



Odyssey Charter School

1350 Wyoming Drive S.E. • Palm Bay, Florida 32909 • 321-345-4117

SUMMER 2020 NEWSLETTER

"Committed to academic excellence and the education of the whole child"

OUR MISSION FOR EVERY CHILD

The mission of Odyssey Charter School is to work in partnership with the family and community, with the aim of helping each child reach their full potential in all areas of life. We seek to educate the whole child with the understanding that each person must achieve a balance of intellectual, emotional, physical, spiritual and social skills as a foundation for life.

Odyssey Schools are safe, clean and ready to welcome back students!

CALENDAR

(Odyssey Schools follow the Brevard School Calendar)

- 7/24 OCS Jr/Sr Summer Registration (10 am - 4 pm)
- 7/25 OCS Jr/Sr Summer Registration (8 am - 6 pm)
- 7/29 OCS Special Board Meeting – 5:15 PM
- 8/3,4,5,6,7,10 Staff Pre-Planning
- 8/11 First day of classes for 1st – 12th Grade
- 8/14 Early Release Day
- 8/21 Early Release Day
- 8/26 OCS Board Meeting- 5:15 PM
- 8/28 Early Release Day
- 9/4 Early Release Day
- 9/7 Labor Day – Holiday for all
- 9/11 Early Release Day

Welcome Back from our Principal, Dr. Knight:

Welcome Back to our new and returning Odyssey Charter Jr. / Sr. High School families! We hope you are enjoying your summer spending time with friends and family and we hope that you are remaining safe during this unusual time. As we open another successful school year together, we would like to thank everyone for working diligently throughout the spring on your virtual classes. It is time to come back refreshed and ready for another great year. We have plans to make sure our campus is safe and all students, staff, and families stay healthy while we continue to provide a high-quality education. Stay tuned for details on how Odyssey is prepared to start the new year safe, clean, and ready to welcome back students!

This year, we are excited to continue to grow our GATEway (gifted and talented) program with even more Honors courses, additional Advanced Placement options, and more opportunities for dual enrollment and early college. As a holistic school, we have also added new STEAM (Science, Technology, Engineering, Arts, Agriculture, and Mathematics) courses, such as robotics, upper-level engineering, advanced coding and computer programming, ceramics, expanded digital art and design, and more. We are re-opening The Farm at Odyssey on the back field so agriculture and nutrition courses will again become available to interested students. As a school focused on college and career preparation, we will continue to provide students with a wealth of other great opportunities to develop leadership, cooperation, and collaboration skills, such as National Honor Society, Interact, Student Government, and many other extra-curricular clubs and organizations. Lastly, with the completion of our new beautiful wellness and performing arts centre, we will continue to grow our fine arts and athletic programs. It is going to be another amazing year at Odyssey.

Say it loud and proud... GO TITANS!

New Administrative Team Members

Due to the interest in and growth of our school, we are adding several new members to our Odyssey family. We will be sharing information about each of them in this and future newsletters.

Mr. Mike Guevara and **Ms. Marisa Moore** have both been named as our NEW Assistant Principals. Ms. Campbell has moved over to Green Apple Management as the Director of Operations so she will continue to support our schools in the future.

Welcome to our NEW High School Dean of Students and High School Athletic Director, **Ms. Brittany Scardino**. Mr. Padilla will continue as the Dean of Middle School Dean of Students and Middle School Athletic Director.

Welcome to our NEW Odyssey Charter Jr/Sr High Academic Dean, **Ms. Vanessa Rymer**.

Welcome to our NEW Odyssey Charter Jr/Sr High College Counselor, **Ms. Haley Gordon**.

New Titan Team Members

- Susan Adams – Science
- Christian Brown – Agriculture
- Alexandra Garcia – Social Sciences
- Jennifer Russo – English
- Tiffany Williams – English

COVID Information

Odyssey School Leaders in collaboration with Green Apple School Management have been working on our plan to ensure that our students and staff are able to return to campus and remain safe, clean, and healthy. We have organized our rooms and the cafeteria to allow for social distancing in all rooms to the degree practicable. We have procedures for checking temperatures for all students and staff, along with procedures and guidelines that we will follow if we have someone that gets sick. Our cleaning procedures have been reviewed and enhanced and we have hired additional staff to assist in keeping our campus clean and disinfected throughout the day.

