

OCS Public Board Meeting Minutes

Date July 15th, 2026

Location Odyssey Conference Room and Teleconference

Start Time: Public Meeting at 6:00pm Eastern Standard Time (live and via zoom, see invite below)

Attendance: Present: President Georgia Kollias (GK), Vice President Dimitri Dandolos (DD), Secretary Bridget Davis (BD), Treasurer Costas Fountzoulas (CF), Monica Loughman (ML), Vivian Giannakakis (VG), Tricia Fitzharris (TF), Ian Chambers (IC), Kristen Turner (KT)

Absent: Polyxeni Bakopoulou (PB), Joel Porter (JP)

Agenda

- Call to order
 - Time: 06:05 pm
 - Initials: GK
- Pledge of Allegiance
- Standard Order of Business
 - Public Comments
 - Joel Porter as new board member to receive public comments
 - To welcome new board members President Georgia Kollias started the meeting by reading the by-laws as they pertain to the board and its primary function of governance, and their responsibility to review finances, strategy and policy with careful deliberation, ethically and judiciously, for the good of the school and its students.
 - Previous Minutes
 - **Motion** to approve minutes as presented for the meeting on June 17th
 - (IC) 1st and (ML) 2nd
 - Approved unanimously
 - Head of School Report- presented by
 - School-wide Goal #1: Project Updates and Approvals, Bldg 27 floor completion, Grand Opening, First Day Opening
 - The Certificate of Occupancy for the second-floor renovation of Building 27 was received on July 7, 2026. Staff are now moving into the new space and preparing classrooms and offices throughout the summer for the start of the school year.
 - School-wide Goal #2: Beginning of year PD, logistics, hiring, preparations of space, student scheduling
 - Schools are finalizing staffing, professional development, classroom setup, and student schedules to ensure a smooth start to the new school year.
 - School-wide Goal #3: 2026-2027 Enrollment
 - Student enrollment continues to grow each year, and OCS is on track to meet its enrollment goals through strong student recruitment and retention efforts.

- School-wide Goal #4: School Action Plans
 - Principals are developing school action plans aligned with district priorities and student achievement goals to guide instructional improvement throughout the upcoming school year.
- Building-level Updates
 - K-5 Updates: Schools are continuing to hire staff, administer kindergarten DIAL assessments, and begin summer curriculum writing and PBIS planning. Administrative teams are finalizing schedules, building procedures, and professional development, with leadership also participating in professional learning focused on accelerating student achievement.
 - Middle School: The Middle School has completed its move into Building 22 and continues preparing for its largest enrollment to date. Hiring is nearing completion, with a few positions remaining, and families will be invited to a Parent Orientation Night in August to introduce new initiatives and strengthen school partnerships.
 - High School: High School staffing is more than 90% complete, and students achieved strong AP results, with 54% of exams earning scores of 3 or higher despite increased participation. Summer programs, including the American Exchange Project and Camp Odyssey for incoming freshmen, are underway, with orientation events and summer academic expectations in place to prepare students for the new school year.
 - CIA
 - Professional Development
 - Planning is underway for New Teacher Orientation and staff professional development to ensure educators have the resources, training, and support needed for a successful school opening. Sessions will focus on curriculum, instructional expectations, district initiatives, and operational procedures.
 - Curriculum
 - The curriculum team is preparing for the transition to Amplify CKLA 3rd Edition and developing resources for the new Amplify Desmos Math pilot. Work includes updating materials, creating pacing guides, aligning assessments, and supporting teachers with implementation.
 - Instruction
 - No updates at this time.
 - Assessment
 - The assessment team is collecting and analyzing DeSSA, i-Ready, and AP data while developing a testing coordinator manual to support consistent assessment practices.
 - Climate & Culture: OCS is strengthening schoolwide support systems through a partnership with the University of Delaware focused on MTSS implementation, while expanding family engagement through RISE sessions, feedback opportunities, and new programming for the 2026–2027 school year. Development is also underway for a districtwide Climate, Culture, and Engagement Survey to support continuous improvement efforts.



