



## **BOARD MEETING**

**Minutes– October 10th, 2018**

**Academia Antonia Alonso**

**Present at the Meeting: Mercedes Alonso, Shawn Stevens, Nora Lewis, Scott Sheridan, Maria Alonso, Maria Matos, Norma Antongiorgi**

Meeting called to order at 6:30

### **Public Comment**

There were no members of the public present so there were no public comments

### **New Business**

Discussion of the pros and cons of expanding the school beyond a K-5 model were discussed in the meeting.

Members of the board who were present expressed a desire to extend services to the community being served for additional years if possible.

The Delaware state board of education had been consulted and it was recommended if the school were to expand grade levels that it not have a separate elementary and middle school, but to follow a K-8 model that is used by schools such as MOT Charter and Newark charter schools.

If the expansion were approved, the expansion of the school would be done on a year to year basis with AAA moving towards a K-8 model as the overall goal with expansion to a K-6 school for the 2019-2020 school year and K-7 model the year after and culminating with a K-8 model the year afterwards.

This expansion would require a modification of the charter which would be due by December 30th of 2018.

Members of the board expressed their support for the idea, but there were unknowns that would need to be explored before a vote could be taken at board level.

Concern/additional information needed to make an informed decision included:

- Space needed to expand the school and meet the needs of students for the 2019-2020 school year and beyond.
- Expanded staffing needs for 2019-2020 and beyond.

The board also discussed the possibility of looking into alternate spaces to facilitate expansion in the future.

Finally, it was decided that the board would pursue the information needed and draft a modification for an expansion of the school to K-8 over the following 3 years with an expansion to K-6 beginning in the 2019-2020 school year.

Before the December 30th deadline, the charter modifications would be submitted to board and then the state for approval.

In the meantime, the board recommended that the families of this year's fifth grade (2018-2019), would take part in the Delaware State School Choice program for the upcoming school year in the even that AAA was unable to obtain the modifications necessary to extend services to the students in the AAA community for 2019-2020. This would be done with the understanding that if the modification of the charter were submitted and accepted that AAA 5th grade families would be encouraged to join our first 6th grade class in the next academic year.

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

Meeting adjourned at 7:33