

OCS Public Board Meeting Minutes

Date September 16, 2026
Location Odyssey Conference Room and Teleconference
Start Time Public Meeting at 6:00pm Eastern Standard Time (live and via zoom, see below invite)
Attendance Present: President Georgia Kollias (GK), Vice President Dimitri Dandolos (DD), Joel Porter (JP), Monica Loughman (ML), Vivian Giannakakis (VG), Polyxeni Bakopoulou (PB), Tricia Fitzharris (TF), Ian Chambers (IC)
Absent: Secretary Bridget Davis (BD), Treasurer Costas Fountzoulas (CF)

Agenda

- Call to Order – Noting present technical difficulties causing delay to meeting start
 - Time: 6:04 pm
 - Initials: GK
- Pledge of Allegiance
- Standard Order of Business
 - **Public Comments**
 - GK introduced public comment time with reminder that the board may not be able to directly respond to public comments given
 - Parent: Mr. Anthony Quattrociocchi, father of a student in the Lower School, addressed the board regarding school security measures. He expressed concerns related to certain safety procedures, systems, and preparedness, citing prior communication with school administration and lack of follow-up. Mr. Quattrociocchi requested that student safety remain a top priority and urged the school to move forward with available security enhancements. Board leadership acknowledged the concerns and indicated that the matter would be reviewed with administration, requesting that any outstanding grievance be escalated to Mr. Papas.
(NOTE: Towards the end of the comment, the recording device unexpectedly shut down, thus cutting the recording short. The board consented to Mr. Quattrociocchi's request to restate the comment later in the meeting when the recording device was restarted and stable. This summary considers the statements made in both comments presented by Mr. Quattrociocchi.)
 - **Previous Minutes**
 - Motion to approve minutes as presented for the meeting on August 15, 2026
 - (DD) 1st and (VG) 2nd
 - Approved Unanimously
 - **Head of School Report-** presented by Juliana Sheehan
 - **School Opening Update:** Administration reported a successful start to the 2026-2027 school year across all grade levels, including continued implementation of PBIS and MTSS initiatives, successful Back-to-School Nights, family engagement activities and Parent Council launch, completion of student diagnostic testing and benchmark assessments, teacher goal-setting meetings and upcoming observation cycles.
 - **Curriculum, Instruction, and Assessment:** Updates included professional development focused on the Science of Reading, partnership with Whitehead Ross to implement a student-focused instructional

walkthrough model, Amplify Desmos Math pilot implementation in grades K-11, continued assessment analysis including iReady, AP, SAT, and other accountability measures, and support services and training related to multilingual learners.

- **Business Office:** Administration reported that primary efforts have focused on completion of the first payroll cycle of the school year, verification of employee salary placements and VOE's, implementation of state-funded salary increases for teachers, and a comparative salary study against other Delaware public schools will be presented at a future board meeting.
- **Culture and Climate:** Highlights included exploration of a partnership with the University of Delaware to strengthen MTSS systems, increased family communication and feedback opportunities, development of a district-wide culture, climate, and engagement survey through Panorama, and expansion of family engagement programming during the school year.
- **Transportation Report:** Administration reported all transportation routes are fully staffed, continued recruitment of additional drivers for redundancy purposes, successful implementation of new dispatch and field trip software, completion of the new on-campus bus parking facility with an estimated annual savings of approximately \$64,000 through elimination of off-site parking costs
- **Special Education Report:** Professional development for paraprofessionals focused on behavior support and de-escalation strategies, review of IEP development standards and student goal writing, and coaching supports established for newly hired special education staff members.
- **IT Report:** Hiring of an Odyssey graduate to support IT operations and continued reduction of technology support ticket backlog
- **Facilities Report:** Additional custodial staffing assignments and promotion of a lead custodian, HVAC and boiler system upgrades across multiple campus buildings, and participation in state energy-efficiency reimbursement programs.
 - **Campus Power Outage:** Administration reviewed two recent power outages: a campus infrastructure-related outage and a utility-related outage attributed to Delmarva Power. Discussion included ongoing insurance claims, infrastructure repairs, existing generator capacity, long-term options for system redundancy and resiliency, and potential grant funding opportunities for future infrastructure improvements.
- **Safety and Security:** Board members discussed the safety concerns raised during public comment and requested a comprehensive review of safety and security expenditures, better visibility into safety grant allocations, confirmation that expenditures align with state safety requirements. Administration reported the school has submitted a Safety and Security Grant application, and all facilities are compliant with state safety review processes. Planned projects include:
 - Enhanced bus lighting
 - Expanded camera coverage
 - Migration to cloud-based video storage
 - Additional communications equipment
 - Funding support for school constable services
- **Food Service Report:** Installation of new serving line equipment, daily service of approximately 1,500 breakfasts and lunches, addition of five food service employees, and catering support for school and staff events.
- **Fundraising and Development:**
 - Upcoming events include:

NOTE: These Agenda Items may not be considered in sequence. Pursuant to 29 Del. C. § 10004(e)(2), this Agenda may be changed to include additional items, including executive sessions, or to delete items that arise at the time of the meeting.

