



## **Odyssey 2023-2024 Annual Report**

Fifth Year

*Empower • Individualize • Innovate • Succeed*

This document serves as the Odyssey Academy of Virtual Learning annual report for the Ripon Area School District Board of Education and the Odyssey Academy of Virtual Learning Governance Council. During the 2023-2024 school year, Odyssey Academy of Virtual Learning completed its fourth year in operation supported by the fourth year of the charter school grant. This current school year, 2023-2024 will be the last year of the grant.

### **Odyssey Academy of Virtual Learning Vision**

*Empower • Individualize • Innovate • Succeed*

### **Mission Statement**

The mission of the Odyssey Academy of Virtual Learning is to empower learners through a customized and flexible pathway that fosters forward thinking.

### **Foundations of Odyssey Academy of Virtual Learning**

- Innovative, Personalized, Project-Based, Virtual Education Program that meets the needs of all learners
- Customized learning environment that provides students to study at their preferred pace, time and place under the direction of an appropriately licensed teacher
- Flexible, competency-based, multi-age groupings for literacy and math to meet specific needs of students
- Parents can choose to play an active role in their child's education if they choose to, under the direction of the teacher
- Researched best practice- Project-Based Learning
- Effective Team- partnership is developed between the teacher, parent and student that maximizes student learning, which allows each student to reach their full potential
- Governance Council Leadership

### **Classroom Teachers**

Shelly Schueller  
Erin Taylor  
Anissa Kramer  
Renee Goeb

Kristie Webb  
Kristal Mott  
Stephanie Hicks  
Lee Mierow

Melissa Christ  
Aric Soderbloom

## Governance Council Members

Megan Prellwitz  
Tami Schattschneider

Maribel Brown

Lindsay Loewe

## School Description

Odyssey Academy of Virtual Learning is a 4K-12 charter school in the Ripon Area School District, which opened in the fall of 2019 with 97 students. Currently, we have an enrollment of around 275 students. Odyssey Academy is a tuition-free 4K-12 project-based, virtual charter public school supporting parents across the state who want to educate their children at home. Whether homeschool families or families on the go, Odyssey empowers parents to make educational decisions for their children. Odyssey provides a truly unique learning option for parents to consider between traditional online public schools and homeschool by providing financial resources, access to quality curriculum, and the support of licensed teachers.

With Odyssey, your child's educational journey begins with the opportunity for the parent to play an integral role. As your child's first teacher, you may want to remain connected to their education. An effective and beneficial partnership is developed between the teacher, parent and student that maximizes student learning, which allows each student to reach their full potential.

The district contact for Odyssey Academy of Virtual Learning is:

4K-8

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9-12

Vince Propson

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## Governance Strategic Initiatives

- Marketing
  - *Creates/implements a communications and marketing plan for student recruitment, retention, and enrollment that removes barriers and bias from the process.*
  - *Creates/implements a marketing plan that advertises and promotes the school, enrollment periods, and application procedures.*
- Member Development
  - *Develops/revisits the understanding of the Governance Board's roles and legal responsibilities.*
  - *Develops onboarding process for sustainability of a high-functioning Board.*
  - *Align onboarding process and Board roles/responsibilities with other Boards in the District.*
- Financial Responsibilities
  - *Develops/revisits understanding of the financial responsibilities of the governance board.*