One direction travel will decrease the amount of intermingling of students during class change. The cafeteria will be set up with students facing one direction, and with fewer students per table. Every classroom has already been organized with desks and/or tables to allow students to be successful while ensuring they remain healthy. We have also restructured our arrival and dismissal to decrease groups of students congregating in different areas.

We will continue to monitor the plan that Brevard Public Schools provides as well as the CDC guidelines for schools and will adapt as needed.

COVID Expectations – for sick students

If a student arrives to school with a temperature, or becomes sick during the day, they will be quarantined in a designated area of the clinic, families will be contacted, and the student is expected to be picked up immediately to eliminate exposure to other students or faculty members. A doctor note will be expected to allow for the return of the child to school.

Early Release Days

We will continue early release days on Friday's throughout the school year which is consistent Brevard County School District's schedule.

School Hours

For the 2019-2020 school year, Odyssey Charter Jr./ Sr. High School students will begin the day at 8:55am; the school day will end at 4:08pm. Our early release dismissals will now be every Friday at 2:45pm.

School Visitors

Due to COVID-19 and current conditions, we will not have any school visitors, including family members, until later in the fall when it is determined to be safe. As the year progresses, we will continue to monitor and evaluate the school's health and safety conditions for our Titans and our school community. We thank you for your help and support in making sure the safety of all our students and staff continues to be our priority.



FINAL REGISTRATION (Required for ALL Families) Come and see what is NEW at Odyssey Charter Jr/Sr High campus!

Friday, July 24th from 10:00am-4:00pm & Saturday, July 25th from 8:00am-6:00pm

We are excited to show off what we have been up to during this time of school closures. We have many new and exciting things coming for next school year! Please join us at final registration to verify information, complete missing documents, pay student fees (\$25.00 cash, check or money order), check out our elective and extracurricular activities, pick up schedule, register for the bus and more.

In our effort to follow CDC guidelines and social distancing we have spaced out the times to try and minimize the amount of people on campus at a time. We ask that you try and attend during your scheduled time and bring a pen to complete forms. Wearing a mask is optional but encouraged. We will clean and disinfect throughout the registration.

Friday, July 24th	
OCS Jr/Sr Students with last names A-C	10:00am-11:00am
OCS Jr/Sr Students with last names D-G	11:00am-12:00pm
OCS Jr/Sr Students with last names H-L	12:00pm-1:00pm
OCS Jr/Sr Students with last names M-Q	1:00pm-2:00pm
OCS Jr/Sr Students with last names R-S	2:00pm-3:00pm
OCS Jr/Sr Students with last names T-Z	3:00pm-4:00pm
Saturday, July 25th	
OCS Jr/Sr Students with last names A-C	8:00am-9:30am
OCS Jr/Sr Students with last names D-G	9:30am-11:30am
OCS Jr/Sr Students with last names H-L	11:30am-1:00pm
OCS Jr/Sr Students with last names M-Q	1:00pm-2:30pm
OCS Jr/Sr Students with last names R-S	2:30pm-4:00pm
OCS Jr/Sr Students with last names T-Z	4:00pm-6:00pm

Please be prepared to complete the following for your student(s):

- Lunch Applications
- Questions Regarding Bus Assignment
- Final Schedules for Jr/Sr High Students
- Before and After-Care Registration
- Health Card
- Student fees (Cash will be accepted this year. Please bring at least \$25 for student fees.)
- All 'Dress for Success', school conduct, cell phone, technology, and bus behavior agreements

The following documents must be provided in order to successfully complete the registration process for the 2020-2021 school year, which begins August 11, 2020:

- Birth certificate (All new students)
- Current immunization form (Grades: 6,7,9, & all new students)
- Current Physical Exam (Grades: 6,7,9, & all new students)
- IEPs, EPs, Behavioral Plans, 504 Plans (All new students - as applicable)

