

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

Board Meeting Minutes

The Board of Governors of the Amigos Por Vida-Friends for Life Public Charter School met at the school at 5503 El Camino del Rey St., Houston TX, 77081 on Tuesday, January 20, 2026, at 5:30 p.m. In addition, a video Teams link:

https://teams.microsoft.com/join/19%3ameeting_ZiJiM2FmYtEtZDIjYy00ZTg4LTgxMzYtOGY0ZmU2ODk2MwQx%40thread.v2/0?context=%7b%22id%22%3a%22d323cab2-041d-4980-ba2b-817d8b207019%22%2c%22oid%22%3a%22fcdfece1-f8b2-40f2-8db0-73d7e93a43cf%22%7d

It was presided over by the Board President Ms. Rose Mary Valencia.

1. Call to Order

- a. Ms. Rose Mary Valencia called the meeting to order at 5:44 p.m. The following individuals were present:

Michael Griswold – Board Member
Sandra Lopez – Board Member
Monica Capella – Board Member
Linda Ibrahim – Board Member
Rose Mary Valencia – Board Member

Kakoli Mukerji – Interim Superintendent/Principal
Samuel Johnson – Director of Finance
Michael Roberson - Director of Operations
Jaime Romero - Assistant Principal
Maria Ramirez - Secretary

- b. These individuals were present via Teams:

Rashmi Vashistha – Instructional Coach	Mario Hernandez - Teacher
Susana Alhassan– Instructional Coach	Miqueas Zacarias - Parent
Noelvis Lopez – Instructional Coach	Yeidy Castro - Parent
APV Camera (Unverified) – IT Department	Celiamaria Ramirez - Parent
APV Technical Support – IT Department	Francisca - Parent
	Lorena - Parent

2. Hearing of Citizens:

3. School Updates:

i. Ms. Mukerji presented updates for Family Engagement Activities

- Ms. Mukerji informed the board members of several family engagement activities highlighting some activities of note such as:
- The Professional Development Day will be February 13th. That day the school will be having mandatory training for Active School Training and Bleeding Training from 8:00 am to 12:00 pm.
- National School Choice week will be celebrated on the week of January 26th – January 30th. A picnic (pizza & juice) will be provided for all grade levels during the week. There will be a performance by the students on January 30th from 9:00 am – 10:15 am.
- Ms. Mukerji went over the February calendar and all events that will be happening for the month.

ii. Academic updates

- Ms. Mukerji updated the board that there are no written academic updates.

iii. State – Issued TAPR Report

- Ms. Mukerji informed the board that she must present to the public during a board meeting the Texas Academic Report within 90 days of its release. The Report was released on December 18, 2025.
- Ms. Mukerji highlighted the following findings from the report:
- The District's accountability score was an A for the school year 2024 -2025.
 - Identified a slight irregularity with the state requirements regarding special education.
 - No violent crime incidents: therefore, there is no report.
- HB3 Goals for Third Grade Meets Level 2025.
 - 42% of students passed the test in Meets Level for Reading. Goal was 45% and

- was not met.
 - 49% of students passed the Meets Level for Math. Goal was 60% and was not met.
- HB3 Goals for Eight Grade students going to high school 2025
 - 72% of the students passed the Meets Level for Reading. Goal was 52% and passed expectations.
 - 88% of the students passed the Meets Level for Math. Goal was 80% and passed expectations.
- Ms. Mukerji mentioned that the report showed that the Third grade, and Sixth grade reading and math continued to be pressure points given the continual entry of new students to APV-FFL.
- Ms. Ibrahim asked Ms. Mukerji what was being done to focus on those areas.
 - Multiple small groups instructions are being implemented for the Third and Sixth grade students.
 - Small RTI groups are being provided.
 - Ms. Alhassan is overseeing a small group everyday of new immigrant students. Will also be providing extra help on Saturday Tutorials.
- Ms. Capella asked Ms. Mukerji how she compares this month with last year.
 - Ms. Mukerji replied that some areas have performed better for sure.
 - Science scores decreased in 2024 for both Fifth and Eighth grade where scores went down significantly. But we were able to bring the scores back up in 2025.
 - Math scores also showed improvement in 2025 compared to 2024.
- Ms. Mukerji went over all the subjects and how they improved from 2024 to 2025.
- All three areas, approaches, meets, and masters.
 - Reading dropped from 91% approaches in 2024 to 87% in 2025.
 - Science and Math showed improvement from 2024 to 2025.
- Ms. Valencia asked if additional staff are being considered for Ms. Alhassan since there are a lot of students for one person. Ms. Alhassan has trained one of the RTI staff.
- Ms. Mukerji also informed the board that the K12 Summit program was purchased. It's an English language development program. The program was not purchased campus-wide used for this school year but will be for next school years EB kids.
- Ms. Valencia asked about how many students Ms. Alhassan has in small group. Ms. Mukerji let her know that RTI has no more than six to seven kids in a group.

