

OCC Meeting Minutes
June 17, 2020

Attendance:

Mayra Cruz (Principal)	Hilary Benson (At Large)
Andrea Egan (Chair)	Laura Kleinmann (Teacher)
Kevin Kurzendoerfer (Treasurer)	Pam Ross (Teacher)
Scott Dafflitto (Secretary)	Jaime Solano (Teacher)
Catherine Depret (Fundraising Chair)	Zaneta Han
Catrin Morris (Calendar & Community Chair)	Lauren Pena
Francisco Serrano (Classroom Parent Chair)	Adam Raney
Jessica D'Amico (Information & Process Chair)	Daniel Obregon
Purnima Boominathan (Educational Investment Director / LSAT Liaison)	Laura Gamse
Mark Bromley (Fundraising Strategy)	Santiago Paz
Elizabeth Ruiz (At Large - Finance)	Galey Modan
Monique Worrell (At Large - Community Events)	Alexandra Gerson
Claudia Aguilar (At Large - Community Events)	Becky Sachs
	Elizabeth Vaquera

Opening - Introductions and Campus Word (Chair and Principal Cruz)

- Meeting was called to order at 8:30pm.
- Principal announced the four OCC teacher representatives for SY20-21:
 - Eva Mazier (8th grade math)
 - Veronica McKillop (1st grade English)
 - Lauren Peña (ELL Adams)
 - Matilde Sarmiento (Math TAG 4th-8th)
- Principal Cruz reported on results from the Oyster family survey.
 - LSAT provided feedback on initial survey drafts.
 - 210 families and nearly 100 students responded.
 - Thursday and Friday faculty sessions will go over high level trends and will be facilitated. Then, grade level teams will receive processed feedback and recommendations on how to interpret the data.
 - Significant trends include:
 - 30% families would consider borrowing technology assets if available. (School will follow up with these families over the summer.)
 - There is a need to improve student motivation and have more live instruction - particularly in the morning.
 - Large trend showing students need to receive more feedback on submitted work.
 - There were communication challenges around assignments, expectations, due dates, and feedback.
 - Student feedback showed that many students struggled with motivation and relied on their peers, and many didn't meet with a counselor or social worker but wish they had.

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- The school will share the survey results with the community in the next few weeks once it has analyzed the data and identified next steps.
- Responding to questions about next school year, Principal Cruz emphasized that her approach with the OA community will continue to be honesty and transparency.
 - There is currently no timeline for releasing a final plan for the fall. The school year will begin on August 31. There will be a two week “bridge” program for rising 3rd and 6th graders, but the city must be solidly in phase 2 of reopening before considering in-person instruction. The bridge will be an opportunity for schools to practice the policies and protocols for safe in-person instruction.
 - Principals have raised concerns related to positive cases at summer/bridge sites and other health and safety issues related to beginning the school year with in person instruction. Principals have been asked to stand by, but the school year would begin as planned on August 31.
- DCPS is preparing the Oyster blacktop for placement of the trailers and has already installed new flooring in the library and prepared two new classrooms.
- OA is about 95% re-enrolled for SY20-21, and is the highest enrolled school in DCPS! OA will also have some space to bring some students off the waitlist.

Approval of Minutes

- The Board approved minutes from January, February, and April meetings.

Treasurer’s Financial Report

- Final status for the fiscal year:
 - Raised over \$195,000
 - Spent over \$225,000
 - Deficit largely due to auction cancellation
- Cash position
 - \$22,000 checking
 - \$24,000 savings
 - \$100,000 Schwab
- Treasurer will be out from the end of June through July

Updates

- Blue Ribbon School Nomination - OA’s application is submitted, and ED did not request any edits. ED encouraged OA to submit a leadership award as well. Awards will be announced in September.
- OCC Board Election - The Election Committee reported on the process for SY20-21 OCC Board elections.
 - The bylaws call for an “in person” election in addition to other methods of voting (e.g., ballot boxes). To satisfy the bylaws and ensure safe voting options during the pandemic, voting will be conducted via a special Zoom call open to the entire school community.

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The OCC will provide notice of an election, including the slate (see below) prior to the election Zoom call. If there is a live nomination or contested vote during the election, the Chair will poll participants for their votes.

