

Amigos Por Vida – Friends for Life Public Charter School

Amigos Por Vida – Friends for Life Housing and Education Corporation School

Regular Board Meeting

Board of Governors

03/22/2018

The Board of Governors of the Amigos Por Vida – Friends for Life Charter School (“School”) met in a Regular meeting 03/22/2018 at the school, 5503 El Camino Del Rey Street, Houston, Texas 77081. The meeting notice was posted in accordance with the Texas Open Meeting Act.

The Following Board Members were present:

- **Silvia Graves, President**
- **Lydia Tamez, Board Secretary**
- **Rose Mary Valencia, Board Member**

Also present were:

- **Freddy Delgado, Principal/Superintendent**
- **Bill Dinkel, Chief Financial Officer**
- **Kakoli Mukerji, Assistant Principal**
- **Maryury Fernandez, Assistant Principal**
- **Jessica Hernandez, School Secretary**

1. Call to Order

Ms. Graves called the meeting to order at 6:57 PM.

2. Hearing of Citizens

There were no citizens present.

3. School Updates

Mr. Delgado explained the school updates. He began by informing the Board about some great news we had received in the last few days. Texas Education Agency (TEA) contacted our school to let us know that we were recognized as a high quality charter school. They stated that they would like to conduct a visit at our campus to interview some of the teachers and visit some of our classrooms throughout the day. Mr. Delgado stated that TEA is coming to visit our campus in April 3rd, 2018. He proceeded to explain the process of what the visit

consists of to the Board Members, including the schedule they had provided and which teachers they had chosen to interview. Mr. Delgado expressed our excitement to the news received. Ms. Valencia and the rest of the Board Members congratulated the team on our hard work and our great achievement. Mr. Delgado is very proud of this and stated that Charter Schools are always being looked at, to see their progress by the TEA, and this is something we have worked hard for. Mr. Delgado went on to inform the Board about our food bank program being offered at school for afterschool tutorials. He explained that we are also working with the food bank to provide the “backpack buddy” to our students. This program is designed to aid some of our lower- income families with extra food for their families. He proceeded to explain to the Board that we have had Saturdays in which we invite the food bank truck to come to our campus and give food to the community. Ms. Graves expressed how this was a great idea for us to allow them to come by and help us aide our community. Mr. Delgado moved on to explain that we had our MOCK STAAR tests done for students in grades 3rd through 8th. Ms. Mukerji explained the updates of the MOCK tests results from our past test. She did express that although we still have some kids that are not passing, they have improved from the first MOCK tests, which she knows they will be able to do better for the upcoming STAAR test. Mr. Delgado stated that we will be hosting our Parent University on Friday, April 6th. He went on to explain that this year, unlike the previous years, the parents will not be moving between presenters, yet the presenters will make their way through the parents. This was input provided by parents who have attended in the previous years had. Ms. Tamez stated that she is glad to hear that parents had some feedback regarding our previous ones and that we listened to what they had to say. Ms. Valencia asked for an explanation on what our Lockdown Drill consisted of. Mr. Delgado explained that on February 8th, we conducted a lockdown drill, in which staff and students were taught the proper way to stay safe in case of any intruder on campus. He went on to explain that on this date, we also decided to call in our partners in HPD to come and have their trained police dogs do a search in the campus. We had gotten a complaint from a parent that they had seen 8th graders cross over to the apartments and they believe they saw them using illegal drugs. Mr. Delgado explained that even though this scene was not on campus, we do take it very serious and decided to take action. He was glad to inform the Board that nothing was found, from both students and staff. Mr. Delgado explained that our drill was a success and it went very well. Mr. Dinkel explained that we would like our school to be safer, and we are considering new options to make that happen. Mr. Delgado informed the Board Members that in the coming month we will be having our multi-cultural festival, which are all very excited about. We invite the community to join us and have many activities planned for that day.

Action Items:

4. Discuss and consider Board minutes from 01/23/2018

The Board explained that there were no changes necessary. Ms. Tamez moved to accept the Board Minutes for January, 23rd, 2018. Ms. Valencia seconded. All were in favor, motion passed.

5. Discuss and consider Board minutes from 02/27/2018

Ms. Tamez requested a minor change for the Board Minutes from February 27, 2018. Ms. Tamez moved to accept with minor editing. Ms. Valencia seconded. All were in favor. Motion passed.

