

OCASA General Membership Meeting Notes

Date: September 24, 2025

Time: 4:30 PM – 5:35 PM

Attendance: 207 participants

Welcome & Introductions

- **Dr. Amy McHale**, OCASA President, welcomed members and emphasized the importance of involvement.
 - Encouraged members to reach out to level leads for involvement in short-term volunteer opportunities and organizational planning.
 - **Dr. Karena Chunoo**, Executive Director, introduced the Executive and Representative Boards:
 - **Executive Board:** Amy McHale (President), Matt Turner (Past President), Teresa Saffold-Washington (Secretary), James Morosetti (Treasurer), Nate Hay (President-Elect)
 - **Representative Board:** Level leads for Elementary, Middle/K8, High School, and CTE (Principals & APs)
 - **Committee Chairs:** Events (Adrienne Anderson), Membership (Joni Casamento), Special Recognitions (Desiree Hitchmon-Houghton), Legislative (Rebecca Watson)
 - **Advisors:** Legal (Matt Turner), Professional Standards (John Miller), Retiree Rep (Doug Loftis)
-

Treasurer's Report – James Morosetti

- Membership dues supported:
 - Professional development series
 - Legislative advocacy (PAC donations, FAFSA Days, Council of Great City Schools)
 - Member recognition (Principal/AP Week, socials, scholarships)
 - Operational expenses (website, swag, executive director fees)
-

Bylaws Revisions – Dr. Anna Diaz

- **Key Changes:**
 - Defined “member in good standing”

- Clarified Representative Board composition by level
 - Introduced alternate representatives
 - Confirmed Executive Board roles (Core 5)
 - Executive Director designated as CEO for day-to-day operations
 - Standardized quorum requirements
 - Shifted elections to an electronic format
 - Clarified vacancy procedures
- **Motion to Approve:** Passed with majority vote (47 raised hands + chat confirmations)
-

Cadre Leads – Dr. Anna Diaz

- Deadline to submit cadre lead nominations: **October 9, 2025**
 - Cadre-led will assist the principal in meeting presentations and coordination
 - Responsibilities include attending quick online meetings and presenting at principal meetings
-

Membership Report – Joni Casamento

- Current members: **405**
 - Goal: **450 by the end of the school year or 470 (to reach 80% of eligible administrators)**
 - September recruitment raffle: \$50 gift card for referring new members
-

Membership Development Series – Dr. Karena Chunoo

- **Upcoming Sessions:**
 - Oct 8: ParentSquare training (with Shari Bobinski & Jason Smith)
 - Nov: Contracts & Professional Standards (with Dr. Leanne Blackmore, Dr. Tim Smith, John Miller, Matt Turner)
 - Dec: Reinventing Your Brand (with Dr. Swenson)
 - Spring: Advocacy & Financial Planning (target sessions for new and mid-career administrators)
-

Walk for Freedom Event – Dr. Anna Diaz

- **Purpose:** Raise awareness and funds to combat human trafficking
 - **Details:**
 - Purpose: Raise money for awareness and funds to combat human trafficking
 - Walk from Edgewater HS to College Park and back– November 1, 2025
 - Goal: 500 participants, \$50,000 fundraising
 - Family-friendly event
 - Post-walk BBQ social (RSVP required; open to families)
-

Scholarship Subcommittee – Nicolle Campbell

- Focus: Scholarships for students pursuing education careers
 - Goal: Expand from 2 recipients to 1 per high school (23 total)
 - Interested members can join the committee
-

Special Recognitions – Desiree Hitchmon-Houghton and Nicolle Campbell

- Upcoming recognitions:
 - Principal Month (October)
 - Stella Awards
 - Assistant Principal Recognition
 - Suggestions for additional recognition methods encouraged
-

Fundraising: Golf Tournament – Dr. Anna Diaz

- Location: Stony Brook West – March 5, 2026
 - Goal: Raise \$75K–\$100K for scholarships
 - Volunteers needed for planning committee
 - Committee volunteers needed (contact Nathan Hay)
-

Social Media: Dr. Guy Swanson

- Social Media Day – October 2, 2025
- Members encouraged to post about OCASA membership

- Templates and captions provided by Dr. Swenson
 - Tag district leaders to increase visibility
-

Legislative Update – Rebecca Watson

- Recent training with district government relations
 - Plan to compile newsletter links for local/state/federal reps
 - Goal: Build relationships for advocacy and visibility
-

Professional Standards – John Miller

- Reminder: Management directive refreshers due Oct 15, 2025
 - Updates on A4 procedures (camera use, witness statements)
 - Contact John Miller for guidance/review before submitting statements
-

Legal Update – Matt Turner, Esq.

- Support for navigating conflicts with the district legal
 - Advocacy for clearer A4 standards
 - Available for legal guidance and representation if needed
-

Old Business – Dr. Anna Diaz

- Superintendent Vasquez supports OCASA's work
 - Encourage visibility with school board members (invite to events, share newsletters)
 - Cadre reps to attend school board meetings
 - Read OCASA newsletters for updates
-

New Business – Dr. Anna Diaz

- Large District Collaboration: OCASA is initiating a virtual meeting with the 6 largest FL districts to address funding equity
 - FAFSA Conference: January 2026
 - Council of Great City Schools: March 2026
-

Closing Remarks

- Dr. Karena Chunoo - Encourage peer support – Karena Chunoo
- Dr. Amy McHale - Next school board meeting September 30, 2025: K-8 and middle school principals invited to attend