

OCASA Representative Board Meeting Notes

Date: October 2, 2025

Time: 4:30 PM – 6:20 PM

Location: Virtual

Facilitators: Dr. Anna Diaz (Executive Director), Dr. Amy McHale (President)

Special Guests: Roberto Pacheco (Chief Operations Officer), Bill Wen (Senior Director, Transportation Services) Transportation Services Discussion

Key Issues Raised:

- Driver Shortage: Down from 800 to ~500 drivers post-COVID.
- Double-Back Routes: Used to manage limited drivers; causes delays, especially in the afternoons.
- Technology Challenges:
 - Tablets on buses for tracking students and routes.
 - Parent app underutilized due to login issues and outdated Skyward info.
- Compensation for the staff who are impacted
- Communication Gaps:
 - Schools are not receiving timely updates via ParentSquare.
 - The delay dashboard is not always updated due to driver workload.

- ESE Transport Delays: Staffing challenges for monitoring students after hours.
- Recognition for Drivers: Lack of formal recognition; WOW program and “Love the Bus” month in February highlighted.

Action Items:

- OCASA to promote WOW recognition program via newsletter.
- Encourage schools to post transportation update reminders on websites.
- OCASA to assist with outreach and advisory support for transportation planning.
- Investigate stipend memo visibility and eligibility for staff staying late due to bus delays.

Board Attendance: Dr. Anna Diaz, Dr. Amy McHale, Dr. Karena Chunoo, Dr. Guy Swenson, Teresa Saffold-Washington, Joni Casamento, Karen Diaz-Denmark, James Morosetti, John Miller, Nicolle Campbell, and Jodie Rolston-Cary

Secretary’s Report – Teresa Saffold-Washington

Approved Minutes:

- Sept 4 Board Meeting
 - Sept 18 Superintendent Meeting
 - Sept 22 Legislative Training
 - Sept 24 General Membership Meeting
- Motion Passed

Treasurer’s Report – James Morosetti

- Savings: \$23,829.13
- Checking: \$7,340.75
- Recent Expenses:
 - Edgewater HS rental for Walk for Freedom
 - Legislative meeting catering
 - Board dinner at Armando's

School-Level Representative Reports

- High School (Nicolle Campbell):
 - Concern: Procurement delays and vendor limitations.
 - Highlight: "Connectivity Day" initiative to build student engagement.
- CTE (Jodie Rolston Cary):
 - Concern: The Procurement process is unclear and slow.
 - Highlight: OTC East ribbon-cutting; invitation to host OCASA meeting.
- Middle School APs (Guy Swenson): No major concerns.
- Elementary APs (Joni Casamento):
 - Highlight: Launch of formal AP mentorship program (Years 1–3).
 - Quiet month otherwise.

Membership Update – Joni Casamento

- Current Members: 410
- Goal: 470
- September Raffle Winner: Ellen Nexis (Middle School AP) – \$50 gift card
- Team-Based Recruitment Strategy: Showing strong results

Professional Standards – John Miller

- Management Directive Refreshers Due: October 15
- A4 Updates: Shared at principal meetings; OCASA helped reinstate training requirement.
- Positive Trends: Fewer adverse cases; support available for statement review.

Legislative Committee Update-Dr. Diaz

Training Recap & Priorities:

- Develop OCASA-specific advocacy platform (Federal: Title II/IV; State: CEP & nutrition)
- Create standardized 1-pager for legislative outreach
- Plan committee-week visits to Tallahassee
- Assemble legislator packets (maps, contacts, committee roles)
- Launch bill-tracking workflow and newsletter sign-up campaign
- Coordinate cross-district mobilization and joint letters with partner orgs

Events Update-Dr. Diaz

Walk for Freedom – Nov 1

- Logistics: Permit, route, radios, volunteers, media (Clear Channel, WESH, Univision)
- Proclamation: Pending from City of Orlando
- Swag: Wristbands with reporting hotlines; OCASA table planned
- BBQ Social: RSVP required; open to families
- Fundraising Goal: \$50,000

Scholarship Golf Tournament – Mar 5, 2026- Dr. Diaz

- Location: Stony Brook West
- Cost: \$600 per foursome
- Goal: \$75K–\$100K
- Subcommittee formation pending

Social Media Day – Dr. Guy Swenson

- Moderate engagement due to tech issues
- Future idea: Week-long OCASA posting campaign before membership drive

Scholarship Committee – Nicolle Campbell

- No volunteers yet; outreach planned to high school leaders
- Discussion: Limit scholarships to children of OCASA members for recruitment and equity

Recognition Committee-Dr. Diaz

- October: Principal Appreciation Month
- Gift cards approved in prior meeting; James to coordinate with Desiree

New Business-Dr. Diaz

- Jodie Rolston Cary Approved as CTE Director Representative (Motion Passed)
- FAFSA Conference – Jan 2026: Board members interested in attending should email Amy
- Deputy Superintendent Meeting: Scheduled virtually for Oct 3

Reminders & Upcoming Dates

- Next Rep Board Meeting: November 13, 2025
- Walk for Freedom: November 1, 2025 (Wear black; registration at 3 PM)
- Newsletter: Include reminders about statement review, WOW program, and transportation updates