

Odyssey School of Denver Board of Directors
Wednesday, January 17, 2024
4:00 - 6:00 pm

Remote access:

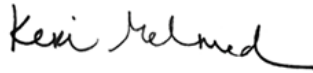
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Our Mission: Odyssey School of Denver is a diverse, public, K-8 Expeditionary Learning school. We teach students how to learn through a focus on academic achievement, critical thinking and social responsibility, preparing them for high school and beyond.	
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 = John Brewer, Amanda Brown, Juana Rosa Caverro, Alison Hadden, Kelley Krupicka, Travis Haley, Laurel Lenz, Dawn Loge, Keri Melmed, Kathryn Martinez, Caitlin Vaughn Sekar, Alicia Smith, Kaylie Titus.
 - b. Absent = Nadja Cockrell, Theodosia Cook.
 - c. No conflicts
3. Approve agenda - Amanda moves, Dawn seconds, passes
4. Approve December minutes - Alisha moves, Ryan seconds, passes
5. Public comment - none
6. ED, Board Committee and Council Updates
 - a. ED update
 - i. Classical music ensemble visited school before MLK break.
 - ii. Staff survey results.
 1. Will be shared with the board.
 2. Celebrations, suggestions, specific positive comments.
 3. Trends, Professional development, adventure.
 - iii. Staffing
 1. An "intention to return" survey has been distributed to staff.
 2. Outlined process for evaluating staff performance, coaching and (if needed) improvement plan. Will use this to determine which staff will be asked to return. No staff are currently on an improvement plan.
 3. Two staff had indicated at the start of the year that this would be their last year at Odyssey.
 4. Hiring committee has been formed. First meeting next Monday. Posting in February.
 - iv. Next year school will be at full build out.
 1. Changes:
 - a. K-5 = 2 crews per grade. 20 students per crew

- i. K-3 literacy interventionist, K-3 SPED
 - ii. 4-5 SPEC & intervention + SPED team lead
 - b. 6-8 = new course structures. No changes to staffing, specials, leadership.
 - i. All students = Literacy, Humanities, Science, Literacy intervention
 - ii. 6th = math and intervention
 - iii. 7-8th = math
 - iv. Continue with 6-8 SPED
 - v. Discussion of how changes will impact student preparation for high school and meeting standards.
 - b. Finance Committee Update
 - i. Financials - Carol Meninger (school CFO):
 - 1. Presented budget dashboard highlights
 - a. Modified some metrics.
 - b. Projected year end fund balance is currently \$56,232.
 - 2. Discussion of changes to budget for 2023-24.
 - 3. Discussion of upcoming changes to PPR.
 - 4. Likely to stay in 3-6% increase every year.
 - 5. Board can email Carol with any questions RE: Finance 101.
 - ii. FY 2023-24 amended budget resolution.
 - 1. Amanda moves, Laurel seconds, motion passes
 - 2. To be signed by Board President and Secretary
 - c. Development Update
 - i. Auction will also celebrate Odyssey's 25th anniversary.
 - 1. Will be inviting alumni and former staff.
 - 2. Improved food options this year.
 - 3. Goal for the auction is \$53,000.
 - ii. Board members asked to help with securing donations (e.g. vacation rental weekend).
 - iii. Board asked to participate in board gifts and in the auction.
 - iv. Goal is 100% participation by board.
 - d. Equity working group
 - i. Kathryn and Kerry are leading the effort.
 - ii. Alicia and Dawn are also on the committee.
 - iii. Staff (2), family members, student members on the committee.
 - iv. Timeline shared.
 - 1. Opportunities for feedback from the community and board.
 - 2. First meeting is scheduled for January 29.
 - e. Executive Committee Update
 - i. ED evaluation process.
 - 1. Keri shared a document that outlines the process.
 - 2. Discussion of process and timeline.
 - 3. Feedback and input from the board.
 - a. Next month - Executive committee will review.
 - b. Executive session next month for the entire board to discuss.
 - c. Tied to ED position contract. Kathryn's current 3 year contract expires this year.
 - ii. Amanda discussed board recruitment.
 - 1. Family and staff council representatives elected by respective groups.
 - 2. Community representatives. Currently 10.
 - a. Next month we will have a better idea of who is rolling off.
 - b. Identify and reach out to potential board members.
 - c. Each board member asked to think of 1-2 possible recruits.
- 7. Other Board Business
 - a. School calendar

- b. Includes 2 additional PD days. These align with scheduled PD days for DPS.
 - c. Laurel moves, Ali seconds, passes.
8. Wrap Up & Upcoming Agenda Items
- a. Next meeting February 21st
 - b. Board reflections on what is going well or not.
 - i. Appreciate and continue board training.
 - ii. More board activities to connect with the community.
 - iii. Board meetings and activities organization has been good.
 - iv. Proactive and focus on policy.
 - v. Accessibility to documents and materials has been good.
 - vi. Board communication has been good.
 - vii. Enthusiasm for supporting Kathryn and the Executive committee.
 - viii. Vision and focus on the equity statement.
 - ix. Earnest support for the school.
 - x. Willingness and wanting to be heard and support school.
 - xi. Make sure that we have enough members and participation to ensure that the board functions optimally.
 - xii. Appreciate the willingness of the board to step up and contribute.
 - xiii. Kathryn's efforts to support the board.
 - c. January 31st, 6:30-8:00 Family Council event in the school cafeteria. Board participation requested.
9. Adjournment 5:32pm
- a. Kelley moves to adjourn. Juana Rosa seconds. Passes.



Keri Melmed, Board Chair _____

01/10/2024