



Alief Montessori Community School

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Regular Board Meeting Minutes on Friday, March 26, 2021 at 11:00 AM-12:02 PM via zoom

A Regular Meeting for the Board Directors of Alief Montessori Community School was held on Friday, March 26, 2021 from 11:00 AM to 12:02 PM, broadcasted via zoom.

(Virtual) Attendees: Nancy Chieu,, Paula Palamountain, Perpetua Salvatus-Guerrero, Delia Presillas, Erica McCready, Sally Hsieh, Charmaine Constantine. Also in attendance from the public were Nargis Lakhani and Flor Benitez.

The chair called the meeting to order. A quorum was established.

A. Minutes of the November 17, 2020 regular board meeting was read and approved.

B. Agenda considered:

1. School operations update: Out of 329 students, AMCS has 127 (39%) in-person learners and 202 ((61%) in remote learning out of 329 total number of students. There are 127 (39%) students on campus at this period out of 329 total number of students. Majority of the primary (PK-K) students prefer remote learning.

Class Projections 2021-2023. With its current faculty, staff resources and classroom space, AMCS's capacity is at 394. With the new building, the school would be able to serve at least 600 students. We will need to add at least six teachers and five teacher assistants to meet this need. AMCS has opened its final special enrollment period (opportunity for parents to choose on-campus or remote learning).

STAAR Test paper administration will be on April 6, May 6, May 11-13. Social distancing and safety protocols will be implemented to keep our students and staff safe.

2. New Building Update

AMCS has the Certificate of Occupancy and have fully paid all our dues to the general contractor. The total project cost came up to \$6.3M inclusive of construction cost, architect dues and other services. We have final dues to pay the architect (\$15,920). AMCS has \$400,000.00 in its cash reserve as of February 28, 2021. The projected cost to furnish the classrooms is around \$200,000, broken down as follows:

- a. Chairs, tables and desks \$50,000.00
- b. Montessori materials and classroom equipment \$150,000.00

3. Updated Financial Statements as of Feb. 28, 2021 were presented by Ms. Sophia Teng, AMCS Business Officer. She also presented the proposed revision to the SY 2020-21 budget highlighting that the adjustments in expenses were for the middle school construction project (last item on the Budget Revision Detail document). Ms. Guerrero asked how this is consistent with the update that all dues for construction has already been paid. Ms. Presillas clarified that the financial statements being presented have a period ending February 28, 2021. The last payment made to the general contractor for

the construction project was done in March. Adjustments in the budget due to final payments made will be reflected in the financial reports in the next board meeting. The AMCS Board has passed and approved the revised budget for SY 2020-21 by majority vote (7 members).

4. Resolutions discussed and approved:

4.1 **SY 2021-22 School Calendar.** Ms. McCreedy asked if Alief ISD has similar schedules on their SY 2021-22 calendar. Ms. Presillas clarified that Alief ISD will be starting the school year a week earlier and that the ISD has built in intercession days in October which AMCS is not doing. Alief ISD does not have intercession days but AMCS has included 10 days in June. Ms. Guerrero recommended to add a clause to authorize the AMCS Supt. to adjust the school calendar as needed for as long as it is in compliance with federal, state and TEA rules, regulations and procedures. The resolution was passed and approved by majority vote (7 members present) in this board meeting.

4.2 **Waiver for Missed School Days Due to the Winter Storm.** The AMCS board, by majority vote (7 members), passed and approved the resolution to request a TEA waiver on missed school days covering Feb. 16-22, 2021 due to the winter storm.

4.3 **Houston Charter Schools' Special Ed Coop Shared Services Agreement (SSA).** The AMCS Board, by majority vote (7 members), passed and approved the SSA and authorized the AMCS superintendent to act on AMCS's behalf, provided that those powers are consistent with applicable state and federal laws, regulations, rules and guidelines.

4.4 **Waiver for Hybrid Instruction during District Testing Days.** The AMCS Board, by majority vote (7 members), passed and approved the request for TEA waiver to allow AMCS to assign students who are not included in the STAAR to be in remote learning during testing days, and giving AMCS authority to require students who will be assessed during STAAR test days to come to school on those specific dates.

4.5 **Charter School Expansion Amendment Request for Additional Campus.** The Board, by majority vote (7 members), passed and approved the revised resolution for the charter school expansion amendment request to TEA.

5. Approval of the time and date of the next board meeting: June 22, 2021. Ms. Guerrero notified the board that she will not be available to attend the board meeting on this date.

C. There was no closed executive session held.

D. Adjournment. The meeting was adjourned at 12:02 PM

Chairperson: <u>Nancy Chiu</u>	Date: <u>3/26/2021</u>
Secretary: <u>Louisa Palau</u>	Date: <u>3/26/2021</u>