

Odyssey School of Denver Board of Directors

Wednesday, Dec 17, 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 - 4:07 pm
2. Roll call & acknowledgments of conflicts of interest
 - a. Present = Amanda Brown, Travis Haley, Alex Hannum, Ryan Lally, Patrick Lane, Laurel Lenz, Pete Martinez, Melia Repko-Erwin, Erin Peikin-Sekar, Clarissa Pohlman, Caitlin Vaughan Sekar, Emily Wheat, Jeff Williams.
 - b. Absent = Paul Cindric, Kelley Krupicka.
 - c. No conflicts
3. Move to approve agenda
 - a. Caitlin moves and Ryan seconds. Passes.
4. Vote to approve October minutes.
 - a. Caitlin moves, Alex seconds. Passes.
5. Public comment
 - a. None
6. ED update
 - a. Events
 - i. 10 days of giving
 - ii. Exhibition nights
 - iii. Middle School open house
 - iv. Community meetings
 - v. YO buddies and MS clubs
 - b. Upcoming
 - i. Auction
 - ii. Learning expeditions
 - iii. Spring crew trips (2 in winter)
 - c. EL work plan
 - i. School-wide norms and expectations (culture).
 - ii. Integrating habits of a learner focus after winter break.
 - d. Adventure program strategic planning
 - i. 3 proposals to evaluate
 - ii. Focus: Staffing, funding, partnership, risk management
 - iii. 3-5 year and 90 day plans
 - iv. timeframe : January - April

- v. Budget: \$10-20 K
- e. Staff Council
 - i. Light agenda in November
 - ii. December meeting tomorrow
- f. Question about staffing vacancies
 - i. All openings are filled for the start of next year.
- g. Finance committee update.
 - i. Projected change in fund balance is similar to last month (\$144K vs \$117K).
 - ii. \$18K due to savings from mid-year resignations
 - iii. \$10K savings from EL contract (grant for \$6200)
 - iv. The forecast does not include costs for adventure strategic planning.
 - v. Will need to vote on an amended budget at the January meeting.
 - vi. School finance formula -
 - 1. Recent changes impact Odyssey and other schools.
 - 2. Pete, Travis, and Ryan met with Representative Lindsay Gilcrist to discuss.
 - 3. There may be some revisions in the current legislative session that could improve the formula or change how this is implemented.
 - vii. Administrative fees will likely increase in future years due to declining enrollment and increased needs for special education.
- h. Development committee update.
 - i. Colorado Gives day update. Will discuss plans and changes in the January meeting.
 - ii. Total for year thus far is \$51,794
 - iii. Gratitude cards for
- 7. Executive session under C.R.S. §24-6-402(4)(f): Personnel matters
 - a. Caitlin moves, Jeff seconds, entered exec session at 4:38 pm
 - b. Caitlin moves to exit executive session, Travis seconds, leave executive session at 5:23 pm
- 8. Executive session under C.R.S. §24-6-402(4)(e): Determining contract negotiation strategies
 - a. Caitlin moves, Alex seconds, entered exec session at 5:24 pm
 - b. Caitlin moves to exit executive session, Travis seconds, leave executive session at 6:26 pm
- 9. Wrap up and topics for future meetings.
 - a. Our next meeting is on January 21.
 - i. ED evaluation
- 10. Caitlin moves to adjourn, Laurel seconds. Passes.
 - a. The meeting adjourned at 6:28 pm.



1/21/2025

Caitlin Vaughan Sekar, Board Chair