

CHARTER SCHOOL ACCOUNTABILITY COMMITTEE

DELAWARE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION



**Odyssey Charter School
Charter Renewal
Final Report
November 26, 2024**

On September 30, 2024, Odyssey Charter School (Odyssey) submitted an application to renew its charter for a five-year term. The purpose of the final meeting is for the Charter School Accountability Committee (CSAC) to review the renewal application in light of the relevant statutory criteria for renewal and vote on a recommendation to the Secretary of Education.

This report serves as a summary of the strengths, areas for follow-up, and/or concerns identified by members of the Charter School Accountability Committee (CSAC) during their review of the charter applicant's renewal application, performance review reports, annual reports, and performance agreements, and during CSAC meetings.

The following individuals attended the final meeting of CSAC on November 21, 2024:

Voting Committee Members

- Kim Klein, Associate Secretary, Operations Support
- Aimee Beam, Education Associate, School Support
- Tiffany Green, Education Associate, Workforce Support
- Brook Hughes, Education Associate, Operations Support
- Joyce Leatherbury, Education Associate, Academic Support
- Preston Shockley, Education Associate, Academic Support
- Ted Molin, Community Member
- Tierra Fair, Community Member

Ex-Officio Members (Non-voting)

- Kendall Massett, Executive Director, Delaware Charter School Network
- Shawn Brittingham, Delaware State Board of Education

Staff to the Committee (Non-voting)

- Alicia Balcerak, Administrative Assistant III-I, Charter School Office
- Faye Schilling, Education Specialist, Charter School Office
- Leroy Travers, Director, Charter School Office

Representatives of Odyssey Charter School

- Jeff Koss, Chief Financial Officer
- Elias Pappas, Executive Director

Follow-Up Questions:

Kendall Massett commended Odyssey for its innovative approach, highlighting that charter schools are meant to break away from traditional district models. She also acknowledged the school's leadership for giving staff the freedom to teach in ways that best support students' needs.

Conclusion:

Ms. Klein asked if there was a motion to recommend that Odyssey has met the standard for charter operations under the charter school law and, therefore, its charter should be renewed for a five- or ten-year term beginning on July 1, 2025, with or without conditions. The motion was

made, seconded, and approved unanimously to recommend renewal for a ten-year term without conditions.

Next Steps:

- On or before November 26th, CSAC will issue a final report, which will include its recommendation on the renewal application.
- The public comment period will close on December 5th.
- The Secretary of Education will announce his decision at the December 12th State Board of Education meeting and ask for the assent of the State Board.