

Odyssey Charter Jr. / Sr. High School

SUMMER NEWS

2019

Odyssey Charter Elementary School
1755 Eldron Blvd. S.E. • Palm Bay, FL 32909
321-733-0442

Odyssey Charter School Jr. / Sr. High
1350 Wyoming Drive S.E. • Palm Bay, FL 32909
321-345-4117

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

ODYSSEY CHARTER SCHOOLS: THE MISSION

The mission of Odyssey Charter Schools 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.

IMPORTANT DATES

Summer Registration :
July 18 (3 PM - 7 PM)
July 19 (10 AM - 4 PM)

Preplanning: August 1-9

First day of school: August 12

Labor Day: September 2

Registration

**Summer Registration: Required for All Odyssey Charter School Families
July 18 (3 p.m.-7 p.m.) and July 19 (10 a.m.-4 p.m.)**

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

- Lunch Application
- Bus Assignment & Authorization to Ride
- Elementary Students: Teacher Assignments
- Final Schedules for Junior/Senior High Students
- Before and After-Care Registration
- Health Card
- Student fees (Cash will be accepted this year. Please bring at least \$22 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 2019-2020 school year, which begins August 12, 2019:

- 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)

Calendar

As a reminder...Odyssey Charter Schools (Elementary and Jr./ Sr. High) and Odyssey Preparatory Academy (OPA) follow the Brevard County School calendar. There are slight differences in dates relative to additional pre-and post-planning days.

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.

A Message from School Founder, Ms. Constance

Dear Odyssey Families,

We hope you are spending some quality time this summer with family and friends and we look forward to see your children when they return in August. Thank you for the honor of serving them and for your commitment to our schools.

Early results indicate that our students once again have excelled with the state assessments and are benefitting from the education we are providing them. Thank you to our teachers and staff who have dedicated themselves to get the best from your children.

This year, I have continued to work closely with the Principals and Leadership Team to further develop our schools and their unique mission for our Palm Bay Community. We have several key initiatives: We remain on track for our Gym and Performing Arts Classrooms at Wyoming, as well as our Classroom Addition, expanded car loop, added parking and new soccer field at Eldron to open for the 2020 school year. We are raising the bar to have higher expectations for student behavior this year, as well as re-training faculty with our Positive Discipline in the Classroom program on the elementary campuses to further the development of respectful classroom communities. We have hired at Green Apple, a gifted and Stem coordinator, to improve not only our gifted and talented programs, but our enrichment periods as well, as she begins working with programs and personnel from each campus.

We want to make certain we are providing for the needs of your student and family, in close partnership. Please let me know directly how we can improve service to your child and please take advantage of parent surveys and parent teas. We really do listen and take your suggestions to heart. I can be reached at cortiz@greenappleschools.com. See you soon!

Welcome Back from our Principal, Dr. Knight:

Welcome Back to our returning Odyssey Charter Jr./ Sr. High School families! We hope you are enjoying your summer spending time with friends and family. As we open another successful school year together, we would like to share some of our most recent achievements as one of the top performing schools in the state of Florida!

For the 2019-2020 school year, our Odyssey Charter Jr. / Sr. High students outperformed the state of Florida in every tested subject area required by the Florida Department of Education. In fact, some of our tested subject areas, like Civics, US History, Algebra, Geometry, Grade 8 ELA Grade 9 ELA and Grade 10 ELA, outperformed every public, magnet, and charter (public or private) school in the surrounding area close to 20-percentile points!

We are very proud of our teachers, faculty, and support staff for their continued efforts and innovative teaching provided the climate, culture, and environment necessary to ensure the continued success of our Odyssey Charter Jr. / Sr. High students.

We are excited about the 2019-2020 school year, and we are looking forward to expanding our GATEway (Gifted and Talented) and Advanced Placement (AP) courses, our Career and Technical Education courses, and our electives. We have recently been accepted to the National Consortium of STEM Schools and as an Advanced Placement Capstone school. We are also enhancing our service opportunities so that all students have a chance receive the Florida Academic Scholars scholarship covering 100% of college tuition, along with \$300 per term for college-related expenses.

I would also like to share that 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.

New Administrative Team Members

Welcome to our NEW Odyssey Charter Jr/Sr High Dean of High School Students, Mr. Michael Guevara, High School Dean of Students.

