

Odyssey School of Denver Board of Directors

Tuesday, May 25, 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 = Paul Cindric, Travis Haley, Alex Hannum, Kelley Krupicka, Ryan Lally, Pete Martinez, Melia Repko-Erwin, Erin Peikin-Sekar, Caitlin Vaughan Sekar, Jeff Williams, Patrick Lane.
 - b. Absent = Emily Wheat, Clarissa Pohlman, Laurel Lenz, Amanda Brown
 - c. No conflicts
3. Move to approve agenda
 - a. Caitlin moves and Jeff seconds. Passes.
4. Vote to approve March minutes.
 - a. Caitlin moves, Jeff seconds. Passes.
5. Public comment
 - a. None
6. ED update
 - a. Pete updates on highlights since the last meeting, including the talent show, Family Council movie night, fieldwork, end of crew trip season.
 - b. Staffing update- update on hirings and outstanding openings.
 - c. Update on end of year events
 - d. Status of strategic planning update and next steps
 - e. Staff council update - survey around the EL practices model - Pete to report out in June, Paul updates on potential for bringing afterschool enrichments in-house and to offer more options.
7. Finance Committee update
 - a. Board Financials
 - i. Ryan walks through the state PPR revenue formula
 1. FY 26-27 PPR for Odyssey will be the same as FY 25-26 + 1% increase
 2. Future years (through FY 29-30 will be old PPR formula + 1%, use of new formula for FY 30-31 onward
 3. This results in a projected negative fund balance for FY 27-28 onward as cost growth outstrips budget increases
 4. Carol answers questions about the specifics of the model
 - b. Review and Discuss FY 26/27 budget

- i. Ryan walks through the headlines of the 26/27 budget, including staff head count, retention bonuses, and no material expense changes from 25/26
 - ii. Ryan lays out the action plan (25/26 and onward for 26/27) for addressing the future gap between revenue and expenses - PPR monitoring, review of expenses, facility costs, fundraising, enrollment growth
 - iii. Board plans further discussion on fundraising and future-year levers at the retreat.
 - c. Vote to Approve FY 26/27 budget and approve Hoelting & Co. as the auditors
 - i. Ryan moves, Jeff seconds, Passes
8. Executive Committee update
- a. Board retreat scheduled June 23, 9-3, Caitlin walks through proposed schedule
 - b. Board vacancies and introduction to new member candidates
 - i. New slate/positions:
 - 1. Erin as incoming chair and Jeff as Secretary
 - 2. Ryan and Travis to extend to another term on the board
 - 3. New community Board members - Austen Kassinger, Stephan Marsh, Whitney Woods
 - 4. New family rep - Kelly McLeod
 - c. Vote to approve candidates for the board for 3 year term starting June 2026
 - i. Caitlin moves, Alex seconds, Passes
9. Wrap up and topics for future meetings.
- a. Caitlin moves to adjourn, Patrick seconds. Passes.
 - b. The meeting adjourned at 5:37 pm.



June 23, 2026

Caitlin Vaughan Sekar, Board Chair