## Performance Measures

1. **Goal 1: Odyssey Academy will be guided by a trained and autonomous Governing Board that oversees decisions regarding school policies, personnel decisions, and fiscal operations.** The Odyssey Governance Board has received training from WRCCS twice a year for the past five years - **Goal Met**
2. **Goal 2: Train teachers into best practices for delivery of blended learning and virtual instruction:** Staff have participated in the following professional development which enhances best practices in blended and virtual learning: SLATE, Literacy Leaders Conference - CESA , Teach Your Heart Out 2.0 Virtual Conference, CESA 6- Integrating Social-Emotional Skills Into Literacy Workshop, Reading and Writing Strategies for the Online and In-person Classroom with Jennifer Serravallo, ESGI TeachCon, Uplifting Education Professional Development, PBL (Project Based Learning) Works 101 Workshop , Wisconsin eSchool Network Curriculum Review Team, CESA 6- Jan Richardson Webinar - Build Deeper Comprehension (Primary Focus), iReady training, Simply K12 webinars, Ditch Summit-**Goal Met**
3. **Goal 3: Train teachers into best practices for delivery of Project Based Learning instruction.** 100% of Odyssey staff will be trained in Project Based Learning as of July 2021.-**Goal Met**
4. **Goal 4: Communicate required assessments with the Governance Board and parents through the handbook.** This is communicated in the handbook, which is posted on the website, grade level student expectation documents, newsletters and parent meetings. -**Goal Met**
5. **Goal 5: Increase communication and timely communication from Odyssey Academy Staff:** Odyssey Academy now offers a yearly parent and student orientation, monthly newsletters, quarterly student assemblies, and an emphasis of a 24-hour, business day, response time. **Goal Met**
6. **Goal 6: Odyssey Academy will improve online engagement:** This year, Odyssey Academy partnered with Niche.com to help tell our story. We have increased online profile views 1556% (first click) and engagement by 476% (clicks after the profile view) as compared to the previous year. Word of mouth continues to be Odyssey's greatest advertiser. **Goal Met**
7. **Goal 7: Odyssey Academy will increase emotional support and peer-to-peer interaction:** Twice a month, Odyssey Academy offers live Odyssey Connect sessions, held by our School Counselor. She also instructs monthly SEL lessons for Elementary students, and provides one-on-one sessions for students and families as needed. Odyssey is continuing to develop plans to increase their number of Field Trip opportunities. **Goal Met**
8. **Goal 8: High School students will receive timely support:** Every core content area hosts one project support hour each week. Additionally, every Friday staff offer "Office Hours" to assist students with any continued academic needs that persist or may arise. These hours have helped improve upon the expectations that staff have for student projects, digging deeper into the skills of inquiry. During the start of every school year, and continuously throughout the school year, students are trained on how to appropriately utilize each of the following platforms to assist with their understanding of ALEKS Math, HeadRush, Wisconsin Virtual School (WVS), and Infinite Campus (IC). **Goal Met**
9. **Goal 9: Maintain a graduation rate equal to or higher than RASD:** 100% Graduation rate in 2023-2024. Looking to increase the number of individuals attending the in person RHS graduation from one student.-**Goal Met**
10. **Goal 10: Maintain an attendance rate equal to or higher than RASD.** **Goal Met**
11. **Goal 11: Increase the number of open enrolled students:** Odyssey Academy increased open enrollment from 88 students to 113 in 2023 / 2024. **Goal Met**
12. **Goal 12: Increase School-Wide Math and Literacy Scores:** In 2023/2024 there are 4% fewer students who are one grade level behind in Literacy as of the end of the year compared to the beginning of the year per the school's iReady data. In Math, there was a 5% increase in students who are at or above grade level compared to the beginning of the year. **Goal Met**

## Accomplishments for the 2023-2024 School Year

### ● **August/September**

- CQI Plus/Delta Schoolwide- Parent satisfaction survey.
- Developed a team for Marketing for Odyssey
- Hosted back to school nights and enjoyed first days of school together

### ● **October**

- Revisions of Odyssey Family Handbook
- Assessment Data- Analyzing and identifying student needs
  - Developing RTI plans
  - Determining Resources for Students
- Check-Ins with New Families
- Field Trip to West Bend Fire Station

### ● **November**

- Added new members to Odyssey Governance Council
- Odyssey Booth at Children Come First Conference
- Evaluated and Analyzed Exit Survey Data from students who withdrew from Odyssey

### ● **December**

- Partnered with Niche to increase awareness of Odyssey Academy to create a Niche Marketing profile.
- Created vertical teams to discuss content areas of Science and Social Studies, learning targets from 5th-8th grade.
- 4K-12 Winter Celebration

### ● **January**

- Worked alongside WRCCS for the 2024 [Virtual Charter School Fair](#) Jan 11th and February 12th.
- Students and teachers wrapping up Semester 1 projects and portfolios.

### ● **February**