6. Discuss and consider School Calendar for 2018-2019

Mr. Delgado presented the reviewed school calendar for 2018-2019. He explained that it was very similar to this year, we just made some minor changes. He also explained that we were doing 430 minutes per day. Which is a bit more than the required minutes, but this will help us in case of any emergencies in which we may have to close the school. Ms. Tamez moved to approve the 2018-2019 school calendar as presented. Ms. Valencia seconded. All were in favor. Motion passed.

Information Items:

7. Review impact of Tax Cut and Jobs Act

Mr. Dinkel started by explaining that we always have unintended consequences. He explained that this report was in last meeting's agenda, and that he is still massaging the numbers and trying to understand the impact, because it didn't start right away. He stated that February was a retroactive month, but that Tax and Jobs acts changes the landscape for Tax Exempt investments. That clause was in the loan that we signed. He discussed this with Louis, from US Capitol and he did some investigating and informed us that it is a pretty standard clause. He explained that what all of this means is that our interest rate is going up by a little over 7/10^s of a percent. We went from a 3.29% to a 3.9986%, which means an additional interest charge for us of about \$114 per day, and it fluxgates by the number of days in that month. Projecting out through August 31st, Mr. Dinkel thinks this will be an additional \$41,526. Ms. Tamez asked if there was anything that we can do about it? Mr. Dinkel answered no. Mr. Dinkel explained that there is still a savings but Ms. Graves added that it is never pleasant to have an increase. Ms. Graves asked if there is any chance that at some point the interest would go down? Mr. Dinkel answered that not unless they raise taxes- on the banks.

8. Review 2016 IRS Form 990, non-profit tax return

Mr. Dinkel explained that this is our annual tax report, which can be a little confusing. He explained that the tax return is dated 2016, but in all actuality, it's from beginning September 1st, 2016 and ending August 31st, 2017, which cosines with our financial audit that we received in January. He explained that summary comparing our current year, with prior year revenue and expenses at a summary level. He explained that our Net assets went down because we have about \$250,000 a year in depreciation. He then went on to explain in more detail the salaries and benefits as well as the legal accounting. Mr. Dinkel explained that instructional support and management general expenses. He reviewed the balance sheets, explaining the beginning of the year and moving towards the end of the year, as well as our savings and accounts receivable. The went over the value of the assets. He explained the

reconciliation in the nets assets. Mr. Dinkel explained that the total revenue is less than the total expenses by \$141M. He explained the summary of the land, building and equipment. He explained what makes up the total assets of \$12.504 million. He stated that the building started at \$8M and has now been depreciated, bringing it down a million. The land has remained the same. Mr. Dinkel stated that we filed for an extension due to the audit not being complete by January 15th, 2018. We now have until July 16th to file.

9. Financial Update as of 02/28/2018

Mr. Dinkel started by stating that our cash is now at an all time high. We are at \$2.74, and all the payrolls are in the right month. He explained that at the beginning of this fiscal year, we started at \$2,537,519. He went on to explain the statement of the funds tracked and guaranteed. Mr. Dinkel went on to explain the Actual vs. Budget comparison. He explained that we were on target with all our expenses. The revenue was over budget from the state about \$115K. It derived basically on two things- enrollment and expenses. We also didn't budget the audit fee. By the time the budget was presented, we were still waiting on the engagement letter. He explained that we had to make some changes with the people fixing our AC.

10. Closed Session

The Board Members, along with Mr. Delgado went into closed session at 7:52 p.m.

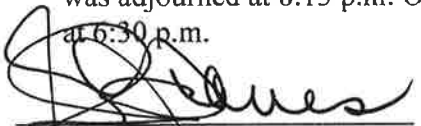
Meeting resumed at 8:10 p.m.

11. New Business

Mr. Delgado began by stating that he wanted to consider a school expansion. He thought maybe we were in the right time to think about opening another campus. He isn't sure if this new campus would consist of PK-8th, like this one, or if we would add a 6th through 12th grade campus. Ms. Graves asked if we are ready for that challenge? She suggested we have a morning meeting to brainstorm this idea. Ms. Valencia suggested we have some sort of plan to present for that meeting. Ms. Graves said that this was something to consider and that it sounds great.

12. Adjourn

Ms. Tamez motioned to adjourn. Ms. Valencia seconded. All were in favor. Meeting was adjourned at 8:13 p.m. Our next Board Meeting is scheduled for April 17, 2018 at 6:30 p.m.



Silvia Graves, Board President

Lydia Tamez, Board Secretary