

OCC Meeting Minutes
May 26, 2022

In attendance:

Scott Dafflitto (Chair)	Eva Mazier (Teacher Rep)
Hilary Benson (Secretary)	Ana López (Teacher Rep)
George Vera (Fundraising Co-Chair)	Lauren Pena (Teacher Rep)
Megan Hustings (Co-Treasurer)	Veronica McKillop (Teacher)
Jen Jessup (Communications Chair)	Andrea Egan (Parent)
Magdalena Laguarda Villagran (Room Parent Chair)	Emma Arons (Parent)
Francisco Serrano (Information & Process Co-Chair)	Jessica Barton (Parent)
Mark Bromley (Fundraising Strategy Chair)	

Unable to Attend:

Kevin Kurzendoerfer (Co-Treasurer)	Purnima Boominathan (Educational Investment)
Monique Worrell (At-Large, Community Events)	Ashley Darcy Mahoney (At-Large)
Martha Valenzuela (At-Large)	Julián Pineda (Principal)
Annalise Nelson (Fundraising Co-Chair)	
Jess D'Amico (Information & Process Co-Chair)	
Catherine Depret (At-Large)	
Elizabeth Ruiz (At-Large, Finance)	

Opening & Welcome: (Chair)

- Call to order at 6:05 pm.

Board/Business Updates: (Chair; quorum present)

- Chair asked for a minute of silence out of respect for the children and teachers murdered in Uvalde, TX. He invited anyone looking for further mental health support resources to read DCPS's message on the subject and to reach out to the OCC if they need any help.
- Chair reminded everyone to speak in the language with which they are most comfortable and invited bilingual members in the meeting to provide translation during the meeting. He noted we are still trying to ensure that OCC communications including meetings are consistently accessible for primarily Spanish as well as primarily English speakers.
- Chair highlighted good news stories related to OCC funding: kindergarten rug; 8th grade graduation support; leveled readers; OCA counselors; vaccine clinic; ice cream sandwiches; Story of Our Schools opening; Rock n' Rita's; Books for Tigres; Field Day.
- Motion to approve last March's meeting minutes made, seconded and **approved**.

Campus Word: (Chair)

- Chair presented for Principal Pineda as follows.
 - Current security at school includes increased drills, monitoring of entrances; some Adams students joined gun violence protest at the White House; mental health support has been available for any students who have needed it.

OCC Meeting Minutes May 26, 2022

- Principal requests OCC funds to supplement salary of a behavioral health tech who would otherwise leave due to low pay; \$13-15K salary supplement would be for one year only, after which it would be included in the DCPS budget
 - Board members asked multiple questions regarding this request; general agreement that we need more information from Principal Pineda.
- Principal's **budgeting priorities**:
 - **Tutoring**: OA will continue to have some federal funding and he appreciates the OCC making up tutors' salaries to \$50/hr mark. [Aside from Scott: OCC's goals with funding tutoring: to expand access; to pay a market rate; to reduce size of groups per tutor.]
 - **Community building/social engagement**: Per Chair's previous run-down, this is also an OCC priority, borne out by the numerous OCC-supported events that have taken place recently.
 - Re. international trips in 2022-23, Principal plans to use DCPS funds; Chair is flagging for the board that this may not be as much as is needed and we should keep this in mind when the budget is set.

Elections Committee: (Chair, Fundraising Strategy Chair)

- Chair noted the committee is finalizing the candidates and will need to approve a slate
- Committee is trying to bring the board back into line with our articles of incorporation, including having five at-large representatives, each with a focus.
- Committee Chair Bromley noted that in our bylaws stress is placed on holding an in-person election; he noted that most recently we have done this over Zoom. Board Chair noted we could possibly set up ballot boxes for parents to use at drop-off/pick-up.

Health Committee: (Chair, on behalf of At-Large Member Mahoney)

- Chair presented for Committee Chair Mahoney, as follows.
 - Please get boosted if you can, your kids 5-11, elders, anyone eligible.
 - Committee Chair Mahoney is writing to remind the school to review active shooter protocols. She is also communicating with them on active shooter drills and their traumatizing effects on students.

Safety Committee Update: (Communications Chair)

- Communications Chair reviewed the process she underwent and recommendations she made for facilitating communication between upset parents and OA administration. She noted that the school created its own Behavioral Climate Committee in light of the OCC activity on this front.
- Recommendations include,
 - hold a Town Hall with all parties - this was done
 - create a form for anonymous communication of concerns - this was done
 - create a survey on climate/behavioral concerns - this was not done
 - share information on conscious discipline with families - this needs to be augmented

OCC Meeting Minutes May 26, 2022

- provide regular social-emotional support to students - We should have experts coming in to work with kids on a regular basis and not just when a crisis arises.
- outline escalation procedures for families and teachers - this needs to be done
- work on becoming an anti-racist school - this is ongoing
- lead with empathy in dealing with family concerns - parents have felt shamed when they have brought their concerns forward - this is ongoing
- Chair asked if Principal Pineda planned to meet with Communications Chair to discuss these recommendations, but Communications Chair has not heard back from him.

General Discussion:

- Information & Processes Co-Chair Serrano asked about timing and production of welcome packets. Former Chair Egan mentioned that the OCC has produced and paid for these in the past and timed them to coincide with communication from the school regarding the new school year. The aim has been to enhance the information coming from the school while also publicizing the OCC and taking credit for OCC funded successes.

Kudos: (Everyone)

- Chair thanked all those board members who were able to join for the off-cycle board meeting.
- Chair thanked all those who have served and who plan to continue to serve on the board.
- Everyone thanked parent Jess Barton for taking so many of the set-up/breakdown/attendant shifts to make outdoor lunch happen this year.
- Teacher McKillop thanked all the lunch volunteers for making outdoor lunch happen.
- Chair thanks Communications Chair for her work on the Health Committee and willingness to tackle this difficult area.

Action Items: (Secretary)

- Chair to solicit more information from Principal Pineda on his request for OCC funding to supplement a behavioral tech's salary for one year.
- Chair requests volunteers to lead the 4 & 5 grades ice cream & music event.
- General agreement that a vaccine pop-up for boosters at OA would be a good idea; At-Large Rep Mahoney will communicate with DOH to see if we can make this happen.

Adjournment: (Secretary)

- Next meeting will be held June 22; current meeting adjourned at 7:05pm.