

Odyssey School of Denver Board of Directors

Wednesday, August 16, 2023

4:00 - 6:00 pm

Odyssey School of Denver

Remote livestream link:

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

<p>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.</p>	
<p>Our Vision: Odyssey School of Denver students will:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• 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.	<p>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.</p>

1. Call to order - 4:01 pm
2. Roll call & acknowledgments of conflicts of interest
 - a. Present = Amanda Brown, Nadja Cockrell, Kelley Krupicka, Travis Haley, Brian Johnson, Ryan Lally, Laurel Lenz, Dawn Loge, Kathryn Martinez, Keri Melmed, Alisha Smith, Caitlin Vaughan.
 - b. Absent = John Brewer, Juana Rosa Cavero, Theodosia Cook, Alison Hadden.
 - c. No conflicts noted.
3. Approve agenda - Laurel moves, Amanda seconds, passes
4. Approve minutes from retreat - Kelley moves, Amanda seconds, passes
5. Public comment - none
6. Discussion of board commitments.
 - a. Review of sample document outlining board responsibilities and commitments.
 - b. Discussed additions and edits.
 - c. Keri will draft revised document for future review.
7. Goals/Accomplishments for 2023-4
 - a. Review of materials and recommendation from 2021-2 equity audit.
 - b. Brainstorming of ideas for the board to consider for emphasizing this year. Examples:
 - i. Board handbook improvements
 - ii. Efforts to connect with new board members.
 - iii. Review of fundraising approaches review.
 - iv. Bylaws review.
 - v. Re-evaluate/summarize board policies and board role.
 - vi. Board tour of school with equity lens.
 - vii. More frequent letters from board chair to community to educate/share.
 - viii. Public board response to family survey
 - ix. Evaluate / clarify role of family council in the overall school / management.
 - x. School safety
 - c. Discussion of committees.
 - i. Standing committees.
 1. Executive
 2. Finance

3. Development
4. School Accountability
- ii. Possible Ad hoc committees:
 1. Bylaws
 2. Community development
 3. Equity statement
 4. School safety
 - a. To be discussed as a future agenda item.
8. Officer elections.
 - a. Travis was nominated as incoming chair, Ryan as Treasurer, Laurel as Secretary.
 - i. Alisha moves to approve nominees, Brian seconds, passes.
 - ii. Keri (current chair) and Amanda (past chair) were elected in past years.
9. ED update.
 - a. Odyssey 25th anniversary.
 - b. Staff welcome back events included Ron Berger virtual visit.
 - c. Welcome back to 1-8th grade students this week and kindergarten next week.
 - d. Kindergarten staffing update - Lisa Larsen, Abby Sherick will step in as Jen is on medical leave.
 - e. Work plan has been developed with the goal of seeing meaningful growth within the first 100 days in Math, Expedition, and Specials.
10. Council, Committee and Working Group updates
 - a. Finance Committee -
 - i. Carol will record finance 101 session that will be shared for board members to view as an update (or initial) training session.
 - ii. Projected budget forecasts a surplus for the year of \$97,996. This will likely change throughout the year.
 - iii. Questions.
 1. ESSER III carry over?
 - a. Grant was to fund Mental Health position & MS intervention
 - b. Carryover reflects a personnel reassignment last year.
 2. What will surplus be used for?
 - a. Funds not currently allocated, but available.
 - b. Provides flexibility for ED as needs become apparent during the school year.
7. Executive Session under C.R.S. §24-6-402(4)(f): Personnel matters
 - i. Amanda moves to enter, Laurel seconds, passes
 - ii. Staff excused and the remainder of the board entered executive session at 5:24 pm.
 - iii. Amanda moves to exit, Alisha seconds.
 - iv. Left executive session at 6:01 pm.
8. Wrap up and upcoming agenda items
 - i. Will plan an update and conversation on school safety.
 - ii. Administered board oath of office to Ryan.
9. Adjournment
 - i. Nadja moves to adjourn, Amanda seconds, passes.
 - ii. Meeting adjourned at 6:05pm

Keri Melmed

09/20/2023