



**GOVERNING BOARD AGENDA ITEM  
AMPHITHEATER UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT NO. 10**

---

**DATE OF MEETING:**        **May 2, 2017**

**TITLE:**    **Recognition of 2017 Odyssey of the Mind World Teams**

---

**BACKGROUND:**

Amphitheater Public Schools continues to be the top district in participation and achievement in the Arizona Odyssey of the Mind program. Odyssey of the Mind is an international competition that provides creative problem-solving opportunities for students from kindergarten through college. Team members apply their creativity to solve one (or more) of five long-term problems involving building mechanical devices, building balsa wood structures designed to hold hundreds of pounds, building vehicles that are used to complete tasks, presenting a theatrical performance solving a dilemma, or presenting their own interpretation of literary classics. In addition, teams are scored on “style,” or, the creative way in which they present their solutions. Finally, each team must participate in a spontaneous problem at the competition that is “top secret” until after the end of the day. This portion of the competition prepares students for what we all face in real life, unexpected problems that require teamwork, given limited resources.

This year, a record-breaking total of nine teams earned the right to compete during World Finals May 24-27, 2017 at Michigan State University. Additionally, three teams were awarded a Ranatra Fusca Award for exceptional creativity and one team was awarded an OMER for outstanding teamwork.

The following students and their coaches are to be commended for their dedication and high level of accomplishment in this academic competition.

**School: Canyon del Oro High School**

**Problem:** Theatrical Team: To Be Continued: A Superhero Cliffhanger (Div III) – (*1<sup>st</sup> place*)

**Student Names:**

Dylan Jungerman  
Jason Ronstadt  
Micah Secrest  
Dean Selegue  
Garrison Synnestvedt  
Cade Walsh

**Coaches:**

Amy Selegue  
Joeli Secrest

**School: Canyon del Oro High School**

**Problem:** Classics Team: It’s Time, OMER (Div III) – (*2<sup>nd</sup> place*)

**Student Names:**

Lilly Hawley  
Carter Hollings  
Kaitlyn Hsu  
Jessica Sheldon

Ashton Thomas  
Alex Velazco

**Coaches:**

Lisa Sheldon  
Sarah Sheldon  
Cymry DeBoucher

**School: Donaldson Elementary**

**Problem:** Vehicles Team – Catch Us If You Can (Div I) – (1<sup>st</sup> place)

**Student Names:**

Ayden Collins  
Caden Deatherage  
Simon Foley  
Spencer Foley  
Jorge Gallegos  
Lake Laos  
Jace Thomas

**Coaches:**

Robyn Yewell  
Carie Deartherrage

**School: Painted Sky Elementary**

**Problem:** Vehicles Team – Catch Us If You Can (Div I) – (2<sup>nd</sup> place)

**Student Names:**

Caitlyn Carr  
Chandler Carr  
Abby Hendrix  
Abby Knapp  
Jace McPheron  
Joshua McPheron  
Aiden Presuhn

**Coaches:**

Cyndi Carr  
Roger Knapp  
Bre Ronnie

**School: La Cima Middle School**

**Problem:** Technical Team – Odd-a-Bot (Div II) - (2<sup>nd</sup> place and *Ranatra Fusca* for exceptional creativity)

**Student Names:**

Sarah Bakhshpour  
Glenn David  
Luis Figueroa Olvera  
Justin Nguyen  
Phi Nim

**Coach:**

Jill Malina

**School: Mesa Verde Elementary**

**Problem:** Balsa Structures Team: Ready, Set, Balsa, Build! (Div I) – (2<sup>nd</sup> place)

**Student Names:**

Tanner Fick  
Austin McGhee  
Connor Mikles  
Ryne Schulke  
Diego Torres

**Coaches:**

Karen Douglas  
Alicia Schulke

**School: Cross Middle School – Team A**

**Problem:** Balsa Structures Team – Ready, Set, Balsa, Build! (Div II) – (1<sup>st</sup> place and awarded an OMER Award for excellence in team work)

**Student Names:**

Quinlan Benvidez  
Kaylynn Calvin  
Addison DaDeppo  
Hannah Eblen  
Sydney Enos  
Luke Ferre  
Josh Jaeger

**Coaches:**

Leann Calvin  
Lisa DaDeppo  
Leslie Ferre

**School: Cross Middle School – Team B**

**Problem:** Balsa Structures Team – Ready, Set, Balsa, Build! (Div II) – (3<sup>rd</sup> place and Ranatra Fusca for exceptional creativity, which qualifies team for World Finals)

**Student Names:**

Owen Lowery  
Jacob Martinez  
Garrison Milkes  
Becket Ott  
Carter Peru  
Vincent Schmidtke

**Coaches:**

Molly Mikles  
Patricia Reardon

**School: Ironwood Ridge High School**

**Problem:** Classics Team – It's Time, OMER (Div III) (3<sup>rd</sup> place and Ranatra Fusca for exceptional creativity, which qualifies team for World Finals)

**Student Names:**

Jenna Childress  
Emily Dunne

Leela Horner  
Maya Horner  
Chloe Johnson  
Ana Martinez  
Rachel Schaffer  
**Coach:**  
Jim Childress

---

**RECOMMENDATION:**

This item is for the Governing Board's information and recognition.

---

**INITIATED BY:**

*Amy Sharpe*

---

**Amy Sharpe, Director of Community Relations**

**Date: April 24, 2017**

*Patrick Nelson*

---

**Patrick Nelson, Superintendent**