School Fees

6th - 12th grade - \$25, includes:

\$10.00 Technology , \$5.00 STEAM (Science and other Laboratory) Fees,

\$10.00 Virtual Yearbook

*\$10.00 Flash-drive (only necessary for new students or replacements for returning students)

**Additional fees may be included in course syllabi in grades 6-12 as needed*

Uniform Policy (Grades 6-12):

School Uniform Policy: 2019-2020 Updates

All Odyssey Charter School students are required to wear a school uniform. Our uniforms can be purchased from our uniform provider:

All Uniform Wear (*Discount coupons will be available during Summer Registration at all campuses.*)

- All students are required to wear full-length solid colored pants, shorts, skirts or 'skorts'. Inappropriately rolling or altering the pants in any way is in direct violation of the dress code. Shorts, skirts and 'skorts' length must be at least mid-thigh.
- Pants, shorts, skirts and 'skorts' that are too big or too tight, as determined by Administration, are not acceptable and will be deemed in violation of the uniform code.
- Students must wear a collared polo shirt or dress shirt. Student polo's and dress shirts must be a solid color and in accordance with the individual schools' uniform guide. All shirts must bear the School logo.
- Any attire and/or backpacks with any inappropriate logos or displays are prohibited.
- All hats, scarves, and bandanas are prohibited on school property.
- Shoes must be closed in the back.
- If a student chooses or needs to wear a jacket or sweatshirt due to cold weather, it must be solid Black, Blue, or Gray.
- Students who choose to dress out in P.E. must wear appropriate shirts and shorts. Students must change back to regular attire before leaving class. Some lockers will be provided in the gym for students that want to change for physical education.

Wellness

- **Free Breakfast and Lunch:** We believe that fresh, seasonal, local, sustainably grown foods are a primary and recommended source of nutrition for growing, high-achieving children and we offer these FREE daily in our healthy café at breakfast and lunch times. YES, WE SAID FREE. However, we do need every family to still fill out the income verification form at registration. Please encourage your child take advantage of our healthy and delicious meals. We believe it enhances our students' academic and behavioral development.
- **Clear Water Bottles** (There are water filling stations throughout the campus, but NOT water fountains.)
- **Deep cleaning** will take place daily as well as sanitizing throughout the day
- **Masks** are optional for students/staff, but must meet uniform guidelines
- There will not any **field trips** within the first 3 months of school
- Any student with a **fever of 100°** or higher will be required to be picked up immediately

Bus Transportation

In preparation for the upcoming school year Odyssey Transportation is excited to announce we are now working with 3DEZROUTING!! Parents/guardians will be able to update any address changes that might alter a student's bus route through this website. We are happy that this will assist us in keeping you better informed throughout the school year.

Registering your student for school bus transportation will now be handled online for easy access, and the school will be able to provide you with updates on your student's application as well as information on their assigned bus and route. We will also be able to send you important information with any transportation changes or updates that might affect your student throughout the school year.

Registration is required for ALL (new and returning) school bus riders to ensure that your student is routed and assigned to the closest bus stop available. Bus transportation is available for students whose residence is located over two miles from the school they attend. Please register on our transportation website as a parent/guardian, using this link: <https://www.ezrouting.com/odysseyfl> .

You will need the following information to register:

1. Your student's name.
2. Student District ID for Brevard. (The same ID used in BPS Focus)
3. Your student's current physical address.
4. Current Parent/Guardian home and/or cell phone numbers.
5. Current Parent/Guardian email address.

This information will only be used for transportation routing and communication purposes, so accuracy is important.

If you have any questions or concerns, please contact Rosie Greer at Odyssey Transportation, 321-345-4117 ext. 1123, or by email greerr@odysseycharterschool.com.

Odyssey Charter Schools provide bus transportation to students who live between two and four miles from the school (some farther than 4 miles). Bus registration is online this year and computers will be available during summer registration. **Each student is allowed one designated bus stop.** Changes to assigned routes or bus transportation needs will not be permitted until a new registration form is completed by a parent/guardian with proper ID.

