

Odyssey School of Denver Board of Directors
Wednesday, October 15, 2025
4:00 pm - 6:00 pm

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 - 4:04 pm
2. Roll call & acknowledgments of conflicts of interest
 - a. Present = Amanda Brown, Paul Cindric, Travis Haley, Alex Hannum, Kelley Krupicka, Ryan Lally, Laurel Lenz, Pete Martinez, Erin Peikin-Sekar, Clarissa Pohlman, Melia Repko-Erwin, Caitlin Vaughan Sekar, Emily Wheat, Jeff Williams.
 - b. Absent = Patrick Lane.
 - c. No conflicts
3. Move to approve agenda
 - a. Caitlin moves and Emily seconds. Passes.
4. Vote to approve September minutes.
 - a. Caitlin moves, Emily seconds. Passes.
5. Public comment
 - a. None
6. Ryan presented a Finance update.
 - a. Positive change in fund balance of +\$118K for 2025-6.
 - b. Includes PPR for current enrollment of 329 students and increased vehicle maintenance expense.
 - c. Jessie Seibert, CPA presented results of the Odyssey financial audit.
 - i. Auditor of the school for the past 6 years.
 - ii. Gave an "unmodified" opinion - which indicates there were no concerns with the financials and is the same as last year.
 - iii. Audit involves testing and evaluation of records.
 - iv. Noted that the school's net cash position increased by \$252,000
 - v. Local revenue increased by \$328,000 - includes donations.
 - vi. State revenue increased by \$435,000
 - vii. Federal funding reduced by \$153,000
 - d. The board will need to accept the audit.
 - i. Ryan moves, Emily seconds, passes.
7. Pete presented the ED update.
 - a. Highlights
 - i. Full enrollment (329).
 - ii. Crew trips ending.

- iii. Focus on school-wide norms and expectations
 - iv. Student led conferences last week
 - v. MS electives have changed (every 6 weeks)
 - vi. Family events hosted by family council
- b. Looking ahead
 - i. Olivia will share a presentation of MS SWOT analysis.
 - ii. Open houses - October 16 (all grades) and November 6 (middle school specific)
 - iii. Fall run festival (trunk or treat organized by Palmer families)
 - iv. Work with ReSchool Colorado - "Mapping real world learning"
 - 1. Will interview past families/alumni to map the impact of the EL learning curriculum. Intangible as well as academic impacts will be evaluated.
- c. Current enrollment - 39-46 per grade for K-5; 25-27 for 6-8th.
- d. EL work plan updates - includes data analysis and coaching on instruction.
- e. 6th grade MS enrollment.
 - i. A letter was shared with 5th grade families to inform them about the choice process and confirm that space will be available for all families that choose to stay. Pete summarized the letter.
 - ii. Pete will send a poll to 5th grade families as open enrollment comes to a close.
- 8. Charter renewal update
 - a. DPS board will vote on the renewal November 13 from 4:30-6:30 pm
 - b. Pete will reach out to the community for letters of support and a small group of individuals to provide remarks to DPS in support of the renewal.
- 9. Adventure program strategic planning.
 - a. Pete wants to engage with the community to update planning for the adventure program.
 - b. Shared a request for proposals (RFP) and scope of work.
 - i. Evaluate program
 - ii. Analyze financial model, staffing, partnerships.
 - iii. Engage key stakeholders.
 - iv. Strategic outdoor adventure program.
 - v. Timeline - November-April.
 - vi. Budget = \$10-20K.
- 10. Executive Committee Update
 - a. DPS school board election in November.
 - i. Odyssey School does not support individual candidates.
 - ii. Board members can engage or not according to their preferences.
 - iii. District 3 and At large positions are most likely to impact Odyssey.
- 11. Development committee update
 - a. Colorado Gives day opens in 2 weeks.
 - i. 3 streams= recurring donors, one-time giving, match fulfillment.
 - ii. Most donors in past years were from the Denver metro area, but a few from other areas in Colorado or the nation. Average monthly donation is \$44, one time is \$196.
 - iii. Discussion of plans for this year's events.
 - iv. The board should have 100% participation.
 - v. Educate the community on the need / why for giving.
 - vi. Discussion of how to best benefit from the Colorado Gives Day incentives.
- 12. Wrap up and topics for future meetings.
 - a. Next meeting November 19.
 - i. Colorado gives day
 - ii. ED evaluation
- 13. Caitlin moves to adjourn, Emily seconds. Passes.
 - a. The meeting adjourned at 5:27 pm.



11/19/2025