



MEMORANDUM

Ripon Area School
District

1120 Metomen St., Ripon, WI 54971

www.ripon.k12.wi.us

To: Board of Education

From: Dr. Mary Whitrock, Superintendent; Samantha Behnke, Principal; Jonah Adams, Business
Manager

Date: October 3, 2024

Subject: Recommended Staffing Adjustments for Odyssey Academy for 2024-2025

Background

At the August 2024 School Board meeting, the Board approved staffing adjustments at Odyssey Academy to accommodate an estimated increase in student enrollment to 260. Since that time, additional students have enrolled, and initial estimates using Odyssey’s revenue-sharing formula have been calculated. Odyssey retains 74% of its direct student generated revenue to be used for schoolwide expenses, while the District retains 26% of revenue for districtwide expenditures. As of September, enrollment reached 267 students, generating an estimated \$2.43 million in total revenue. Odyssey will retain \$1.8 million for its operating budget.

After evaluating student needs, it was determined that Odyssey requires three additional teaching positions:

- A 1.0 FTE position for grades 4K-2
- A 0.5 FTE position for grades 3-5
- A 0.5 FTE position for grades 6-8

The following table summarizes current and proposed staffing levels, along with student-teacher ratios:

GRADE BAND	ENROLLMENT	CURRENT TEACHING STAFF	CURRENT STUDENT-TEACHER RATIO	PROPOSED TEACHING STAFF	PROPOSED STUDENT-TEACHER RATIO
4K – 2	82	2.0	41:1	3.0	27:1
3 – 5	76	2.0	38:1	2.5	30:1
6 – 8	65	2.2	30:1	2.7	24:1
9 – 12	44	2.8	16:1	2.8	16:1
TOTAL:	267	9.2*	29:1	11.2	24:1

*Note: A 0.2 FTE art teaching position is included in the total.

Recommendation and Rationale

In response to the higher-than-anticipated enrollment, we recommend the following staffing

adjustments for the 2024-2025 school year at Odyssey Academy:

- Add 1.0 FTE teaching position to the 4K-2 grade band.
- Add 0.5 FTE teaching position to the 3-5 grade band.
- Add 0.5 FTE teaching position to the 6-8 grade band.

These adjustments are essential to meet the academic needs of our expanding student body and to maintain high-quality instruction within our virtual learning environment. The additional revenue generated by the increased enrollment will cover the costs associated with additional teaching staff.

We look forward to discussing these recommendations further at your convenience.