Odyssey's Transportation Department will operate in accordance with CDC Guidelines We thank you in advance for your cooperation in keeping our children safe and healthy. Please take the time to review and discuss the following safety procedures and expectations.

- Students are encouraged to practice social distancing at their assigned bus stops.
- Students are encouraged to wear an optional mask during bus routes.
- Students will use hand sanitizer as they enter and exit the bus.
- Any students with an elevated temperature will be seated in the designated area in the front, parents will be contacted, and students will need to be picked up from the school.
- Siblings will sit together during all routes.
- Students will exit the bus one row at a time from front of the bus to the back of the bus, during arrival to the school in the morning.
- Be mindful and practice good hygiene and manners.

Summer Readings

All Odyssey Charter School students are required to read the English Language Arts, grade-specific novel(s) each summer. The list was given to students before the end of the school year and is also available on our website: www.odysseycharterschool.com. Students in grades 6-12, who wish to check-out their novels, can do so throughout the summer with Ms. Thompson in our front office. Students can expect assignments related to the specific summer novel when they begin the 2020-2021 school year.

Senior Expectations

Now is the time to prepare for one of the biggest stepping stones in your young life; more than a year of planning goes into high school graduation, and seniors need to line up their responsibilities.

- Apply for scholarships every week
- Work on college application components
- Plan family college visits for individualized tours
- Review transcripts, know your GPA and class standing

For a more detailed list of what to prepare for, go to MyPath101.com to help navigate to college and beyond.

Supply Lists

All OCS high school students (grades 6-12) will receive their teacher-specific supply requirements when they are provided each course's syllabus, during the first day of school, **August 11, 2020**.

1. Wired headphones or earbuds for computer use
2. 3 ring 2 ½ to 3" Binder
3. Tabbed dividers for 7 classes (Math, English, Science, History, 3 electives)
4. Notebook paper (Wide-ruled for 6th grade and College-ruled for 7th -12th grades)
5. Highlighter markers– assorted colors optional
6. 10-15 Blue pens
7. 10-15 #2 pencils
8. Colored Pencils
9. Post it notes
10. Clear water bottle (no water fountains will be available, only water bottle fillers)
11. USB Flashdrive (These can be purchased during Open House for \$10)
12. Optional face masks



***Individual teachers will have additional supplies depending upon course and will be given with the syllabi for students

***Students should prepare to have their own supplies. Supplies will not be able to be shared between students. Teachers will have minimum amounts of extra supplies to provide items to students.

Optional & Donated items:

1. Hand sanitizer
2. Box of tissue
3. Copy paper
4. Color copy paper
5. Notebook paper

Athletics

Prospective / Tentative (based on interest) Sports for next year are as follows:

- Fall – 2020
 - HS Girls/Boys Cross Country (FHSAA)
 - HS Girls/Boys Bowling (FHSAA)
 - MS Volleyball
 - HS Volleyball (FHSAA)
- Winter- 2020
 - MS Men's Basketball
 - HS Men's Basketball (FHSAA)
 - MS Women's Basketball
 - HS Women's Basketball (FHSAA)
 - HS Co-Ed Soccer (FHSAA)
 - HS Soccer (FHSAA)
- Spring- 2020
 - HS Track/Field (FHSAA)
 - MS Flag Football

If your student is planning on participating in an FHSAA (High School) sport, you will need to complete all necessary paperwork before the season starts. We recommend taking care of this by August 1st; all paperwork / sports exams are valid for one calendar year. The required forms and additional information is located at: www.FHSAA.org - For Parents and Students- Forms- EL2 and EL3- and for all 'new transfer students', form: GA4.

If you have any background in these areas and are interested in coaching or assisting, please contact Mr. Jose Padilla, Middle School Dean.