- The OCC solicited interest from the OA community on May 18 and June 1 for interest in OCC participation and Board membership. The election committee considered input from the community and current Board members to draw the following proposed slate of candidates.

Posición—Position	<i>Candidatos propuestos por el Comité de Elecciones, OCC</i> <i>Candidates proposed by the OCC Elections Committee</i>
Chair—Presidente	Scott Dafflitto
Secretary—Secretario	Maria Alejandra Ortega
Treasurer—Tesorero	Kevin Kurzendoerfer
Fundraising Chair— Presidente Recaudación de Fondos	Catherine Depret
Calendar & Community Chair – Presidente de Calendario y comunidad:	Catrin Morris
Information & Processes Chair – Presidente de Información y Procesos	Jessica D’Amico
Classroom Parent Chair— Presidente, Madres de los Salones de Clase	Francisco Serrano
Community Events Director— Director de Eventos Comunitarios	Carla Ferris
Technology Coordinator	
Educational Investment Director— Director de Inversión Educativa	Purnima Boominathan
Fundraising Strategy— Estrategía de Recaudación de Fondos	Mark Bromley

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At Large Member - Finance team	Elizabeth Ruiz
At Large Member – Community Team	Monique Worrell
At Large Member - Community Team	Hilary Benson
At Large Member - Community Team	Claudia Aguilar
Immediate Past Chair	Andrea Egan

- Thank you to parents who have reached out to the OCC to express their desire to support the OCC’s work as non-Board members. We recognize Jocelyn Bogden, Laura Gamse, Ana Hilton, and Maria Jimenez who have stepped up. We look forward to working with you next year!

Discussion

- OCC Budget for 2020-2021 - The Treasurer and Chair summarized the proposed OCC Budget, and the Board voted to approve the budget. In general, the budget committee assumed significantly reduced fundraising and some reduced expenses. Key takeaways include:
 - Revenue: \$150,000 (compared to \$318,000 budgeted and \$196,000 actual from 19/20)
 - Expenses: \$185,000
 - Deficit: -\$35,000
 - Field trips, after school sports activities, and professional development were eliminated from the budget.
 - New hires supported by DCPS reduced OCC staffing support costs by approximately \$55,000.
 - Principal will form a teacher committee to work on supply allocations.
 - Principal appreciated that given the uncertainties surrounding next school year, the OCC focused on larger buckets of funding rather than attempting to figure out individual line items.
 - The Board discussed various ideas on how the school could approach supplies and fundraising, including virtual versus physical supply kits, the importance of incorporating fun and joy, and the possibility of a virtual book fair.
- Summer Tasks - The Board considered multiple tasks to complete over the summer. Anyone who wishes to help should reach out to the Chair.
 - A-Z - Elizabeth will lead the project again this year. The Board considered whether to include student emails, and decided to make it an opt-in option for families of students in grades 4-8.
 - Website Updates - If you wish to be part of the Communications Committee, please reach out to the Information and Process Chair. If you have any email communication needs, please send to the calendar and community chair.
 - Welcome Packet - The summer mailer will be only available electronically this year.

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- Back to School - Principal and Chair will set planning meetings and dates for back to school activities and reach out to the rest of the OCC in the next few weeks. There will be a focus this year on recruiting room parents earlier to get new families plugged into class based communications. DCPS will likely transition from Teams to Canvas, which may not work as well with iPads.
- OCC Closet Cleanup - Chair and Hilary will lead, but please reach out if you are willing to help. The teacher lounges and library also will need some help. It's likely that some of that work can begin June 29.

Kudos

- A huge thanks to Jess and Francisco for all their hard work on teacher appreciation and graduation!
- Thank you to the budget and elections committees for their efforts for planning for next year!

Outstanding Discussion

- Ms. Modan initiated a discussion about opportunities for Oyster to partner with another DCPS school to offer support. The attendees raised various potential options to continue to support the OA community through the OA fund while also thinking about ways to identify additional gaps and opportunities for OA families and other families in DCPS (e.g., share best practices from OA fund, identify OA families with children at high need schools, etc.).
- Principal Cruz highlighted the student organized, kid friendly Black Lives Matter march for June 19 at 5:30.

The Board members shared their enormous gratitude for Andrea Egan's hard work, enthusiasm, and professionalism as OCC Chair! Thank you, Andrea!!

Adjourn - The meeting adjourned at 9:50pm.