to give notice we are voting on the by-laws changes and what the changes are.

Board Recruitment

The Board needs to be thinking about bringing on an educator. Goal is to identify 5 plus candidates. Priority is to recruit members that do not have children at Odyssey (and do not plan to).

Odyssey Website Update – Jon Liu/Illana Poley

New web site is almost ready to go. Object is to update social media account. Branding and social media strategies are next step.

Family Council

- Parent Rep Role Definition – to be defined at FC on 3/19
- FC to submit recommended definition to BOD for review
- Parent Rep Election – define process and next steps

Development Update

Auction May 10

Background work on a grant management system. This should make the process more efficient and effective in applying for grants.

Meeting with advisory committee on the Gates Funding

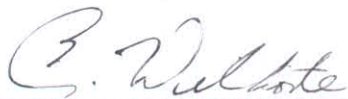
Anschutz Foundation – Marcia applied for \$15K, will find out middle of the month

Janus Fund - we are in Phase 2.

Succession Plan

Motion to vote on Succession Plan: Heather Lamm motion second Illana Poley approved 12 yes 3 abstain and none no.

Approved on 14th Day of April 2014 by:



Erin Wilhoite
Board Chair