



BOARD MEETING

Minutes– October 24th, 2018

Academia Antonia Alonso

Present at the Meeting: Mercedes Alonso, Mayara Costa, Shawn Stevens, Nora Lewis, Adam Kegley, Theresa Sardella, Scott Sheridan, Norma Antongiorgi, Maria Alonso, Maria Matos, William Thompson

Meeting called to order at 5:41

Approval of October Agenda

Motion to approve by Scott Sheridan, seconded by Nora Lewis, unanimous approval

Approval of September Meeting Minutes

Motion to approve by Nora Lewis, seconded by Celeste Payne , unanimous approval

Public Comment

No Public comment

New Business

Scott wanted to share a book with the group *Mothers United* about the challenges of opening and running a bilingual community school in Oakland California. While it doesn't describe our situation, it does offer some insight into how different perspectives and ideas can lead to conflict among people with the same stated goals and how that conflict can ultimately lead to a closer working relationship, individual growth and community understanding. Scott would highly recommend the book to everyone. [It can be ordered through Amazon for \\$22.16 plus tax in paperback and \\$15.99 for the Kindle edition \(ebook\).](#)

Executive Director Report

Update- This month is anti-bullying month "Choose Kindness" is the theme. Dr. Alonso will be coming in tomorrow from 6-7:30 tomorrow to lead a workshop to define bullying and to propose ways to curb bullying in our school.

We are in the process of getting Las Links ready. We have gone electronic. The first pilot group, the 5th graders will be kicking off this week.

Progress reports were done electronically for the first time. The report included academics, MAP and RTI with explanations of all aspects. William Thompson's response was very positive on how the report was detailed and let his know how his son is doing.

Marketing and Communications- We have a table at the Latino Summit as well as the school choice expo in wilmington.

We have an advertisement live video at the Delaware Hispano magazine facebook page.

Academia's partnership with the DE art museum will lead to our celebration of learning at the Art Museum at the end of the year, May 23rd. All students are going twice during the year to work on their projects.

Around 400 people came to the hispanic heritage night. In spite of the rain it was incredibly successful community engagement with performances by our students and community members.

This year the WSFS bank donated \$450 to help with the evening.

Parent coupon book fundraiser is next month and McDonald's fundraiser will be Dec 6th. 15% of sales go to Academia.

Admissions and Enrollment- School choice begins on November 5th, on the 4th we are informing parents of the process.

During the first week, we will be guiding parents through the school choice website at the school with our support.

Mayara will be actively working to recruit at local daycare centers.

Other- We have expanded the opportunity for students to purchase more pizza. It was a joyful experience. The money raised will give a little bit of funding to the school activia local funds.

The final list of renovations will be complete by the next meeting.

We are thinking that during the choice period, students will be able to be assessed using a diagnostic tool to offer information for the parents on children's strength and weaknesses so that parents could be more ready to help their children academically. This would be done for all children who would be interested in the school. It would be made clear that this tool would not be used as a selection criteria. This is exclusively for

Staffing- Two teachers have resigned. There was a conversation with the DOE today to help streamline the process of the certification for our Spanish language immersion teachers. We have hired a 5th grade

teacher through the Cordell Foundation, and another teacher from PR. Both elementary teachers are male which is different for elementary education, and a positive for our students.

The new HR hire will be starting her job on Monday and the principal search will start in earnest.

Committee Reports

- **Finance** At Sept. 30th, 3 months or 25% of the fiscal year
 - Revenues
 - Final budgeted revenues are \$8,880,034.
 - Revenues collected to date are \$5,140,598 or 57.9% of the total budgeted revenues for the year.
 - Revenue received in August consists of
 - Local School District Transfers & Interest \$560,295
 - Federal Funds \$190,333
 - School Activities \$1,207
 - Expenses
 - The final budgeted expenditures are \$8,284,242
 - Expenses to date are \$2,164,417 with outstanding encumbrances of \$75,856, which represents 26.91% of the budget
 - General
 - The reduced enrollment from 620 to 603 raises concerns with revenue. In reviewing the local and state revenue with the current enrollment the original budgeted revenues may hold.
 - All expense areas have been reviewed and will continue to be monitored and reviewed for potential adjustments.

Motion to accept the web report made by Norma Antongiorgi seconded by Scott Sheridan

- **Governance**
 - No new reports
- **Strategic Growth and Development**
 - No new reports
- **Academics**
 - Discussion about the patterns that have emerged from the testing that may be a result of L1 & L2 phonology. 95% group will be coming in next week and after three weeks for the cycle, students will be regrouped based on improvement. More than 5% of students are in Tier 2 and Tier 3. Staffing has been rethought in order to find ways to best serve our students in need.
 - Moving forward, the climate culture team will meet with the Academic Committee and with the leadership team to look at Star Spanish as an

alternative. We are also looking into mastery based grading and report cards as a possibility.

- **Personnel Committee**
 - Reported out on the meeting last month.

Old Business

We have the second board retreat. There is a possibility of having Paul Stock from DANA around the leadership training;/board retreat #2

Announcements

Special meeting minutes were posted. We have decided to turn in a major modification for a K-8 model due December 31st to the DOE.

Executive session:

Motion to move into executive session made by Scott Sheridan and seconded by Celeste Payne

Transparency Time:

Topics:

Committee Reorganization

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 Celeste Payne, passed unanimously.

Meeting adjourned at 7:52