

OCC Meeting Minutes October 15, 2020

Attendance

Mayra Cruz (Principal)

Scott Dafflitto (Chair)

Andrea Egan (Former Chair)

Kevin Kurzendoerfer (Treasurer)

Catherine Depret (Fundraising Chair)

Elizabeth Ruiz (Finance)

Catrin Morris (Calendar & Community Chair)

Francisco Serrano (Classroom Parent Chair)

Jessica D'Amico (Information & Process Chair)

Purnima Boominathan (Educational Investment
Director /LSAT Liaison)

Carla Ferris (Community Events)

Mark Bromley (Family Engagement)

Monique Worrell (At Large - Community Events)

Claudia Aguilar (At Large - Community Events)

Hilary Benson (At Large)

Zaneta Han (Director, Strategy & Logistics)

Eva Mazier (Teacher Rep)

Veronica McKillop (Teacher Rep)

Lauren Peña (Teacher Rep)

Matilde Sarmiento (Teacher Rep)

Opening & Campus Word (Chair and Principal Cruz)

- The Chair reminded us that the OCC is to benefit all families at OA. Assume the best of other people's intentions and efforts, show patience with each other and with ourselves, and continue to support the best interests of the children who attend Oyster Adams.
- The Chair congratulated Oyster-Adams - the teachers, faculty, staff, parents, and the children for all the tremendous work and effort that has led to a formal recognition by the Department of Education of what we all know already, that Oyster-Adams is a school of excellence!
- The Principal thanked the OCC, OA families, and especially our teachers.

Bright Spots for the School (Principal Cruz)

- Records indicate that multiple classes have full **attendance**.
- All families that have requested them have received **tech devices**, internet access, and/or WiFi hotspots.
- **Enrollment** is funded, so we must make sure that enrollment happens. The District lost about 3,000 children to private schools, moving out of DC, moving out of the country, etc. In October OA had 16 fewer students than expected: 740 down from 756. OA was able to pick up every sibling from the waitlist and therefore we do not anticipate a big enrollment budget cut for next year.

Reopening Plans (Principal Cruz)

- Reopening plans are a bit difficult. The Principal of OA gets her directives from DCPS Senior Leadership.
- DCPS has made a couple of videos on DCPS YouTube that explain reopening in different languages.
- Reopening is scheduled to start on November 9 for PK to 5th grade. Middle school is to remain completely virtual through January 26.

In person:

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- For PK to 5th grade, we will open in-person classrooms. The hybrid option is no longer a possibility. The estimate is 11 students per grade. Almost 90% of our students will still be virtual. These 11 students per grade will be filtered through a DCPS lottery process (e.g. students who are homeless, considered to be at risk or with special needs will have a preference).
- Parents will have the final choice to accept an offered spot. Those 11 students in person are to be staffed by OA's faculty and staff. The selection of OA's faculty and staff is controversial.

CARE Classrooms:

- CARE classrooms will be run by "Canvas and Real Engagement" personnel. These may be staff on OA's rosters but will not be teachers and will not provide in-person teaching. Kids will be on computers and headphones and have the same virtual schedule as they had at home. Social interaction in the CARE classrooms is not allowed.

Could anything prevent reopening?

- Health concerns about the HVAC system in the school could be an issue. Adams has a new system; Oyster has an old system. Some contractors will be coming to see if the systems meet the criteria or can be made compliant by November 6.

Principal's 3 priorities for reopening:

1. Fidelity to our bilingual program's 50/50 model.
2. Following DCPS guidance exactly as written and stated.
3. As little interruption to home routines as possible. That means trying to keep as many kids with their communities as possible, as well as ensuring their access to reliable internet.

Attendee Questions:

- **Can a school opt out of the DCPS plan?** They cannot. However, parents will be able to choose.
- **Are my kids going to lose their teachers?** We are going to try to keep kids with as many familiar faces as possible, given the constraints and the directives we are given by DCPS.
- **How is the air circulation situation in the building?** Good thing about Oyster and Adams is that there are windows in every classroom. Every window will be open to increase the air circulation.
- **Will the classes have an English and Spanish teacher to support the bilingual curriculum?** There are ways to get this: Having a bilingual teacher teach both. Or if we have a monolingual teacher, students receive partial instruction in-person and then log in for instruction in the opposite language. There will not be 2 in-person teachers.
- **Do we expect the schedule to change?** The schedule for in-person classes may be different. Teachers will need their breaks, etc. The virtual schedule should not change.

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- **Will the size of classes change?** We are trying to keep the virtual class as intact as possible, but it will vary per grade.
- **Will we use Adams' facilities?** We do not have approval for this yet but would like to use both buildings during this first phase of reopening. Grade levels could be spread between floors of both buildings, have their own entrances, etc.
- **Is there any plan for COVID testing?** No, there is no planning for COVID testing for students and teachers.

For future discussion:

- We will have to work towards a virtual Term 2. There are new supplies and new things to give to the kids.
- Based on what we thought we were going to have, the teacher community and others gave us the suggestion to put it on a one budget line item and we only decided to spend 1/3 of it as we do not know what the school year will be like. We need to make things happen for Term 2!

Business:

- Board approved June 2020 Minutes

Teacher Representative Update:

- The Term 2 continuation is to be discussed in the next session.

Treasurer Update:

- We have about \$190,000 in cash at the moment.
- We have raised \$73,500 year-to-date, compared to \$121,000 this time last year. The good news is our annual expenditure is \$17,000 against \$184,000 (?) last year.

Fundraising Update:

- We are getting close to opening our virtual store, a great source of income for the school. We have an exciting new design celebrating the 50th year anniversary of the school.

Bank Balances						
Bank of America						
Savings	\$24,196					
Checkings	\$63,302					
Charles Schwab	\$103,000					
Total	\$190,498.00					
Budget & Expenditures						
	Aug 2020	Sep 2020	Oct 2020	Year to Date		
	Actual	Actual	To-Date	Total	Budget	Remaining
Income						
Transfer from Paypal						
Dues & Supplies	\$24,500.00	\$23,150.00	\$23,000.00			
Cancelled field trip		\$4,850.00				
Sales of Product	\$144.20					
Art Grant			\$800.00			
Total Income	\$24,644.20	\$28,000.00	\$23,800.00	\$76,444.20	\$150,000.00	\$73,555.80
Expenses						
Total Administration Support	-\$97.52	-\$84.80	-\$1,810.00	-\$1,992.32	-\$3,000.00	-\$1,007.68
Total Afterschool/Student Activities					\$0.00	\$0.00
Total Classroom & Specials	-\$9,628.05	-\$921.54	\$0.00	-\$10,549.59	-\$55,000.00	-\$44,450.41
Total Events and Programs					-\$15,000.00	
Total Field Trips					\$0.00	
Total Fundraisers	\$0.00	-\$42.35	\$0.00	-\$42.35	-\$25,000.00	-\$24,957.65
Total Curriculum Support					-\$40,000.00	
Total OCC Board Programs	\$0.00	-\$75.40	\$0.00	-\$75.40	-\$14,000.00	-\$13,924.60
Total Staff Salary Support	\$0.00	-\$4,004.13	\$0.00	-\$4,004.13	-\$32,033.00	-\$28,028.87
Virtual Teaching fund		-\$90.00		-\$90.00		
Not Specified		-\$57.62		-\$57.62		
TOTAL	-\$9,725.57	-\$5,275.84	-\$1,810.00	-\$16,811.41	-\$184,033.00	-\$167,221.59