- Transportation Report: Actively interviewing and training individuals who have applied to be drivers so that we are adequately staffed for the upcoming school year.
- Special Education Report: The Special Education team is preparing for the summer program beginning July 14, with 50 students registered and staff participating in an inservice day prior to launch. The team continues supporting hiring efforts, planning August para institute professional development, and preparing paperwork and transition meetings for incoming students.
- IT Report: IT has received 1,000 new Chromebooks and is configuring and distributing devices based on ELT guidance. Summer technology projects are underway, including building moves, classroom technology installations, and completion of Immersion School clocks, phones, paging, and digital signage. The team is preparing student and staff accounts for the upcoming school year, piloting the Red Rover time tracking system, and transitioning website hosting to the new platform.
- Facilities Report: Construction is underway on the new main office, administrative offices, conference room, and additional storage space in Building 20. Summer maintenance continues with touch-up painting scheduled across all buildings and custodial teams completing deep cleaning projects in Buildings 20, 21, and 22.
- Food Services Report: The Nutrition Services team continues supporting summer camp and ESY programs while updating café equipment and preparation areas to improve meal delivery efficiency during the school year. Staffing is strong and the team is well-prepared for the upcoming school year.
- Fundraising and Development
 - OCS is preparing for several upcoming events, including PTO uniform sales, the annual Resource Fair, New Teacher Orientation, staff return, the Back to School Bash, and the first days of school on August 26–27. The new school website has officially launched, and grant applications continue to progress, including the Consolidated Grant, Opportunity Grant, and tobacco prevention grant. Enrollment remains on track to meet yearly goals, while Athletics prepares for the fall season with a focus on student-athlete development, engagement, and goal setting. The PTO continues supporting families through uniform sales and school spirit initiatives.
- Safety and Security
 - OCS is working to hire a constable for the 2026–2027 school year and is exploring the purchase and installation of classroom lock blocks across campus, pending budget availability. The goal is to complete installation by the end of the 2026–2027 school year.
- Out of State Travel
 - Camp Odyssey - Camp Saginaw, Oxford, PA - Freshman 8/26-8/28, Seniors 8/28
 - **Motion** to approve OOS Travel as presented (IA) 1st and (BD) 2nd
 - Approved unanimously
- Greek Program Report- presented by Ioanna Lekkakou
 - Dr. Lekkakou reported on her recent visit to Greece, where she strengthened Odyssey's international partnerships and represented the Greek-American charter school community through the Greek Ministry of Foreign Affairs' Philoxenia Program. Highlights included signing a Memorandum of Understanding with the University of Western



Macedonia, meeting with the National and Kapodistrian University of Athens to explore future collaborations, and participating in meetings with Greek government, educational, and cultural leaders to advance Greek language education and international partnerships. The Board acknowledged Dr. Lekkakou's efforts in expanding Odyssey's global collaborations and visibility, and asked for more information regarding how her trip benefitted the school financially and academically. Dr. Lekkakou's and Mr. Pappas's travel expenses for their visits to Athens were personally funded. Odyssey Charter School did not incur any costs related to these trips.

- Financial Report- presented by Debra Wishnow
 - Total Revenue for FY26
 - Projected: \$62,912,453
 - Received: \$65,204,659
 - June: \$510,006
 - Increase: \$2,292,207, 104.22%
 - Expenditures
 - Projected: \$51,933,293
 - Expended: \$55,809,524
 - June: \$3,594,660
 - Increase: \$3,876,231, 107.46%
 - **Motion** to approve the web report as presented 1st (IA) 2nd (CF)
 - Approved unanimously
 - Proposed Budget for FY27
 - Revenue
 - Total Projected Revenue: \$57,914,935
 - Increase: \$1,241,105.61, 2.19%
 - Expenses
 - Total Projected Expenses: \$51,957,036
 - Decrease: \$3,852,488
 - Due to the delay in receiving information, the board moved to motion on this proposed budget at the August board meeting to give the board a chance to review. The President requested that new board members be sent the prior two years of annual budget actuals as presented to the board by the administration, so that the board as a whole is in a better position to review. The board also acknowledged that the delay in receiving financial information was due to the concurrent delay in the financial director receiving the information necessary from the State too close to the date of Board Meetings. As such, the Board requested to look at the logistics of selecting new board meeting dates so that board members have at least 5 days to review financial information prior to board meetings.
- Committee Reports
 - Finance Committee: met last week and looked at preliminary budget
 - CBOC: none at this time, will start back in September
 - PTO: none at this time
- Good of the School
 - Board member Ian Chambers shared that OCS should utilize social media advertising more effectively to highlight school successes and achievements, helping more families and

community members become aware of the positive work happening across the school.

Requests a social media and advertising report at the next board meeting with details on reach, frequency and effectiveness.

- Elias Pappas shares Grand Opening Celebration of the Immersion School on Sep.9th
- Elias Pappas shares October 17th 5k Run from AHEPA organization
- Elias Pappas shares news of having large Gala to celebrate Odyssey's 20th Anniversary
 - Ian Chambers offer to serve on a committee to support Gala planning
- Elias Pappas shares idea for Board-Admin Retreat where the Board and Administration can discuss all things Odyssey in August/September
- **Motion** to adjourn- (BD) 1st and (IC) 2nd
 - Approved unanimously
 - Meeting adjourned at 08:02 pm