Welcome to our NEW Odyssey Charter Jr/Sr High Dean of Middle School Students, Mr. Jose Padilla, Middle School Dean of Students and Athletic Director.

Welcome to our NEW Odyssey Charter Jr/Sr High College Counselor, Mr. Michael Viola, College-Prep Guidance Counselor.

Titan Team Changes

Ms. Marisa Moore will return as our Academic Dean and Assistant Testing Coordinator.

Ms. Courtney Harris will be working closely this year with our Math and Science teams as our new STEAM Instructional Coach, partnered with Ms. Laurie Young, our returning instructional coach.

Ms. Kim Havet will continue to work in student support in her new position as Guidance Services Professional, as well as supporting Ms. Wright with registration and Ms. Campbell and Ms. Moore with state testing.

Uniform Policy (Grades 6-12):

- 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.*

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

2585 W. New Haven Ave. (Rte. 192), West Melbourne, FL. 32904
www.alluniformwear.com, (321) 608-3845 *Discount coupons will be available during Summer Registration at all campuses.

Wellness

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. This year, Odyssey Charter Jr/Sr High students all qualify for free breakfast and lunch. So please help your child take advantage of our great food. We believe it enhances our students' academic and behavioral development.

Bus Transportation

We would like to welcome Rosie Greer, as our new bus coordinator for our schools. Rosie will be helping with customer service and many other areas of our bus department. Rosie comes to us with many years of experience coordinating bus transportation. If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact her at greerr@odysseycharter-school.com.

Odyssey Charter Schools provides bus transportation to students who live between two and four miles from the school – more miles might be allotted as per established bus routes. A bus slip must be completed for families who wish to sign up for bus services. Bus assignments will be available during summer registration. Each student is allowed one designated bus stop. Changes to assigned routes will not be permitted until a new registration form is completed by a parent/guardian with proper ID.

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. To ensure student safety since there is no adult supervision, students are not permitted to enter the school building prior to 8:25am.



Summer Readings

All Odyssey Charter School students are required to read the English Language Arts, grade-specific novel(s). 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 2019-2020 school year.

Athletics

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

- o HS Girls/Boys Cross Country (FHSAA)
- o HS Girls/Boys Bowling (FHSAA)
- o MS Volleyball
- o HS Volleyball (JV)
- o MS Coed Soccer
- **Winter- 2020**
- o MS Boys Basketball
- o HS Boys Basketball (FHSAA)
- o MS Girls Basketball
- o HS Girls Basketball (JV)
- o HS Boys Soccer (V)
- **Spring- 2020**
- o HS Track/Field (FHSAA)
- We are also looking into opportunities with HS

Golf and HS Swimming.

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.

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.

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.

Positive Discipline in the Classroom

This year our focus is on improving our community relationships and what better way than to use examples from our TITAN family? Attitude, behavior, and communication are the ABCs that will have everyone wanting to knock down our doors to become a Titan!

Attitude: People don't care how much you know until they know how much you care. So many students and parents would thank us for our teachers being so caring and helpful. If anyone had the pleasure of seeing Coach Reynolds in action, you would see his students working themselves harder than they thought possible and believing in themselves.

Behavior: It's not just what you do, but how you do it. Ms. Connelly exemplified this with her smiling welcome to students and communication to parents. Ms. Connelly communicated positives and rooms for improvement, but always looked for something to highlight.

Communication: You never get a second chance to make a first impression. Mr. Rebman worked diligently to communicate with parents and students from weekly newsletters to posting student work and grades in his classroom.

There were so many other examples of TITAN's using their ABCs and we are excited to see it continue through the year! Look out for ABC shout outs from the leadership team on the quarterly newsletters throughout the year. <https://www.rcoe.us/educational-services/files/2013/07/03-How-Customer-Friendly-Is-Your-School-Lyn-Chambers.pdf>

Student Fees

\$22, includes: \$15.00 Technology + \$5.00 Science Laboratory Fees + \$2.00 Writing Journal/Interactive Notebook

*Additional fees will be included in course syllabi in grades 6-12 as needed • *\$10.00 Flashdrive (new students or replacements)

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 12, 2019.



Stop by the front office to purchase the beautiful Titans Yearbook created by our digital arts class!