Initial Agenda Posted: [mmmm dd, yyyy]

Topic: OCS Monthly Board Meeting – Special Public Session

Time: [mmmm dd, yyyy HH:MM] PM Eastern Time (US and Canada)

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/88489803681?pwd=T0c1UE9peTk4aytZckpjeUhmQXFEZz09>

Meeting ID: 884 8980 3681 Password: 130806

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- Board and Administration Retreat (September 23)
- Trunk or Treat (October 16)
- AHEPA 5K (October 17)
- Delaware Department of Education Visit (November)
- 20th Anniversary Gala Planning Activities
- Marketing: Continued partnership with Delaware Today, production of three new promotional commercials, and expansion of social media engagement initiatives.
- Enrollment: Current enrollment exceeds budget projections (Budgeted for 2,500 students, current is 2,514 students). Enrollment growth continues to be carefully monitored to avoid over-enrollment and maintain class-size targets.
- Athletics: Implementation of the "Win the Day" student-athlete planning program, beginning in 2027-2028, all Odyssey high school athletic programs will compete in DIAA Division II, boys Volleyball will compete in Division I.
- **Greek Program Report:** Professional development focused on Greek-language immersion instruction, successful Immersion School Grand Opening celebration, attendance by numerous educational, cultural, and community leaders, recognition from representatives of the Greek community and embassy, and completion of the new Greece-themed playground inspired by the island of Symi.
- **Out of State Travel:**
 - A more efficient out-of-state travel approval process was presented to the board that would allow all OOS travel be voted on at the beginning of every school year that is within allocated budget. Only unbudgeted travel will require board approval moving forward.
 - **Motion** to approve all out-of-state travel for the 2026-2027 school year
 - 1st (DD) and 2nd (TF)
 - Approved unanimously
 - Annual OOS travel budget presented with historical comparisons per administrative category and student travel assistance. This will be updated quarterly for board review.
 - **Motion** to approve the annual out-of-state travel budget with historical comparisons as presented.
 - 1st (DD) and 2nd (IC)
 - Approved unanimously
- **Committee Reports**
 - Citizens Budget Oversight Committee (CBOC): No meeting was held due to reporting deadlines. Committee meeting planned for late September.
 - Finance Committee: Committee did not meet due to timing of August financial reporting. August financial statements will be reviewed and presented at the October Board Meeting.
- **Financial Report**
 - Beginning immediately, board meetings will review the previous month's financial statements rather than the current month's statements to allow adequate time to collect data, review, revise, and understand prior to voting for its approval.
 - 1st (IC) and 2nd (ML)
 - Approved unanimously

- **New Business**

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- Safety & Security Committee Discussion
 - Following public comment and board discussion regarding campus security, the board discussed the creation of a Safety and Security Committee. This committee would focus on collaborating with facilities staff and leadership to conduct a formal review of campus safety measures, seek council from industry experts, engage parents and teachers, provide recommendations and oversight of safety-related expenditures and initiatives.
 - (GK) nominated (JP) to chair the committee and agreed to formally establish the committee at the October meeting.
 - (JP) Committed to developing a committee charter and scope and distribute to the rest of the board prior to the October meeting.
 - Parent Representative (ML) and Greek Teacher Representative (PP) volunteered to join the committee.
 - Parent Follow-Up
 - Board members recommended directly communicating with the parent who provided public comment to demonstrate that the board is actively addressing the concerns raised.
- Board Vacancy
 - Recruitment efforts for a new parent representative are underway. Applications are being accepted and a Non-AHEPA nominating committee will be constituted.
- Upcoming Events
 - Board Leadership Summit on September 23, 2026
 - Board governance Training on October 5, 2026
 - Trunk or Treat on October 16, 2026
 - AHEPA 5K on October 17, 2026
 - Next Board Meeting on October 21, 2026
- Motion to adjourn
 - 1st (JP) and 2nd (DD)
 - Approved unanimously
 - Meeting adjourned at 7:14 PM

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