

APPROVED MINUTES

Odyssey Community School - Board of Trustees
Meeting Agenda
Monday, September 28, 2020
4:30 PM
Virtual Meeting
Joining info

meet.google.com/jdt-teev-ggr
(US)+1 601-908-5008
PIN: 335 051 848#

1. Call to Order

Time 4:32 pm

By Miriam Lewis

Present: Philip O'Reilly, Cynthia Merrill, Sarah Althen, Jessica Swann,
Annie Busby, Lillanya Dantzler, Walter King, Kevin Bieler, Miriam Lewis

Absent: Lisa Kimyachi

Invited Presenter: Kaiya Hill

2. Public Comment

Speakers will be recognized by the President and identify himself/herself by name and address and proceed with his/her comments. All persons will be limited to five (5) minutes. The total time allotted for Public Comment shall not exceed twenty (20) minutes and is at the discretion of the Board and may not address specific personnel issues.

None

3. Approve minutes of August 31, 2020

(Attachment 1)

MOTION by Lillanya Dantzler

SECOND by Cynthia Merrill

VOTE unanimous

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4. Reopening Odyssey

- a. Parent board members report a smooth transition with the hybrid mode. Technology access has worked well and teachers are doing a great job with creating schedules and being accessible. Challenges were mentioned including navigating through Google and the schedules as well as differences in personalities of students with some able to remain engaged in distance learning while it is more challenging for others. A concern was also brought up about some disconnect in rules with the school and MELC. Board members were split on their comfort level with students returning full-time with whole class sizes. In discussing a decision for re-opening in November, board members would like to assess the situation at the next board meeting. Concerns were mentioned about wanting to maintain all safety precautions; however, with maintaining social distancing and keeping class numbers low, the issue of time for teachers to teach online for remote learners was a concern.
- b. Community Health Service Contract
Dr. O'Reilly reported that he would like to pursue options in creating a relationship with a health center to assist with behavioral health issues as we currently only have one counselor for 328 students. He reported he has been speaking with the Community Health Center of Middletown as he had a relationship with them during his tenure in Portland. Funding would be through a grant. This would ensure that access to behavioral health services would no longer be an issue for families and that it would work with families who do not have insurance. CHC would need a space within the school. The board agreed to moving forward and Dr. O'Reilly would reach out to have a representative attend the next meeting.

5. Executive Director's Report

- a. Introduction of new business manager- Dr. O'Reilly introduced Kaiya Hill as the school's new business manager. He shared her resume and the beginning draft of the monthly updates of the budget that includes a summary of expenses and revenue. It was reported that at $\frac{1}{4}$ of the way through the year, the school has spent 30% of appropriations.
- b. Focus Areas - This will be discussed in next month's meeting.
- c. PCLB Year 2 Grant - Dr. O'Reilly presented that the grant has been written for SchoolWorks and the school has scheduled meetings to discuss the ongoing relationship with PCLB. Annie reported that there has been a focus on the action plan with collaborative planning, higher-order thinking, the Classroom Visitation Tool which teachers will be trained on 10/2, and leadership coaching.

6. Principal's Report

- a. Re-opening
Annie Busby spoke about the re-opening of school and how well students have adjusted, how hard staff is working, and how flexible and supportive families have been. She reported on state guidelines for attendance and that it must be a combination of attendance in live meetings as well as work completion. Teachers

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have reported any disconnected students and administration has reached out to families. In addition, all students can now receive free breakfast and lunch every day. This is still a work in progress as the organization of ensuring that all students are receiving the correct number of meals to be sent home for at-home days.

b. MAP Testing

Jessica Swann spoke about the school's use of NWEA MAP for school wide assessment. This is typically done 3x a year and was not completed remotely in Spring. For the fall, students are testing remotely. The first testing day was

Friday,

September 25th and 93% of students participated. The other 7% of students would be contacted to make-up the test.

8. Parent's Report

No COOP activity to report

9. Teacher's Report

Kevin Bieler reported the results of the staff survey sent out by teacher representatives. Common stressors included lack of time, too much information to consume, and many resources to learn. Teachers felt that time to plan, grade, and digest information were all needed as well as consistent and specific information. It was reported that processes such as attendance and meal ordering have been more streamlined.

10. Executive Session to discuss Potential Real Estate Transaction

MOTION by Lillanya Dantzler

SECOND by Walter King

Time In 5:51 pm

Time Out 5:57 pm

Adjournment time 5:58 pm

MOTION by Lillanya Dantzler to adjourn

SECOND by Cynthia Merrill