

Odyssey Board Meeting Minutes October 21, 2009

In attendance: Amy Anderson, Peter Bonaker, Billy Brown Carolyn Kampman, Heather Eversley, Marcia Fulton, Anne Spruill, Lori Laliberte, Illana Poley, Jessica West, Dei Wilson, Donny Roush

Changes to Minutes:

Mary Seawells last name was misspelled. Correct spelling Seawell.

Carolyn motioned minutes be approved with correction, Peter second, all approved.

Public Comments

No one signed up for public comments, however several community members in attendance.

Budget/Financials

Budget to actuals were sent by email by Marcia. All future budget to actuals will be emailed to board members each month, prior to Board meeting.

Auditor, Wendy Swanhurst and Financial Business Mgr. will attend the Nov. Board meeting.

Board Recruitment

We currently have six prospective Board recruits . Five of the six have toured the school with Marcia. Amy will meet with the five to determine recommendations to the board. Amy will also be receiving resumes from Get Smart Schools for potential Board recruits.

Student Achievement Discussion

Peter made a motion to move the discussion to the November meeting due to Facility discussion . Heather second, all approved.

Facility/Growth

Families:

78% of Odyssey families completed the survey and 49% attended at least one of the Forums. Of the 78%, 72 % voted in favor of growing to 450 and 28 % voted to remain at 225;

Conversations with staff and the community were parallel. A lot of the same concerns were expressed.

Highlights of Pros and Cons for remaining at 225;

Pros, small, intimate.

Cons; not fair that all who apply cannot get in to Odyssey, Odyssey appears elitist, creates separation in the Stapleton community between those who get into the school and those who do not.

All agreed the unknowns and uncertainties are overwhelming, however the option for staying in our current building is not realistic beyond 2010/2011.

Jessica recapped past board conversations stating that growth was always an option to open up for more families. Further input from Dei, Lori and Anne found past moves had not seen significant drops in numbers due to relocation .

Community members offered comment; Joan Fritche, Joseph Montalbano, Jennifer Maddox, and Bob Edwards.

Board Vote:

Nine out of ten voted moving forward with growing to 450. Only one board member voted to remain at 225. Carolyn made a motion to accept the votes and Anne/Peter second, all approved.

Marcia and Amy concluded that we will not move forward with growth, without funding for a larger facility.

The following statement will be drafted for submission to DPS:

“Seeking authorization from DPS to grow in a responsible manner to 450 students and maintain quality of Odysseys current program. The implementations in contingent on facilities and other things in place to ensure that ultimately Odyssey is in a permanent home that it owns.”