

# OPPG Newsletter

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

## Upcoming Events

- Book Club & Dinner – Cancelled (No event on May 27<sup>th</sup>)
- Casino Night – June 5, 2010

## Fix-It Needs

Let us know if you can help. Just contact Darby Bartlett 213-215-3763 or [DarbyRowe@yahoo.com](mailto:DarbyRowe@yahoo.com)

## Wanted

- OPPG is still looking for a Vice Chair for next years Board. This is a great way to support Odyssey! Contact a Board member for more information.
- Looking for volunteers for our Book Drive for Classroom Libraries. Contact Taffany if you can help sort or level books. [taffanylim@gmail.com](mailto:taffanylim@gmail.com)
- We are looking for parents to help with Graduation! It is only 5 weeks away. Please contact Vicki Mastro if you can help. [Vicki\\_m@ettielee.org](mailto:Vicki_m@ettielee.org)
- We need more items to sell on ebay. All profits go to Odyssey! Contact Ellen at [eglasston@earthlink.net](mailto:eglasston@earthlink.net) or (213) 300-3404.

## Upcoming Meetings

- OCS Board Meeting – May 25 at 6:00pm.
- OPPG Leadership Meeting – June 8, 2010 at 6:30pm – Transition meeting between old and new Board.

## OPPG Leadership Meeting Notes

Highlights from the May 11<sup>th</sup> OPPG Leadership Meeting and the May 18<sup>th</sup> OPPG Parent Meeting:

- We are very happy to introduce the new OPPG Board for 2010-2011. All members ran unopposed, and they have been approved by the Executive Board. June will be a transition month between the old and new Boards, and the new Board's terms begin officially on July 1. Thank you to all the nominees!
  - Co-Chairs – Erin Gamble & Neil Kubon
  - Secretary – Sam-Ana Fenwick
  - Treasurer – Amy Cienfuegos
  - Member at Large – Monica Sottolani
  - K-4 Board Rep – Elizabeth Rainey
  - 5-8 Board Rep – Rhonda Graham
- Rhonda & Jexy gave the OCS Board report. The school calendar is still on hold waiting for PUSD's calendar to be published. If any parents have opinions on the length of breaks or the start of the school year before Labor Day, please come to the May Board meeting or contact Rhonda or Jexy. There is a preliminary budget, which will be reviewed at the May Board meeting.
- Arts Committee reported on the "Romeo and Juliet" performance being worked on by the middle school students. If anyone wants to volunteer, please contact Heather Pain. [heatherpain@mac.com](mailto:heatherpain@mac.com)
- Arts Committee is also working on bringing youTHink to OCS. This is a division of the Zimmer Museum, and would provide arts lessons to 4<sup>th</sup> – 8<sup>th</sup> grades in June.

## ***OPPG Meeting Notes Continued:***

- “Arts in the Classroom” is looking for a new organizer. This is someone to coordinate schedules between teachers and parents – and does not need to be an artist. Please contact Paula if you are interested. [pwsolano@sbcglobal.net](mailto:pwsolano@sbcglobal.net)
- Parents voted on how much OPPG would be able to give OCS at the end of the year. Our anticipated balance after our June fundraisers is approximately \$44,000. There was discussion about leaving a larger amount in our OPPG account so that we could consider funding something special next year (like a field trip). A motion was made by Neil to keep \$9K in OPPG’s account, and give the rest (approx \$35K – TBD at June’s Leadership meeting) to OCS, with the understanding that we hope the amount we are giving over what was expected can be used for more TAs, and that if there is a line item in the budget that is dependent on a few more thousand, that we would like OCS to come to us to ask for more. Rhonda seconded the motion, and it was unanimously approved by the 21 parents in attendance.
- Have you donated to the Silent Auction basket in your classroom? Each classroom is putting together a basket, so see your Room parent and contribute! Help make our Casino Night Silent Auction a success!
- Our parent ed tonight was on “Internet Safety”, and I think we all enjoyed our guest speaker, Irene McDermott and her presentation. If anyone wants a copy of her PowerPoint presentation or any of the handouts that we offered, please email me – Cari – [carid@mac.com](mailto:carid@mac.com).

### ***Thank You:***

- Thank you to everyone for your participation in Run-4-Fun! We brought in an amazing **\$24,097.42** and we are still counting! Is there another \$900 still out there? Turn it in now! This is a new record!
- Thank you to all families and friends who were able to join us at Souplantation for our Restaurant Night fundraiser. The check has not arrived yet, but it looked like a great turn out!
- Our fabulous community was evident yet again at our Rummage Sale / Pancake Breakfast / and Barefoot books Sale! Thank you to Gary, Joe, Erin, and Courtney, and all the volunteers who helped make the day a success. We raised **\$1691** at the Rummage Sale, **\$563** at the Pancake Breakfast, and approximately **\$150** at the Barefoot Book Sale. Barefoot books continue to be on sale online until June 18th. Teachers made out wish lists for their classrooms, if you would like to purchase a book for your classroom, you can do that online.
- Our eBay program raised another **\$251** in April. Thank you, Ellen.
- Thank you to Karen Merchant, and Lisa and all the parents who helped by supplying snacks for our students during testing.
- Thank you to Susan, Monica, & Jexy for making a delicious meal tonight for our OPPG evening. We only made just enough to cover the costs, but it was a wonderful meal that was enjoyed by everyone. Thank you!

### ***A Thank You from Cari:***

This will be the last issue of the OPPG Newsletter for this school year. I just wanted to say a personal thank you to the OPPG Board, all the Committee Chairs, our amazing Event Organizers, and every single parent and staff member who makes Odyssey such a fabulous community. I am so proud of how parents have stepped up this year in so many ways. You all deserve a huge THANK YOU!!! It has been a pleasure to serve as the Chair of your Parent Group, and I’m very excited about our Leadership team for next year! Thank you, and see you around campus!