

Odyssey School of Denver Board of Directors
Wednesday, December 13, 2023
4:00 - 6:00 pm

Remote access:

<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: <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.	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 - 4:00 pm
2. Roll call & acknowledgments of conflicts of interest
 - a. Present = Amanda Brown, Alison Hadden, Kelley Krupicka, Travis Haley, Laurel Lenz, Dawn Loge, Keri Melmed, Kathryn Martinez, Caitlin Vaughn Sekar, Alisha Smith.
 - b. Absent = John Brewer, Juana Rosa Cavero, Nadja Cockrell, Theodosia Cook, Ryan Lally, Kaylie Titus.
 - c. No conflicts
3. Approve agenda - Kelley moves, Alisha seconds, passes
4. Approve November minutes - Travis moves, Kelley seconds, passes
5. Public comment - none
6. ED, Board Committee and Council Updates
 - a. ED update
 - i. EL conference recap, accolades
 1. 35 staff members attended the 3 day conference in Denver
 2. Odyssey hosted a pre-site visit with 50+ visitors from other EL schools
 3. Applying to host a site seminar next year to allow folks to learn from us - funds are received for site seminars which will be evaluated with next year's budget
 - ii. Review of student work plan goals
 1. Students have been hosting exhibition nights to showcase work
 2. MS has begun having specials as electives. Students rank choices for special topics. Improving engagement.
 - iii. Hiring updates -
 1. Culver Benedict will take over 5th grade math (part time to also continue service as paraprofessional).
 2. Jenn Kloepfel will be returning as kindergarten lead in January.
 3. Lisa and Abby will stay on to support students.
 - b. Finance Committee Update
 - i. Financials - Dashboard highlights
 1. Unassigned cash is not a concern, but on watch.

2. Projected year end fund balance is currently \$31,989.
 3. Expenses for EL conference were lower than projected by \$27,000.
 4. Anticipate additional updates when Carol (CFO) attends the board meeting in January.
 - ii. FY2023 financial audit acceptance
 1. Travis moves, Alicia seconded, motion passes
 2. To be signed by Board President and Secretary
 - c. Development Update
 - i. Annual campaign has thus far raised ~50% of the \$50,000 goal.
 - ii. Reminder for board members to donate. Goal is 100% participation by board.
 - iii. Discussion of fundraising needs and strategy going forward.
 - d. Executive Committee Update
 - i. Update on resolution team grievance process.
 1. Grievance review process was completed.
 - ii. Equity statement follow up.
7. Other Board Business
- a. Discussion of equity statement - led by Kerry Lord.
 - i. Review of last discussion
 - ii. Shared and reviewed DPS Equity in Action statement
 1. Can point to this in the Odyssey statement.
 2. Do we need more? Specifics for EL/Odyssey?
 - iii. Shared EL education statement.
 1. Language specific to EL audience
 2. Humility expressed.
 - iv. 2023 Due East statement: "So what, now what?" .
 1. Use as a north star during the planning/drafting process.
 - v. Next steps?
 1. Logistics. Composition of working group.
 2. Kerry suggestions:
 - a. Board decisions on guardrails. E.g. Any language to stay away from?
 - b. Board discussion of why now, what are we trying to signal?
 - c. Grievances?
 - d. Individuals/groups who are not engaged in community?
 - e. Board conversation on core beliefs, language that needs to be included.
 - f. What do we want the statement to look like?
 - g. Above information is given to the working group to guide their writing process
 3. Establish the working group in January.
 - a. 3 board members = Alisha, Dawn + 1
 - b. Kathryn + 2 teachers
 - c. Parent representatives
 - d. Student focus groups and representatives.
 - e. Keri suggested an agenda and goal for a draft in February.
 - f. Resources from Kerry
 4. Targeted outreach to ensure inclusion of representatives from groups that are typically excluded.
8. Wrap Up & Upcoming Agenda Items
- a. Next meeting January 17
9. Adjournment 5:48pm
- a. Amanda moves to adjourn. Kelly seconds. Passes.