

Odyssey Charter Elementary School

SUMMER NEWS

2019

"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.

Registration

Required for All Odyssey Charter School Families

**July 11, 2019 (12pm to 6pm) or
July 16, 2019 (2pm to 7pm)**

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 beginning August 12, 2019:

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

Student Fees

Kindergarten – 2nd Grade: \$5
(includes \$3 Technology; \$1 Writing Journal; \$1 Student Data Chat Folder)
3rd Grade – 5th Grade: \$10 (includes \$8 Technology; \$1 Writing Journal; \$1 Student Data Chat Folder)

Summer Readings

Students are expected to complete their chosen assignments from the tic-tac-toe board during the summer. All summer reading assignments will be turned in and reviewed during the first two weeks of school. Information about summer readings for each Odyssey Charter School campus is available at: www.odysseycharterschool.com.

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

Calendar

JULY

7/11 Mandatory Summer Registration 12-6pm

OR

7/16 Mandatory Summer Registration 2-7pm

AUG

8/12 First day of classes for 1st-5th grade
VPK Starts

8/15 First day for Kindergarten

8/23 Early Release Day

8/28 OCS Board Meeting

8/30 Early Release Day

SEPT

9/2 Labor Day – Holiday for all

9/6

Early Release Day

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, Ms. Nolder

Greetings to our Odyssey Charter School Elementary and Odyssey Preparatory Academy families! We hope you are enjoying your summertime together and are spending time with family and friends. As we prepare for another successful school year together, we'd like to share some of our most recent achievements as one of the top performing schools in the state of Florida!

For the 2018-2019 school year, our Odyssey Charter School Elementary students were 1st in Palm Bay in 3rd grade Math and 4th grade ELA, and outperformed all traditional public schools in 5th grade Math and 5th grade Science. Our sister school Odyssey Preparatory Academy students were 1st in Palm Bay in 6th grade ELA, and 2nd in Palm Bay in 3rd grade Math and 5th grade Science! We are very proud of our students, teachers, faculty, and support staff for their continued efforts. They worked so hard this year!

We are excited about the 2019-2020 school year, and we are looking forward to our focus on Differentiation, Mastery and Acceleration, and on expansion of our GATEway (Gifted and Talented) program. We are excited to welcome some new and changing staff – Ms. Suzette Ventura is our new GATEway teacher; Mr. Mike Senick is our new Instructional Coach for K-2nd grades; and Ms. Carrie Young is our new Dean of Students.

We are also delighted to tell everyone that construction on our expanded car loop (with additional parking), additional staff parking lot, and 3rd wing expansion should begin in October. We are busy preparing for the coming school year and look forward to your student's return. Our team is excited to welcome our Titan families back to school in August and to begin the coming school year!

New Administrative Team Member

Dean of Students – Ms. Carrie Young



Hi, I am Carrie Young. I will be the Dean of Students at Odyssey Charter School. I am so excited for this school year! I was born and raised here in Palm Bay, Florida. I worked at University Park Elementary in Melbourne for the last 10 years. I have two children, Becca and Mason. I also have three dogs who are like my children, Harley, Bane, and Logan. I like to read, go shopping, bake, and go to the beach. I am looking forward to meeting all of our Odyssey families and working with you!

Titan Team Changes

Mr. Eddie Haber will return to the classroom teaching 5th grade and will continue as a 'teacher on leadership assignment' outside of his teaching hours.

Ms. Suzette Ventura will transition from Instructional Coach to GATEway Gifted and Talented Teacher.

Mr. Mike Senick will transition to Instructional Coach for Kindergarten through 2nd grades, partnering with Ms. DeAnna Bernardo, our returning Instructional Coach.

Moving to Jr. Sr. High

If you are interested in learning more about the Odyssey Charter School Jr. Sr. High School (grades 6-12) check out the Jr./Sr. Newsletter at www.odysseycharterschool.com/news.html

Uniform Policy

All Odyssey Charter School students are required to wear a school uniform. Our uniforms can be purchased through 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.*

'Dress for Success' Guidelines: Students can choose from a green or white Odyssey t-shirt, polo, or dry-fit shirt, along with black or khaki bottoms.

- All students are required to wear khaki or black 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. Joggers are allowed. Stretch pants, and athletic wear are not allowed. Students may wear solid color leggings under uniform shorts or 'skorts.'
- Belts must always be visibly worn. These belts must be black or brown and fastened securely at waist level. Pants must be worn at waist level. Loosely worn and lowly worn pants are not acceptable.
- Students must wear a collared polo shirt or t-shirt. Student polo's and t-shirts must be solid green or white. 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. Flip-flops, slippers, or high heel shoes are prohibited.
- If a student chooses or needs to wear a jacket or sweatshirt due to cold weather, it must be a solid color and in accordance with the schools' uniform guide. Odyssey Elementary School students may choose solid black, gray, or navy sweatshirts. Jackets that are not in compliance with the uniform policy will be confiscated.

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@odysseycharterschool.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, Arrival, Dismissal and Early Release

Please note that our early release dismissals are every Friday.

