

Amigos Por Vida – Friends for Life Public Charter School

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

**Regular Board Meeting
(3/19/19)**

The Board of Governor of the Amigos Por Vida – Friends for Life Public Charter School met in Regular Meeting 3/19/19 at school, 5503 El Camino Del Rey Street, Houston, TX 77081. The meeting notice was posted in accordance with Texas Open Meeting Act.

The Following Board Members were present:

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

Also present:

- Freddy Delgado, Principal/Superintendent
- Kakoli Mukerji, Assistant Principal
- Bill, Dinkel, CFO
- Quayhn Tran, Business Manager
- Melanie Rivera, 6th & 8th Social Studies Teacher

1. Call to order

Ms. Silvia Graves, Board President called the meeting to order at 7:12 pm

2. Hearing of Citizens

There were no citizens present.

3. School updates

March Events

- 01-29 TELPAS
- 06 Breakfast with the Principal/ PTO meeting
- 07 Multicultural Festival – Mrs. Valencia stated this would be a great to show students opportunities for college study abroad programs. Cultural festival was a success, great turn out, greater community turn out than last year. Due to the large crowd and performances, no seating was available. The festival as outgrown the cafeteria therefore, next year we may have booths outside and performances inside

the cafeteria. The PTO parents also performed at the beginning of the show. Video and pictures will be provided to board members. Mrs. Graves inquired about high school night. Mr. Delgado explained the 1ST Semester is for high school applications and how our counselor helps students and parents fill out applications and how inform them about magnet schools that offer graduates 2 year associates degrees. Ensure students have enough time to apply. 2nd semester students receive acceptance letters and have an opportunity to search and apply for other schools.

- 02, 23, 30 Saturday Tutorials – Mrs. Tamez inquired about 2018 STAAR scores to current benchmark and Mock data. Mrs. Mukerji stated that it is higher this year across the board. High achieving students stay for after school on Mondays and Fridays for Math and Reading in an effort to maintain mastery scores and boost students from meets to mastering grade levels. Saturday tutorials are divided into 2 groups: medium and low achieving students, 2 sessions, 2 hours each, from 8am-12pm. Saturday groups tend to come in refreshed, well rested, the school provides breakfast, and therefore are more alert compared to weekday after school tutorials sometimes students feel defeated because they have not comprehended the material that day. Teachers have action plans for all 3 groups.
- 11-15 Spring Break
- 19 Shared Decision Making Committee Meeting
- 20 Early dismissal day – STAAR Training

Upcoming Events –

April

03 Breakfast with the Principal/ PTO Meeting
03, 10, 17, & 24 Campus Needs Assessment
09-10 STAAR Testing 4 & 7 Writing; 5 & 8 Math & Reading and English 1
16 Board Meeting
26 Volunteer Recognition Breakfast & PTO nominations
29 Book Fair begins though May 3, 2019

Action Items:

4. Discuss and Consider Board Minutes from 2/19/19

- Resolution regarding Officer Larry – PTO President will contact Officer Larry and employer to check availability. Plan to have a good bye reception at the school. Mrs. Graves motioned to approve minutes with changes to be made on Citizen #2 from previous meeting. Mrs. Tamez second. The Board moved to approve board Minutes from 2/19/19.

5. Discuss and Consider APV Fund Reserve Policy

- Mr. Dinkel recommended to keep the current 90-day policy. The Board supports this recommendation. Mrs. Tamez moved to keep the 90-day fund reserve policy. Mrs. Graves second.
- See attachments

