



**Alief Montessori Community School**  
12013 6<sup>th</sup> St, Houston, TX 77072 ♦ Phone (281)-530-9406 ♦ Fax (281) 530-2233  
Website: [www.aliefmontessori.org](http://www.aliefmontessori.org)

**Regular Board Meeting Minutes on**  
**Tuesday, February 25, 2020 @ 11:00 AM-1 PM**

A Regular Meeting for the Board Directors of Alief Montessori Community School was held on **Tuesday, February 25, 2020 from 11:00 AM to 1:00 PM** at the elementary school library located at 4215 H Street, Houston, Texas 77072.

**Attendees:** Nancy Chieu, Charmaine Constantine, Sally Hsieh, Paula Palamountain, Delia Presillas & Erica McCready (new), Elizabeth Smith (new)

1. The chair called the meeting to order.
2. A quorum was established.
3. The chair read the Meeting Minutes of November 20, 2019. Delia had the motion to approve the minutes, seconded by Sally. Seven members present approved the Minutes of November 20, 2019.
4. AMCS is honored to add two new directors to the AMCS Board:
  - 4.1 Erica McCready, Superintendent of Houston Heights High School
  - 4.2 Elizabeth Smith, retired teacher of AMCS
5. School Finance and Operations Reports by Delia Presillas
  - 5.1 Middle School Building construction update. The building permit for the new AMCS building was approved on 04 February 2020, which finally moved the construction forward. Total budget for this project is \$5.7 M originally \$5.4 M. The increase in cost is due to inclusion of sidewalk around the property as required by the City of Houston.

Project meetings with the Mission construction and Merriman-Holt and Powell architects are scheduled every 3rd Thursday of the month. Building is planned to finish in late December 2020. AMCS planned a Groundbreaking Ceremony on March 9, 2020 and requested the AMCS board members to attend. The event was cancelled due to prevent potential coronavirus spread.

- 5.2 AMCS Triennial Lunch Audit Update. The triennial NSLP Audit went smoothly. AMCS was commended by USDA. There was only one minor finding, on which AMCS was able to correct promptly.
- 5.3 Purchase of 12010 6<sup>th</sup> St and 12014 6<sup>th</sup> St (both, approx. 18,000 SF). Closing on this property was on February 11, 2020. This site is a timely addition to AMCS, as the new building project needed a site to hold materials for construction.
- 5.4. Financial position as of January 31, 2020 and Projected Budget SY 2019-2020. For this year, we received additional FSP funding but also higher costs on Pre-K operations and personnel salaries, due to HB 3. Other major expenses coming up are teacher and administrator (Montessori and Reading Academies) training costs.
- 5.5 Proposal to increase planning time for AMCS teachers within the school day. The AMCS Board was informed of the adjusting the teacher planning time daily for Monday-Thursday.
- 5.6 Hiring of an AMCS Assistant Principal and teachers. AMCS Superintendent plans to hire more certified teachers for our primary classrooms and an assistant principal.
- 5.7 Reading Academies Requirements and Teacher Incentive Allotment. These are new HB 3 requirements, which will impact on SY 2019-2020 and future school budget.

The Reading Academies is required for all PK-3<sup>rd</sup> teachers and must be completed before SY 2022-2023.

Teacher Incentive Allotment is FSP funded. A local designation system has to be developed and

implemented which will provide additional compensation for teachers of up to \$32,000 per year (rural, high need schools). Final compensation ranges will be based on AMCS economically disadvantaged data, student growth and teacher observation results. Other value-added indicators may be included.

**5.8** Projected student enrollment for SY 2020-21. AMCS currently has 347 students and is projected to increase to 445 students. Growth is slow because of the limited classroom space and available Montessori teachers.

**5.9** School Safety Requirements. AMCS has received the NOGA for School Safety for \$25,000, which will go toward security cameras, alarm/notification improvement and entrance/exit security. Hiring of a part-time nurse is planned.

6. Executive Close Session: No item was discussed.

**7. Action Items:**

7.1 Sally had the motion to approve the revised final budget for 2019-2020, seconded by Paula.

7.2 AMCS Board supports the increased planning time for AMCS teachers.

7.3 Elizabeth had the motion to approve the time and date for the next board meeting, seconded by Charmaine: June 16, 2020. All seven members approved.

8. Meeting was adjourned at 12:20 PM.

Chairperson: \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

Secretary: \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_