

OCC Meeting Minutes October 28, 2021

In attendance:

Kevin Kurzendoerfer (Treasurer)	Julian Pineda (Principal)
Hilary Benson (Secretary)	Jessica Barton (Parent)
Mark Bromley (Fundraising Strategy Chair)	Michele Ceribelli (Parent)
Catherine Depret (Fundraising Chair)	Ashley Mahoney (Parent)
Jen Jessup (Communications Chair)	Heather Stewart (Parent)
Francisco Serrano (Room Parent Chair)	Magdalena Laguarda (Parent)
Purnima Boominathan (Educational Investment Chair/LSAT Liaison)	Elizabeth Vaquera (Parent)
Elizabeth Ruiz (At Large – Finance)	Cristina (Parent)
Monique Worrell (At Large – Community Events)	Eva Mazier (Teacher Rep)
	Ana López (Teacher Rep)

Unable to attend:

Scott Dafflitto (Chair)
Jess D'Amico (Information & Processes Chair)

Opening & Welcome: (Communications Chair)

- Call to order at 8:37 pm.

Campus Word: (Principal)

- Principal noted that school traditions including the Kindness Walk (Nov. 1, 10am to 11am) and Spirit Week (week before TG) will be observed this year; gift cards for in-need members of the community will be available before Thanksgiving and an Amazon wish list for kids for donations of holiday gifts will be available.
- Principal noted he is working with the science department to get OA STEAM certified.
- Principal will communicate with AP Meliotis to have the coat drive at Adams campus as well.
- The Oyster playground renovations will be delayed, keeping the space available for outdoor lunch longer.
- Principal asked if OCC could help with organizing bilingual learning for parents:
 - Community members made suggestions including Carlos Rosario and classes at USDA.
- Principal asked whether a flu clinic would be held at OA:
 - Ashley & Purnima discussed why it will not be possible to bring a CVS flu clinic to OA; there will be a Children's National Hospital Mobile Clinic deployed to Wards 7 & 8 and multiple pharmacies will have flu shots available. Monique suggested we should communicate locations of health centers for kids who don't live in this neighborhood.
- In response to a question from Communications Chair, the Principal confirmed that whether or not lunch will be held indoors has to be decided on the day; school will not be able to advise volunteers if outdoor setup is not needed ahead of time.

Business: (Quorum Present)

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- **Approval of past minutes:**
 - Minutes from 9/22/21 moved, seconded and approved.

Committees Update: (Chair)

- Each committee should have a board member as chair and at least two other members; we strive to have both languages and both campuses represented on each committee:
 - **Nominations & Recruitment Committee** - Room Parent Chair noted that OCC members should reach out to any parents they think may want to step up and serve; he also noted this committee needs a vice-chair.

Room Parent Update: (Room Parent Chair)

- Sixth and seventh grades both still need room parents.

Treasurer Update: (Treasurer)

- Treasurer noted we have \$150K on hand and will need to raise \$75K to maintain our budget.
- Treasurer reminded teachers that the OCC will reimburse up to \$850 per teacher for classroom expenses.

Fundraising Update: (Room Parent Chair)

- Room Parent Chair noted we currently have 52% family participation in annual giving after 2 rounds of requests; stated that we need to do a third round.
- Fundraising Chair suggested that we organize a phone bank to target families who have not yet contributed. She noted we can ask for time and talent as well as treasure.
- We do have volunteers to take over the Christmas Tree Sale but there are no Christmas trees. We will need to find the \$15K usually raised at the sale elsewhere.

Teacher Representatives Updates: (Teacher Representatives)

- Ana & Eva will communicate that teachers should be submitting expenses for reimbursement to the OCC.
- Monique asked about after-school tutoring and Ana confirmed this has been reinstated this year and that many teachers at Oyster are tutoring. Eva stated that fewer kids are being tutored at Adams and there is a general impression that everyone should leave campus by 3:25pm.

Action Items: (Secretary)

- OCC needs someone to research adult language education resources to involve more parents in bilingual learning.
- **OCC Action:** We agreed to provide this information (in general) in an upcoming OCC message: <https://twitter.com/MayorBowser/status/1453647756615159808?s=20>
 - For those schools requesting information about holding their own vaccine clinics (COVID, flu, and other vaccines). DC Health has provided some information to share with schools, where they will hopefully benefit from existing resources and avoid duplicating efforts. See links below.

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- <https://coronavirus.dc.gov/page/get-vaccinated> [coronavirus.dc.gov]
- <https://dcpsreopenstrong.com/vaccines/> [dcpsreopenstrong.com]
- Ashley agreed to host an info session with parents with kids who have been in clinical trials (if those parents agree)--not urgent but before Thanksgiving. OCC Action: How are we handling health/safety action items/tasking?
- Ashley also agreed to host "judgment-free zone" sessions where she would sit outside the school to answer questions 1-on-1. Would need dates/times/locations. OCC Action: How are we handling health/safety action items/tasking?
- Catherine asked if the school could set up a coat donation box at Adams and Julian said he would work on it. OCC Action: None yet; may need parent volunteers to bring the coats to Oyster
- Catherine also asked if the school could let us know what gaps there are for outwear for parents to help fill (if not enough donations/sizes/etc.) OCC Action: None yet.
- Francisco said that the school had asked him to spread the word about coat donations to parents to help clean up the coat area if they see coats spread about to keep it tidy. OCC Action: @F, can you please create a blurb for the OCC announcements email?)
- Catherine offered for the school to use her Venmo/Paypal to purchase gift cards for the Thanksgiving holiday. OCC Action: Jen emailed the school to communicate her generous offer.
- Catherine wants to do phone banking to drum up more donations. OCC Action: Jen will include a blurb in the next OCC announcements.
- OCC Action: Is there a better way to distribute and communicate about supplies? @F and I might have an overall strategy--comms and a flexible plan to allow teachers to request purchases up front so that we stay clear of tax issues and don't micromanage the process and ensure equability.
- Monique/teachers asked if OCC could look into tutoring for the school for kids; confusing to teachers about what is allowable and kids aren't where they need to be academically. OCC Action: Is this widespread? How do we address this with the school?

Kudos: (Everyone)

- Kudos to Julian and all our teachers from Catherine, for rising to the challenge of COVID.
- Thank you to Julian from Jen for his leadership.

Adjournment: (Secretary)

- Board meeting adjourned at 10:12pm.