Arrival Times	Dismissal Times	Early Release Friday
K-2nd 7:20-8:00	K-2nd 2:35	K-2nd 1:15
3rd-5th 7:20-8:00	3rd-5th 2:50	3rd-5th 1:30

Before and After-School Enrichment Programs

Before-Care: OCS Elem Eldron: Before Care begins at 6:00am. Students participate in art, a variety of team-based games, and social fun. At 7:30am, students go to the café where they may enjoy a healthy breakfast for \$1.50. Registration forms are available in the front office of Odyssey Charter Elementary School. There is a one-time registration fee of \$25.00 per family. The weekly rate for Before Care is \$35.00 per week and the daily drop-in rate is \$8.00 per day.

OPA Wyoming: Before Care begins at 7:00am. Students participate in art, a variety of team-based games, and social fun. At 7:30am, students go to the café where they may enjoy a healthy breakfast at no additional cost. Registration forms are available in the front office of Odyssey Preparatory Academy. There is a one-time registration fee of \$25.00 per family. The weekly rate for Before Care is \$15.00 per week and the daily drop-in rate is \$4.00 per day.

After-Care: On both campuses, After Care is available to students until 6:30pm each day, and every student is provided a healthy snack. Students are grouped by grade levels and activities include art projects, outdoor recess and nature trails, digital learning, Yoga and Hip-Hop Dance instruction. Homework Help is provided when needed. Registration forms are available in the front offices of Odyssey Charter Elementary School and Odyssey Preparatory Academy. There is a one-time registration fee of \$25.00 per family. The rate for After Care is \$55.00 per week, and the daily drop-in rate is \$12.00 per day

Before and After Care payments are due every Monday (via check or money order payable to OCS or OPA). Please place payments in the deposit box outside of the multi-purpose room at OCS or to the front office deposit box at OPA.

For more information about Before and After Care Enrichment:

Odyssey Charter Elementary School

contact: Amy White at WhiteA@odysseycharterschool.com.

Odyssey Preparatory Academy

contact: Danielle Johnson at JohnsonD@odysseyprepacademy.com.

Positive Discipline in the Classroom

We are always working on developing the culture for learning at our schools. As we recommit in our elementary programs to "Positive Discipline in the Classroom" by Jane Nelsen, we are committing to the implementation of a model whose focus is to help build compassionate, resilient students who possess great communication skills. This method helps students develop the self-discipline needed to become excellent students. It helps to build a sense of community within the classroom by providing tools to develop respectful communication skills through a classroom meeting format. It helps students to treat each other in respectful ways. Its principles include helping students feel significant and that they belong, developing kind but firm teachers, teaching valuable social and life skills, and developing within students a sense of capability.

Voluntary Pre-Kindergarten (VPK)

Montessori Village Green, located at both Odyssey Charter Elementary School and Odyssey Preparatory Academy, provides Preschool (3 year old) and VPK (4 year old) early childhood education. Enrollment is on a first come, first serve basis starting January 1st for the following school year. Applications are available at the front offices or on the Odyssey Charter School and Odyssey Preparatory Academy websites.

Montessori Village Green at Odyssey Charter Elementary School: 1755 Eldron Blvd SE, Palm Bay

- AM Montessori 8:30am-11:30am (3 year old tuition based)
- Full Day Montessori 8:30am-3:30pm (3 year old tuition based)
- VPK AM 8:30am-11:30am (mornings only tuition-free with the VPK voucher)
- VPK PM 12:30pm-3:30pm (afternoons only tuition-free with the VPK voucher)
- VPK Full Day 8:30am-3:30pm (tuition for wrap around afternoon hours)

Montessori Village Green at Odyssey Preparatory Academy: 1350 Wyoming Dr. SE, Palm Bay

- AM Montessori 8:15am-11:15am (3 year old tuition based)
- Full Day Montessori 8:15am-3:15pm (3 year old tuition based)
- VPK AM 8:15am-11:15am (mornings only tuition-free with the VPK voucher)
- VPK PM 12:15pm-3:15pm (afternoons only tuition-free with the VPK voucher)
- VPK Full Day 8:15am-3:15pm (tuition for wrap around afternoon hours)

Both campuses are ELC School Readiness Providers. To apply for the Child Care Subsidy, apply on-line at www.elcbrevard.org

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.

Gifted & Talented-Gateway Program



We are very excited for this upcoming school year and some of the new additions we are adding to the Gateway program at Odyssey Charter School. Our focus will be to use an integrated curriculum specific for Gateway students such as Project Lead that Way, Renzulli, and gifted curricula from William & Mary College. These curricula promote inquiry, problem solving, and logic. Some other skills that we will

integrate into this Acceleration block are group dynamics, self-advocacy and leadership. Our goal is to provide personalized learning opportunities that will foster growth and acceleration.

Acceleration Block

At Odyssey Charter School, teaching and learning are student-centered. The Acceleration block(s) is a specified period where all students have their learning "accelerated" forward. Acceleration involves the differentiation and personalization of instruction to address the needs and interests of each learner. This may appear in different forms across grade levels, but the goal is always the same, having each student reach their full potential.