6. Discuss and Consider Financial Model for School Expansion

- Mr. Tran explained the surplus/deficit along with the APV enrollment projections. This is based on leasing a building and remodeling. Mr. Tran stated \$250, 000 grant from TEA in the works and was not considered in the APV 2 SURPLUS/DEFICIT MODEL to help cover personnel costs.
- Mrs. Mukerji stated that at APV 2 they want to open only pre-k 3 and 6th grade and then grow a grade level every year in elementary and middle school.
- Meanwhile, at APV 1, administration wants to increase student enrollment to 613 by 2022.
- The Board had a concern about the available space needed to accommodate the projected enrollment because there is no more room at the APV 1 location.
- Mr. Delgado also explained there are rooms available such as the upstairs lab and data room that will be used to maximum capacity. To reach 613 students however, we would need 8TH grade portables.
- It is necessary to increase APV 1 enrollment to maximum capacity and have a strong waiting list in order to attract investors for APV 2.
- Mrs. Mukerji stated that eventually they do want to open a feeder high school.
- Why is it important to the community to open a new school? Mr. Tran explained we want to take what they do well at APV 1 and expand it to other communities. Mr. Delgado stated that we have a solid education program and we want to take it to a new community to reciprocate it. He used the example of Yes Prep who opened a school in North Forest which is was a tough community, but now because of their solid program, that is their #1 campus. All in an effort to stay competitive.
- Mrs. Valencia stated that the current campus cannot be left on the wayside and neglected. Plan is to place strong and seasoned teaches who have been with APV 1 as trainers, coaches and administrators for both campuses. Half to remain at APV 1, half to relocate to APV 2. This is a way for teachers to advance and grow in their careers. The lack of promotions at APV 1 makes teachers leave after a few years. Mr. Delgado stated that Mr. Romero is getting certified as an administrator. Mr. Hernandez could train math teachers.
- Mrs. Valencia requested to have some talking points in writing, just 1 page on why this new campus would be beneficial to a new community and how does it not put the current school at risk. Concern with all the attention and concentration being redirected to the new campus.
- Mrs. Graves stated the Board is not ready to make a decision on the financial models. Item 6 is to be tabled.
- See attachment "SCHOOL SUPRLUS/DEFICIT"

7. Discuss and Consider Board Policies as Follows:

- Module 100 – Financial Operations
- Mrs. Tamez moved to table item 7, 2nd by Mrs. Graves. The Board moved to table item 7.

8. Closed Session: 8:49 pm – 9:12 pm

9. Financial update as of 2/28/2019

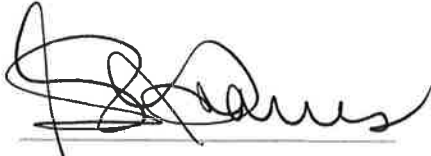
- Mr. Dinkel explained attachment 9. The Board agreed to contact a lawyer and company about the mold remediation that is still in dispute and should be closed as soon as possible. Expenditures are still under budget. Secured funds are fully insured. School credit cards are showing on Check Register page. We are paying more for security now, but not much. Now, 2 guards must reach 40 hours before they begin paying overtime.

10. Miscellaneous

- The Board Training – Saturday May 4th 8am-2pm, 6 hours. All members must complete the 6 hours in order to be in compliance for the upcoming year.
- Mrs. Valencia: State wide \$5,000 increase pay for teachers. How is this going to impact APV teacher's salaries? Mr. Dinkel explained that this was proposed to the state legislature and is still being debated in the TX state legislature. It was stated that should this salary increase happen, APV needs to have a plan in order to retain teachers and remain competitive. The Board stated teachers need to be compensated accordingly. Teachers are informed of the pay scale upon hire. APV provides a bonus within salary for certified bilingual, ESL, masters, Ph.D., or high needs. Should teachers ask for a raise, it still has to go through Mr. Dinkel The Board because they approve the budget. Mr. Dinkel explained that there is a cap on how many years' experience the teacher has, it stops at 20 years of credited service \$6,000. APV does have a teacher with more than 20 years' experience who asked about the cap. Mr. Delgado and Mr. Dinkel have talked about it. Lydia stated Salary increases are to be presented in April and this should be part of the presentation. Traditionally there is a 2-3% increase on base salary, plus the years credited service.

11. Adjourn

- Meeting was adjourned at 9:13 pm. Mrs. Graves moved and Mrs. Tamez seconded. The next board meeting will be 4/16/19



Silvia Graves, Board President



Lydia Tamez, Board Secretary