iv. Business Office updates:

v. HCSF and Individual Grants update:

- Mr. Johnson and Ms. Ibrahim notified the board members that two grants were received in January. A \$1.8 million grant was awarded by the Houston Charter Seed Fund, and a \$200,000 grant was given by a private individual. Both awards have a specific term to reduce the external debt associated with the construction completed in March 2025.
- Mr. Johnson is working with Mr. Jonathan Church from Masterson Advisors on the administrative process to apply directly to the reduction of the EFF debt.

vi. Enrollment Update:

- Ms. Mukerji updated the enrollment numbers to the board members.
 - New enrollment number is 789 students
 - At the last board meeting the enrollment number was 793. The school lost four students.
 - Two of the students who are siblings moved to Aldine ISD. Another student moved back to her home country due to the immigration situation and the other student moved to an area that is a far drive.

4. Action Items:

a. Discuss and consider District Financial Audit 2024 - 2025

- Ms. Ibrahim motioned to table for the approval of the financial statements for the school year 2024 -2025 until February 17th. Mr. Griswold second the motion.

b. Discuss and consider December Board Meeting Minutes

- Mr. Griswold motioned to approve the December 2025 Board Meeting Minutes, Ms. Ibrahim seconded the motion.

c. Discuss and consider APV – FFL Active Shooter Policy

- Mr. Roberson communicated to the board members that TEA is requiring that APV – FFL have an Active Shooter Policy. He utilized the guidance from TEA and the Texas School Safety Center to create the Active Shooter Policy.

- Ms. Valencia questioned Mr. Roberson if a policy was not already set. Mr. Roberson clarified that a procedure exists, but not a formal policy.
- Ms. Valencia requested that the policy and/or procedure is clear that the training should be offered at the beginning of the school year and in the middle of the year for any new employee joins APV – FFL after the beginning of the school year.
- Ms. Ibrahim suggested to Mr. Roberson to conduct a drill and have an external auditor present while the drill is being conducted. The auditor can provide a report for district leadership and the Board.
- Ms. Ibrahim motioned to approve the Active Shooter Policy, Ms. Lopez seconded the motion.

5. Closed Session:

- Ms. Valencia moved to Closed Session at 6:02 p.m.
- Ms. Valencia moved to Open Session at 8:00 p.m.

a. Personnel – Pursuant to TEC 551.074, deliberation of personal matters to include teachers, staff, Interim superintendent, and or superintendent.

- Ms. Valencia provided an update regarding the Search Committee for the Superintendent position, and the Search Committee has 3 finalists that will be interviewed by the Board on February 6.

b. Financial Audit

- Ms. Valencia shared that the financial auditor presented the draft audit and recommendations to the board for review and comments. Feedback was provided and the business office will be moving forward and taking appropriate actions with final audit presented at the next board meeting.

c. Board Member Increase

- Ms. Valencia informed us that the board members discussed increasing in board members. At this point no action was taken but we are continuing to evaluate board membership.

d. Public Relations

- Ms. Ibrahim shared that the board members discussed the possibility of the school and

district to begin working with a public relations firm.

6. Information Items:

Mr. Johnson presented the following financial updates.

a. Review Actual vs Budget Report

- Ms. Ibrahim expected revenue numbers to decrease given the enrollment numbers decreasing.
- Mr. Johnson informed the board that based on prior years, adjustments are made after mid-year October PEIMS data is collected. Data will change by the end of the year. He further clarified that the revenue is based on an average of daily attendance.
- For the next board meeting, Ms. Ibrahim requested a rough estimate of revenue impact due to the lower enrollment numbers over the last few months.

b. Review Cash Balance Report

c. Accounts & Investments Reports

d. Review Check Register Report

7. Adjourn

- Ms. Lopez moved the meeting to be adjourned; Ms. Ibrahim seconded, the motion to adjourn the meeting was agreed upon by the Board at 8:17 p.m.

Ms. Rose Mary Valencia, *Board President*

Ms. Sandra Lopez, *Board Secretary*