

Meeting of The Odyssey School Board of Directors
Wednesday, April 16, 2014
4:00pm – 6:00 pm
Professional Development Room

Christina Carlson, Jason Fritz, Marcia Fulton, Chad Harman, Chris Herndon, Heather Lamm, Jon Liu, Andrew Mohraz, Nilmini Senanayake Hecox, Peter Sherman, Jason Shiroff, Justin Silverstein, Erin Wilhoite, Eric Williams

Also Present: Kendra Padget

Welcome & Public Comment
No Public Comment

Approval of the Minutes

The Board reviewed the minutes from the Meeting of the Odyssey School Board of Directors Wednesday, April 16, 2014 and voted via email. Motion to approve the minutes Jon Liu, motion second by Peter Sherman. Minutes Approved.

Executive Director Update

- Gates Foundation funding was awarded to Odyssey. Gates & EL are working with Lake County District as they transition to a full EL district. Odyssey will support them with a Site Seminar, Labs & coaching. Currently a 1 year grant with the potential to extend to a second year. Marcia will continue to pursue.
- Janus Grant \$25K funding for technology and we are closed to additional funding from Janus and Compact Blue for Math professional development.
- Fully enrolled for the 2014-15 School year
- Spring trip season has begun
- 116 parent surveys were received. The accountability committee will be reviewing the data.
- DPS survey is coming out shortly. Need to have families complete the survey as number participants affects Odyssey's score within the District SPF
- Student perception surveys – We are using form from Colorado Legacy Foundation
- Parent BOD Election: two parents have submitted their names for consideration. Family Council leading the charge on hosting a "Getting to Know the Candidates" coffee.
- Two Staff members are also considering the available BOD spot for Staff Council.
- CMAS testing is under way for grades 5, 7 and 8. The testing is in a new computerized format. Student experience is intended to more engaging than paper. Issues getting on the test for students with special accommodations.

Who Is Odyssey? Update

The board will be forming a Task Force to work on the question of Who is Odyssey. Are the school's statements of Mission, Vision, Core Values and Educational Programming aligned with our objectives and priorities? We need to ensure that we clearly define and communicate the objectives of the school and school community. Be clear, consistent, SMART.

Rationale behind this project is two-fold: 1) the school's Succession Plan pre-work,; 2) the need for a document that provides guidance and outcomes for success to benefit the greater community on a day to day basis.

Composition & Timing continue to be discussed, but the opinion is the work needs to happen starting immediately.

We would like to engage a facilitator to help identify and manage issues as a neutral party.

One question is where do student fit into this discussion?

Initial goal is to have something by September/October, but need to be mindful of inclusion of all stakeholders & transparency. Challenging to do most of the heavy-lifting over the summer when staff and families are on vacation, etc.

Erin is revising a document regarding the process and representation of the committee for review of the board by April 25.

Student Data & Differentiation – Marcia Overview

How are we using data to capture students needs?

Work Plan Goal –

Two rounds of star date, third round in May used to assess progress beyond state assessments.

Learning a lot about what STAR can and cannot do.

Working to get the parent portal up so parents have more real time knowledge of students progress.

Questions: what does this look like? Is data always available – might look different by teacher based on when they load data. Thinking through how to make this a usable and effective tool for parents, teachers and students. Aiming to launching in 2014/2015 school year.

Look to DPS for best practices and managing the program.

Differentiate kid's needs - menu process

June timeframe: Marcia to provide data dive on full year performance for the Board

Finance Committee Update:

March 2014 Financials :

Temp staffing is an area we need to do a deeper dive into the budget. This year temp staff expense was markedly higher than budget.

Budgeting a small surplus for this year overall

2014/2015 Budget Planning:

Will present the 2014/2015 at May Board meeting (1st round budget due to DPS by end of May). The budget will need to be approved at this meeting.

Need to focus on one time funding and recurring funding. Looking more at the net gain in fund raising Areas in the budget that need further consideration are cost for bus and Adventure costs – ways to find efficiencies?

Board Recruitment Update

The board would like to add a community rep with an educational background. There are three strong candidates that are currently being considered.

Per revised policy, all candidates up for consideration must meet with at least one BOD Staff and Parent rep

June Board meeting: elections for Chair Elect, Secretary and Treasurer.

Governance Committee:

Odyssey Bylaws & BOD Member Nomination Policy Revisions & Vote
Motion to approve Odyssey Bylaws: Heather Lamm. Motion seconded by Jason Shiroff. By-laws revisions approved. Illana Poley and Just Silverstien Proxy votes delivered by Erin Wilhoite,

Motion to approve BOD Member Nomination Policy Revisions: Peter Sherman, motion seconded by John Liu. Illana Poley and Justin Silverstien Proxy votes delivered by Erin Wilhoite.

Odyssey Bylaws & BOD Member Nomination Policy Revisions are attached.

Odyssey Branding Update

Work on a new logo.

Development Committee Session

Working session during May BOD meeting to discuss how we maximize the four areas of fundraising: Grants, Individual Donations, Auction, Annual Campaign. Is there something else we should be doing to be more successful? The Who is Odyssey discussion will add value to Development priorities & opportunities.

Family Council Update:

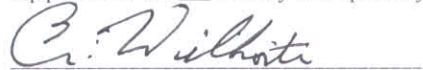
Peter Sherman will attend for the board

Parent Rep candidates attending Family Council meeting tonight to share their interest in joining the BOD.

Odyssey Intern Update

Ready Intern and/or Wallace intern is on hold due to a weak pool of candidates. DU Social Work program could be a source for an intern. DU provides limited funding for candidates. Marcia to research this program.

Approved on ___th Day of April by:



Erin Wilhoite
Board Chair