

# Board of Trustees Monthly Meeting APPROVED Minutes Monday, October 9, 2023

Location: Wingate By Wyndham, 108 Saluda Pointe Ct., Lexington SC (Meeting Room B)

The mission of Odyssey Online Learning is to provide a high-quality education for a wide variety of students by offering alternative solutions to traditional schooling while assisting students in achieving the knowledge and skills to reach their highest potential within a flexible and tailored educational program that fosters lifelong learning.

- 1. Call to Order Special Meeting Appointment/Swearing In Ceremony
  - Ashley Owings at 9:09 a.m.
- 2. Roll Call Ashley Owings

- Present: Holly Hayes with Shaper together

Bill Roach with Erskine

Ashley Owings
Rocky Cooper
Andrea Amburn
Penny McDaniel
Mario Williams
Marquis Flemings
Robert McKenzie
Joe Bowers

- 3. Newly elected board member(s) are sworn in
  - Robert McKenzie and Marquis Flemings

Oath of Office: "I do solemnly swear (or affirm) that I am duly qualified, according to the Constitution of this State, to exercise the duties of the office to which I have been elected, and that I will, to the best of my ability, discharge the duties thereof, and preserve, protect and defend the Constitution of this State and of the United States. So help me God.

- 4. Newly appointed board member(s) are sworn in
  - Joe Bowers

Oath of Office: "I do solemnly swear (or affirm) that I am duly qualified, according to the Constitution of this State, to exercise the duties of the office to which I have been appointed, and that I will, to the best of my ability, discharge the duties thereof, and preserve, protect and defend the Constitution of this State and of the United States. So help me God."

5. Adjourn Special Meeting Appointment/Swearing In Ceremony at 9:20 a.m.



- 6. Regular Meeting convenes upon conclusion of swearing in of new members
  - Amy Cox joins the meeting at 9:23 a.m.
  - 1. Call to Order & Roll Call Amy Owings 9:23 a.m.

- Present: Holly with Shaper together

Bill Roach with Erskine

Ashley Owings Rocky Cooper Andrea Amburn Penny McDaniel Mario Williams Marquis Flemings Robert McKenzie

Joe Bowers Amy Cox

## 2. Pledge of Allegiance

#### 3. Consent Calendar

- A. October 9, 2023 Regular Meeting Agenda
- B. September 26, 2023 Special Board Meeting Minutes
  - A motion was made by Penny McDaniel to accept the consent Calendar October 9, 2023 Regular meeting agenda and September 26, 2023 Special Board Meeting Minutes.
  - A 2nd for Motion made by Penny McDaniel was made by Mario Williams
  - Vote was taken an all were in agreement to accept the October 9, 2023
     Regular Meeting Agenda and September 26, 2023 Special Board Meeting Minutes
- 4. Public Comments (must sign-up prior to start time). Please contact the Direct of Operations & HR if you would like to sign up.
  - There were no public comments at this meeting.

#### 5. **Reports**

A. September 2023 Financial Report - presented by Colby Souther's with Prestige School Solutions.



- A breakdown of the financial record for the school year to date as of September 30, 2023 was presented to the board for approval and questions.
  - As of September 30, 2023 there was \$2.5+ Million cash & cash equivalent on hand.
  - \$1.0+ Million to date collected.
- Odyssey has a 75% revenue
  - 73.25% expense
  - Daily cash burn of \$12,362.84
- B. Report by Executive Director Ashley Owings
  - Ashley introduced and went over the SC Report Card and Understanding how the SC report card works.
    - Code of Laws Title 59 Chapter 40
    - The 2022/2023 Report is to be released on 10/10/2023 Ashley provided website information to review the report when it comes out and our schools numbers which she will send out once released on 10/10/2023 when it is released.
    - for 2023/2024 school year we are shooting to take this to the next level and keep moving upward.
  - We discussed the history of Odyssey Online
    - 2009 Odyssey was Provost Academy with 1,500 students
    - 2013 Provost opened the limited learning center
    - 2015 Provost broke away from EMO
      - Changed name to Odyssey Online Learning
      - The Limited Learning Center closed as there was not enough student involvement.
    - 2018 Erskine became Odyssey's charter
    - 2019 Edmentum teachers & curriculum was hired
      - Odyssey's 10 year charter was renewed
    - 2021 March 9, 2021 Ashley Owings was named as Director of Odyssey Online Learning.
    - 2022 Odyssey hired administrative support staff, PT teachers and EOC prep class teachers.
       2022/2023 school year OOL had 378 students in grades 9-12
    - 2023 OOL hired more in-house teachers, EOC/End of course teachers.
    - 2023/2024 school year 4 more teachers in-house, align curriculum with SC requirements, and continue to structure our school toward student success.



## Took break at 12:00 p.m. for lunch

Board Regular Meeting resumed at 12:25 p.m.

### Viktoria McKenna joined the meeting at 12:35 p.m.

- C. Roles, Responsibilities, and Best Practices of Effective Boards
  - Presented by Holy Hayes with Sharper together.
    - Board Chair
      - Oversees board affairs, ensuring the integrity of the board's process in governing and supporting the organization. The chair acts as the representative of the board as a whole.
    - Vice-Chair
      - Provides additional board leadership and assumes the role of board chair when the chair is absent.
    - Secretary
      - Chief responsibility is to ensure all board actions are documented.
    - Treasurer
      - Ensures that records are maintained, reviews financial reports from the staff, and interacts with accountants and auditors to help keep the board informed of financial matters.

#### Ashley Owings & Rocky Cooper left the meeting at 12:48 p.m.

#### 6. **Executive Session**

- Motion made by Amy Cox to go into executive session to discuss open board positions and other personnel/contractual matters at 12:48 p.m.
- Motion seconded by Vikoria McKenna

## 7. Regular Session came back in at 1:10 p.m.

#### A. Election of Board Seats

- Amy Cox made motion for the following appointments for leadership positions within the OOL Executive Board.
  - Mario Williams Board Chair
  - Marquis Flemings Vice-Chair
  - Penny McDaniel Secretary
  - Amy Cox Treasurer



- 2nd to this motion was made by Joe Bowers
  - Roll call was taken by Andea Amburn
    - Penny McDaniel Yes
    - Mario Williams Yes
    - Robert McKenzie Yes
    - Marquis Flemings Yes
    - Amy Cox Yes
    - Joe Bowers Yes
    - Viktoria McKenna Yes

Unanimous vote for all board chairs

## B. Creating your plan to be an exceptional board member this year

- Presented by Holly Hayes
  - Board Recruiting
  - Discussed number of current board members is 7 and potentially moving to 9 in the future - this was tabled to a later date to be announced.

### At 1:17 p.m. Marquis Flemings & Robert McKenzie left the meeting.

- C. **Key Understanding Planning Items for the Board** Presented by Holly Hayes
  - Discussed the OOL Mission Statement potential change for the future to shorten or simplify it to be more in line with where the school is going.
     Should not be more than 9-10 words
  - By-laws and review for potential changes. We will discuss this in a future meeting. It was agreed to table that discussion at this time.
  - Holly agreed to draft up our school goals and ideas that we need to build upon and provide to the Board
  - Amy Cox spoke briefly on the bonus plan it was decided by the board that we would discuss it further in a future meeting to be announced.
  - Discussed recruitment for the future and board terms. Penny McDaniel is planning on exiting the school board after next year. OOL Board will begin looking for more members to the board to meet all by-law requirements.

## D. **Adjourn**

- Motion made by Joe Bowers to adjourn
- Motion 2nd by Penny McDaniel
- All were in agreement Meeting adjourned at 2:15 p.m.