

Odyssey School of Denver Board of Directors

Wednesday, March 15, 2023

4:00 - 6:00 pm

Odyssey School of Denver

Remote livestream link:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/89860263427?pwd=SG5ybGd1c3hpdTBXUDdEL0treXV1UT09>

Our Mission: Odyssey School of Denver is a diverse, public, K-8 Expeditionary Learning school. We teach students how to learn through a focus on academic achievement, critical thinking and social responsibility, preparing them for high school and beyond.

Our Vision: Odyssey School of Denver students will:

- Take risks and innovate;
- Lead with integrity and compassion;
- Be civically and socially engaged;
- Push themselves to exceed expectations;
- and • Embrace learning as a life-long adventure.

Board Responsibilities: We ensure Odyssey's compliance to its contract with the Denver Public Schools, set and monitor the implementation of school policies, manage the school's annual budget and financial planning, and hire and evaluate the performance of our school's Executive Director.

1. Call to order at 4:07pm
2. Public comment
 - a. Aristotle Karas
3. Roll call & acknowledgments of conflicts of interest
 - a. Present = John Brewer, Amanda Brown, Christina Carlson, Juana Rosa Cavero, Alison (Ali) Hadden, Travis Haley, Brian Johnson, Laurel Lenz, Dawn Loge, Danielle Lucas-Adam, Kathryn Martinez, Keri Melmed, Alisha Smith.
 - b. No conflicts.
4. Motion to approve and/or amend February minutes
 - a. Dawn moves, Laurel seconds. Passes
5. ED update
 - a. Auction this Saturday (6 pm).
 - b. 5th/K exhibitions were this week.
 - c. In PE, students experienced fencing this week.
 - d. Discussion of staff norms and confidentiality. Restrictions against disclosure of confidential information. Reach out to Kathryn or Amanda with questions.
 - e. Staff/hiring updates -
 - i. Ike will finish up year 7½ math.
 - ii. Paul Frazier has taken over for 6th grade and will finish the year as lead.
 - iii. Liza Hubbell has come in as the new GT (gifted & talented) coordinator.
 - iv. Initial or final interviews ongoing for several positions:
 1. New position for K-4 Assistant Director. Colin will transition to 5-8 Assistant Director position. Ike leaves at the end of year.
 2. 4th grade lead; MS SPED; 6th grade lead; music; 7th and 8th grade math.
 - v. Staff are partnering with EL to co-create a vision for math education at Odyssey. Teachers will attend an institute in July and will receive an extra 5 days of strategic planning and 10 days of coaching & professional development for math.
 - f. Follow up questions regarding special education (SPED) at Odyssey.
 - i. A list of written questions had been sent to Kathryn. Written responses from the SPED team were returned to the board.
 - ii. Several additional questions from board members were fielded and discussed.

6. Council, Committee and Working Group updates
 - a. Finance Committee
 - i. Update - minor changes over the past month. Fund balance is projected to increase by \$80,528.
 - ii. Review draft 2023-24 budget/revenue projections.
 1. Expected increases in revenues over next 2-3 years, partly due to increased enrollment.
 2. Revenues likely to plateau after that.
 - b. Development Committee
 - i. Auction updates
 1. Auction goal is \$52,000.
 2. Board members have pledged \$2000 in matching funds.
 3. Sponsors have given \$8000.
 4. Can bid on items now and throughout the auction using Clickbid.
 - ii. Committee continuing efforts for planning of future efforts. Focus on sustainability, DEI, ROI may lead to changes in the fundraising format/events to be undertaken in coming years.
 - c. Other Committee/Working Group updates
 - i. Staff council reported on recent topics they were discussing
 1. What does adventure look like with more kids in future years?
 2. Staffing updates.
7. Wrap up and future agenda items
 - a. Overview of topics slotted for upcoming meetings:
 - i. April - 2023 budget to be adopted; Review revisions to and adopt strategic plan. Plans will be going out to the community for feedback between now and then.
 - ii. May - electing new community members; review family survey results (survey goes out in April), set board retreat dates.
 - iii. June - no meeting
 - iv. July - End of year Executive Director evaluation; board retreat to plan and set goals for next year.
 - b. A board member asked for clarification on the process for board responses to queries and public comments.
 - i. Discussion of processes in place to “close the loop” on public comments or emails. All queries receive an initial response and, where needed, a follow up response. Initial responses strive to inform parties if the topic is or is not under the board’s jurisdiction. Board members looped in on responses.
 - ii. Suggestion to include a brief summary of board responsibilities as a standard component of initial response.
8. Adjournment
 - a. Dawn moves, Ali seconds. Passes.
 - b. Meeting adjourned at 5:18 pm



April 19, 2023

Board Chair, Amanda Brown

Date