



BOARD MEETING

Minutes– December 18th, 2018

Academia Antonia Alonso

Present at the Meeting: Mercedes Alonso, Mayara Costa, Maria Matos, Nora Lewis, Shawn Stevens, Jennifer Burdette, Scott Sheridan (facetime), Maria Alonso, Karen Thorpe, William Thomas (facetime), Theresa Sardella (facetime)

Meeting called to order at 5:54

Approval of December Agenda

Motion to approve by Nora Lewis, seconded by Shawn Stevens, unanimous approval

Approval of November Meeting Minutes

Motion to approve by Nora Lewis, seconded by Maria Matos, unanimous approval

Public Comment

No Public comment

New Business

Executive Director Report

Update-

Admissions and Enrollment- 103 students applied for next year. Parents are showing enthusiasm to get students into the school, especially if it goes to waitlist. Parents are also calling to see how to transfer from another charter to Academia. Educating people on how to actually complete choice. Choice initiatives ongoing.

Other- Upcoming events - holiday concert tomorrow at AI Middle, bake sale Thursday by the booster club, booster club did a coupon book sale from Nov to Dec \$1,300 which was gifted to school to be used toward the murals to be hung in cafe and hallway.

Passed food services audit - have 3 years before having to go through it again. Glowing reports from Karen who completed the audit.

Professional development consultants coming in including Delaware Early Literacy, Kagan, and Math Solutions. In person coaching with the teachers and then a professional development day with Kagan.

Amazing holiday party this past Saturday - dancing, DJ, salsa. Thank you to Nora for attending.

Director of Operations hired for next 7 months with the possibility of extension - George Schaab - comes from Westown and will begin in Jan.

Girls on the Run completed their 5K and had their celebration today where they received their certificates. $\frac{1}{3}$ of students were able to attend since it was in Dover. Next year, may look into a bus

Facilities - Maria met with Odessey to discuss what is available at building 26 and now building 27. Spoke with George and Jon today along with Denise Parks about what possibilities are available now and moving forward and potentially lease to buy. Can stay in 26 and potential for building 27 which was already being outfitted for an early learning center which does not seem to be happening at this time. Jon, George, and John are going to be meeting to continue the discussion.

Committee Reports

- **Finance**
 - Revenues
 - Final budgeted revenues are \$8,880,034
 - Revenues collected to date are \$6,264,045 or 70.5% of the total budgeted revenues for the year.
 - Revenue received in September consists of
 - Local School District Transfers & Interest \$187,117
 - School Activities \$114,559
 - Food Service \$2422
 - Expenses
 - The final budgeted expenditures are \$8,324,242
 - Expenses to date are \$3,577,451 with outstanding encumbrances of \$114,245, which represents 44.35% of the budget
 - General
 - Local and state revenues have been updated and are above budget by \$81,516

Motion to accept the web report made by ... , and seconded by ...

- **Governance**
 - No new reports
- **Strategic Growth and Development**

- Nothing to report
- **Academics**
 - Dec 12 was last meeting
 - Updates on Kagan PD, TEF observations on track, Las Links completed, extraordinary demands for WIDA testing and scheduling and need for a testing coordinator, RTI updates and progress being made (completing cycle 3)
 - In January, Olga (math specialist) and Jean (technology teacher) coming to discuss initiatives they are doing to help with increasing Smarter Balance scores, update on STAR Spanish, and Mercedes/Scott updating on mastery based report cards
 - Majority of discussion with the culture team about the work they are doing and how climate and culture impact student learning
- **Personnel Committee**
 - Dec 13 was last meeting
 - Adding a position for a testing coordinator - logistics, calendar
 - Principal Search - committee reviewed resumes, 3 meet minimum requirements, asked to consider what is best fit for a position at Academia - thinking of org chart and future of school - do we have the right structure? Lisa is setting up dates to meet with those 3.
 - Teacher Retention/Recruitment - looking at Universities/Institutions that focus on first level Spanish learners
 - Working with finance to figure out how to increase salaries to keep teachers who are being “poached” away
 - Drafting committee charge offline and then sharing with board for approval

Old Business

Annual report was a challenge because of formatting. DOE was working with us to allow extension because of formatting. It was sent out for approval. Needs Maria Alonso’s signature by tomorrow by EOD. Annual report was motioned for approval by Maria Matos. Seconded by Nora Lewis. Unanimous approval.

Charter Renewal - hit a wall with the complex question of our mission of “bilingual, biliterate, cultural students” students - have we really established that? We haven’t had baseline data to set goals. We are working through that piece now and have learned from the past. Can we move forward by Dec 31 with integrity for the major modification for the middle school? Mercedes is asking to push the pause button for this year on this because so many ways we have started over this year and it doesn’t feel right at this point to move forward and with more time it might feel better. We did due diligent with the students this year by giving them the heads up that it may not happen and they have been applying to other schools. Mercedes is asking for a delay for 1 year as hard as it is to lose this 5th grade class. William was ok with slowing down as well. Need to make sure we do it right. Jennifer agreed that its mixed emotions with teachers and staff...many are excited but many are also wanting us to be a good

elementary school. Middle school also has a lot of things that are different. Mayara agrees that we need to finish working out the challenges of elementary school in order to move forward with the middle school.

Motion was made to postpone the middle school expansion modification until next year. Motion was moved by Maria Matos and seconded by Nora Lewis. Unanimous approval.

Closed at 6:42pm.

Announcements

Christmas is coming!

Executive session:

Motion to move into executive session made by Scott Sheridan and seconded by Nora Lewis

Transparency Time:

Topics:

Next Board Retreat: Strategic Plan

Motion to come out of executive session made by Scott Sheridan, seconded by Nora Lewis, passed unanimously.

Motion to adjourn meeting made by Scott Sheridan, seconded by Shawn Stevens, passed unanimously.

Meeting adjourned at 7:28