



BOARD MEETING

Minutes– September 30th, 2018

Academia Antonia Alonso

Present at the Meeting: Mercedes Alonso, Shawn Stevens, Nora Lewis, Scott Sheridan, Maria Alonso, Maria Matos, Celeste Payne

Meeting called to order at 10:06

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 discussed the possibility of expansion for the 2019-2020 school year.

Questions were raised about the feasibility of the expansion as it would require a major modification of the charter to add a 6-8 middle school.

Additionally, concerns were raised about the current space, and whether it would be necessary and/or possible to expand into the neighboring building in the coming year. Other solutions, such as splitting the school between close by locations were proposed and a decision was made to keep options open and look into the various possibilities.

Concerns were also raised about asking the teachers and staff to take on the task of creating a middle school in addition to meeting the challenges of associated with running a young charter school.

It was proposed that the school could be expanded to a K-6 school for the upcoming year so as to continue serving the first class of students (this years fifth grade) for at least one more year as

employing a K-6 model would not require the expansion into a middle school. However, this left the problem of not providing service to students beyond 6th grade and raised the possibility of students needing to move to another middle school for 7th and 8th grade if no commitment were made to expanding to a middle school.

To counter these problems and meet community needs, the idea was proposed to look into the possibility of expanding to a one school K-8 model as well. While not as popular as a separate middle school, there is a precedent of K-8 charter schools in Delaware.

Maria Alonso volunteered to contact Wafa Hossein at the Delaware DOE to look into the possibility of school expansion to K-6 and/or K-8 model, and based on the information she received, the board would likely come together before the next scheduled board meeting to further discuss the matter.

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

Meeting adjourned at 11:46