Substitutes Needed

Please consider becoming a substitute for Odyssey schools. We are in need of a few strong, positive, and committed individuals who want to make an impact in our Titan's daily scholastic goals. Are you a dedicated person who will have the student's best interests in mind and a desire to work with our students and teachers? If so, please reach out to Aimee Thompson at 321-345-4117 ext. 0 or thompsona@odysseycharterschool.com

GATEWay & Honors Opportunities

We offer a variety of coursework geared to challenge all students beginning in 6th grade. In addition to Advanced or "Honors" courses in all core classes, we also offer the following GATEWay electives: Coding, Gaming, Commercial Art, Engineering, Robotics, Marine Science, Forensics, Biotechnology, Digital Art, Advanced Placement Art, Advanced Placement English, Advanced Placement History, Advanced Placement Science, Advanced Placement Math, Honors Performing Art groups (Band, Chorus, Orchestra)

Dual Enrollment & Advanced Placement

We encourage eligible students to enroll in Advanced Placement courses as well as in Dual Enrollment courses by their Junior Year in order to earn college credits. The minimum GPA for Dual Enrollment is a 3.0. All interested students should meet our Dual Enrollment Specialist, Ms. Kim Havet, havetk@odysseycharterschool.com to schedule testing for acceptance.

Additional Academic Support Opportunities

Success Saturday - Starting around the third Saturday of the school year, students are invited to participate in weekly Success Saturday sessions from 9:00–11:30 AM. During this time, students work with certified teachers in small groups to review previously taught material. During Success Saturday, teachers focus on reteaching the academic standards that students have not mastered and provide tutoring to small groups of students in the areas in which they need additional reinforcement. There is NO CHARGE for this program and it is open to all students in grades 6-12.

Finish Friday - Each Friday from 2:45–4:00 PM, students are invited by their teachers to attend Finish Friday to complete assignments not finished during the week. If invited, students are required to attend. Teacher assistants support students in small groups. There is NO CHARGE for this program and it is open to all students in grades 6-12.

Success Summer - Each summer, students can attend Success Summer for acceleration or credit recovery. Students with a GPA of 3.5 or above in grades 8-12 desiring acceleration can submit requests to take courses online to move more quickly through their high school program of study. Students in need of credit recovery are asked to attend online courses to ensure they stay on target for graduation. These courses are free of charge and are led by a certified, online teacher, as well as a teaching assistant from the school.

Boot Camps - Each summer, based on student need, 2-week special boot camps are opened to help prepare students for specific courses, such as Algebra 1. These camps are led by a certified teacher in the area of the camp and are free of charge to invited students.

Guidance TITAN Department

Due to our growth and in an attempt to increase our students' college and university readiness, our guidance department is expanding. The focus is to streamline our guidance process to better help students, teachers, and families. We will continue to bridge the gap between school and home. The guidance team will be organized in this manner:

- Ms. Haley Gordon – 9th-12th grade counselor
- Mrs. Kim Havet – 8th grade and Dual Enrollment counselor
- Mrs. Delight Alary – 6th & 7th grade counselor
- Mrs. Taneisha Campbell – School Social Worker
- Mrs. Amanda Encarnacion – Guidance Clerk
- Mr. Mike Viola – Online Counselor
- Mrs. Rhonda Gawlowski – ESE Coordinator

Grievance Procedures

- Step 1: Request Teacher conference to clarify issue
- Step 2: Contact Principal if unresolved with the teacher
- Step 3: **Contact Board Designated Parent Representative
- Step 4: Contact the President of the Governing Board
- Step 5: Present issue at the next monthly Board Meeting if unresolved
- Step 6: Seek mediation with the Sponsor

**Ms. Cindy Gilmore has been designated by the OCS Board of Directors as the Representative to Facilitate Parental Involvement, provide access to information, assist parents and others with questions and concerns, and resolve disputes according to charter requirements. Ms. Gilmore can be reached at cgilmore@greenappleschools.com or 321-676-8737.

Yearbook

It's not too late to purchase our 2019-2020 yearbook designed by our amazing Commercial Art students! There are limited copies left, so orders your soon! Due to the fact that Covid shortened our school year, these memories are particularly special.

To order your copy just visit balfour.com and select our school. You may also send a check for \$50 addressed to OCS. Don't miss out on the memories!

