

JANUARY 2010

OPPG Newsletter

Odyssey Parent Participation Group – Helping make Odyssey a great charter school

Upcoming Events

- Rock Fest – Feb. 12th, 2010
- Dr. Seuss Day – March 2nd, 2010
- Book Club – End of May TBD

Upcoming Meetings

- OPPG Leadership Meeting – Feb 9, 2009 at 6:30pm
- **OPPG Parent Meeting – March 16th, 2010 at 8:30am**
– Please let Cari (carid@mac.com) know if you have any ideas for the Parent Ed in March.

Fix-It Needs

- Looking for somebody to hang up a bulletin board.

Let us know if you can help. Just contact Darby Bartlett 213-215-3763 or DarbyRowe@yahoo.com

Help Wanted

- We are still looking for a parent to join our OPPG Board as Member at Large. Contact our Nominating Chair, Paula Solano pwsolano@sbcglobal.net if you are interested.

OPPG Meeting Notes

Highlights from the Jan. 12th OPPG Leadership Meeting and the Jan. 19th Parent Meeting:

- We had 29 parents in attendance at our Parent meeting. Thank you to all of you who were able to make it. The idea of OPPG presenting Parent Ed topics this year was to give us a chance to learn more about Odyssey's curriculum and philosophy, and also to present some general topics that might be of interest to some of our parents. This was our first general parenting topic, and we give a special thanks to Brian Joseph, from The Center for Nonviolent Parenting, who ran our Parent Ed this month. Brian talked about a parenting philosophy rooted in what he called the "nonviolent paradigm", where love is unconditional, and children are treated with respect. He presented the idea that all behavior is a strategy to satisfy an unmet need, and children can be engaged with empathy. He also addressed setting limits and presented the idea of not using rewards or punishments in our parenting.
- We approved a proposal for a monthly "Danceaway at Odyssey". There are still details to work out with Staff, but watch for an announcement soon, and then bring your family to come dance away the evening at Odyssey!
- Neil Kubon presented a proposal from the Spring Fundraiser Committee for a Casino Night at Mijares on June 5th. The evening would include food, drinks, gaming tables, and a silent auction, and Kid's Club has agreed to donate childcare. Parents voted in favor of the event. Budgets will be sent out prior to our February OPPG Leadership meeting, and there will be a VOTE on the budget at that meeting on February 9th.

(See page 2 – reverse side)

OPPG Meeting Notes Continued

- Ellen Glasston announced a new ebay Fundraiser. Please contact Ellen (eglasston@earthlink.net or 213-300-3404) with any items or groups of items with a value over \$100 that you are able to donate. Ellen will sell them on ebay, and 100% of the profits will go to Odyssey. See the Thursday packet for a flyer.
- Jexy Wadle, our K-4 Board Rep., talked to us about the importance of getting our kids to school. We must keep our ADA over 95% to not loose funds that have already been budgeted for the year. Bring your kids to school!
- Karen Merchant has volunteered to research and schedule a restaurant night! Stay tuned for more details.
- The OPPG Board voted unanimously to approve the OPPG Bylaws for another year.
- The next OCS Board meeting is on January 26th at 6:00pm. All parents are always welcome at Board meetings.
- Parents are making phone calls to help increase parent participation in our Annual Campaign. Please help in this peer-to-peer campaign. If you want to make phone calls, contact Marialyce Pederson, our Fundraising Chair at marialycep@earthlink.net.

Thank You's

- Our Dec. 5th Rummage Sale/Pancake Breakfast/Book Fair brought in \$3,927. Thank you to Kristy, Joe, and Mia for organizing, and for all parents and staff who helped make that day such a great success.
- Thank you to Food & Garden Committee for the soup sale at the OPPG Meeting. Delicious soup, and they raised \$104!
- We all just brought in another \$43.50 in box tops! Be sure to cut out the Box Tops for Education and drop them by the front office.

Reminders

- Have you signed up for the Annual Campaign yet? Do it NOW! We need 100% parent participation, and we need it NOW so that future budgets can be made with fewer cuts. <http://www.odysseycharterschool.org/support/donations.cfm>
- Don't forget to bring in your Box Tops for Education. There is a collection box in the front office.
- Start saving your old ink cartridges. We have a new fundraiser starting where we will get cash for your old ink cartridges and cell phones. Put a box in your office to collect all the cartridges from the whole office. This can be a great way to raise money for Odyssey!

OPPG Board Members

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