

**Board Retreat**  
**Odyssey School of Denver Board of Directors**  
**July 31, 2023 at 9am**  
**Room 107, Odyssey School of Denver**

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/84556388232?pwd=VGp4MThXQjJjeTRCNlVrNjNOdUZSdz09>

**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 9:00am
2. Public comment 9:02am, none
3. Introductions 9:08am
  - a. Board members introduced themselves, and the following staff were also present and introduced themselves: Elki, Levi, Colin and Katie
4. Roll call & acknowledgments of conflicts of interest 9:30am
  - a. Present: Kathryn Martinez, Amanda Brown, Keri Melmed, Travis Haley, Juana Rosa Caverro, Nadja Cockrell, Brian Johnson, Dawn Loge, John Brewer, Kelley Krupicka, Caitlin Vaughan, Theodosia Cook (via zoom) and Alisha Smith
  - b. Not present: Alison Hadden, Ryan Lally and Laurel Lenz
5. Motion to approve and/or amend May minutes 9:32am
  - a. Juana Rosa motioned to approve, Nadja seconds
  - b. Motion Passed
6. Odyssey Board Oath of Office 9:35am
  - a. Completed with the exception of those not physically present
7. Reviewed of board structure and elect officers 9:45am
  - a. Board postponed the election of officers until the August board meeting
8. Reviewed end-of-year data 10:00am
  - a. CMAS data
    - i. Highlights:

1. 49% in Literacy, versus 30% for DPS; 31% in Math, versus 30% for DPS
  2. 0% of 6th and 7th graders met or exceeded expectations in Math
  3. Will be implementing a half hour intervention called "genius" which will be a half hour daily
  4. Have not recovered to post-covid levels in either math or literacy
  5. Data embargoed until 8/14
- b. I-Ready data
- i. Highlights: K-5 versus 6-8 is highly varied
- c. ED shared next steps to improve student outcomes:
- i. Moving from 60 minutes of math in K-5 to 90 minutes
  - ii. 75 minutes in 7-8 plus the 30 minute intervention block
  - iii. Time from literacy blocks which are exceeding expectations
  - iv. Yearlong focus on High Quality Work: complexity, craftsmanship and authenticity; intention for all students will develop work products
- d. Family end-of- year survey:
- i. Highlights:
    1. Academics: families clearly seeing the Habits of Learner in their child; opportunities- math, and how families can support student learning
    2. Adventure: very strong support and feedback for adventure; opportunities to improve communication and ensuring students have the necessary gear
    3. Communication: very strong from Odyssey, requests for information from teachers on how to support their children
    4. Family Involvement: half have no opinion regarding Family Council so opportunity to improve engagement
    5. Board: 75% see effective governing, remaining no opinion. Board communication is an area of opportunity.
    6. Culture: Very strong, requests for more clarity on discipline policies
  - ii. Discussion led by Keri on how Kathryn and ILT uses this data
  - iii. Discussion about discipline policies
    1. Odyssey follows the DPS safety matrix. Odyssey does not have a waiver from the DPS matrix for safety.
- e. Board reflection survey 10:30am (flipped with staff survey)
- i. Highlights: area of opportunity for clarity of role; first draft of board handbook is ready for review by board
- f. Staff survey 10:35am
- i. Highlights:

1. Very strong sense of belonging, positive environment, student achievement
  2. 80% feeling positive about the effectiveness of ED, 100% are aware of where to find key info, HR, and conflict management
  3. Area of opportunity: common vision for disciplinary
    - a. Eliminating Dean of Culture and focus instead on a new Assistant Director leveraging and supporting teachers in targeted areas of support.
    - b. A K-4 and 5-8 Assistant Director for each to support struggling students.
- g. Executive Session: ED Evaluation 11:00am
- i. Executive session under article C.R.S. §24-6-402(7)(a): to review and discuss personnel matter
  - ii. Keri made a motion to move into Executive Session at 11:26am, Nadja seconded; motioned passed
  - iii. Board moved into Executive session to discuss ED evaluation
  - iv. Alicia made a motion to move out of Executive Session at 12:10pm, Nadja seconded; motioned passed
- h. Lunch 12:10pm
- i. Board took a break for lunch
- i. Board training session from the Colorado League of Charter Schools 12:45pm (started late)
- i. Board received training on board roles and responsibilities and leading effective meetings.
  - ii. Board postponed training on policy development given time constraints.
- j. Work Session: planning for upcoming school year 3:30pm
- i. Postponed until August board meeting
- k. Wrap up and future agenda items 3:55pm
- l. Adjournment 4:00pm
- i. Board meeting adjourned at 4:00pm



11/16/2022

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Board Chair, Amanda Brown

Date