

Alief Montessori Community School

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4th Quarter Regular Board Meeting Minutes

Thursday, June 26, 2025 at 11:00 AM-12:57 PM

A regular board meeting of the AMCS board members was held on Thursday, June 26 2025 from 11:00 AM to 12:57 pm in the AMCS middle school conference room at 4203 J St, Houston, TX 77072.

In attendance were Charmaine Constantine, Erica McCready, Delia Presillas, Elizabeth Smith, Tim Snow and Paula Palamountain. Also present were AMCS finance staff members Sophia Teng and Rahila Khawaja.

Paula called the meeting to order at 11:00 am after quorum was established with six board members present. Paula asked if anyone registered for the public comment and public address portions of the meeting. Elizabeth said there is none.

Paula asked Elizabeth to read the minutes of the 3rd quarter board meeting held on March 28, 2025. Erica requested if the minutes could be read by the board members on their own. Paula approved and invited the members to ask questions or comment on items, as needed.

- 1. Charmaine Constantine pointed out a correction of the work "abut" to "about" on page 4, 2nd paragraph, line 4
- 2. Delia updated the board members that the planned renovation of the afterschool room in 12013 6th St will not transpire. Upon inspection of the project contractor, AMCS was informed that city permitting, and inspection would be needed, which would not allow the project to be done before August 2025, when we need the classroom to be available. The class who was supposed to occupy this space will move to the lower elementary building on 4215 H St.
- 3. Sophia also mentioned that there is a correction on page 4, 1st paragraph regarding the \$700,000.00 projected income for FY 2025. It should be \$322,000.00 upon recording depreciation for building and maintenance. Delia mentioned that more details on this will be presented and discussed in item 7.2 on the agenda.

After the questions, Paula asked if someone could motion for the approval of the minutes of the 3rd quarter board meeting. Elizabeth motioned for approval; Erica seconded. All members present, approved.

Paula asked Delia to present the items for information and for action.

Delia presented the following:

- a. School operations update
 - Three new Montessori certified teachers
 - 428 students—168 Primary, 120 Lower Elementary, 100 Upper Elementary and 40 Middles School

- 51 School Personnel: 21 classroom teachers, 15 teacher assistants, 1 special ed administrator/teacher, 3 SPED paraprofessionals, 3 kitchen staff, 8 administration and support (office, testing coordinator, family and community liaison, custodian).
- b. Closing of the Houston Charter Schools SPED Cooperative effective June 30, 2025. This will result in AMCS applying on its own for the Sped Consolidated Grant for SY 2205-26 and onward.
- c. School Safety and Security
 - -One level 3 security officer from August to June
 - -100% in-compliance: Intruder Detection Audit, audit was held on May 6, 2025
- d. TIA Update: AMCS will re-submit data for verification and designation by October 2025.
- e. Notice of Zero Findings and Seamless Summer Administrative Review (SSO AR) Closure. Audit was done on June 11, 2025

Item 6.2 on Evaluating and Improving Student Outcomes (EISO):

Delia reported that AMCS's Spring STAAR 2025 results showed that RLA scores remain high at 98% passing, Science at 81%, Math at 75% and Social Studies at 50%. She mentioned that there is much to improve in all subjects in terms of moving the scores more to MEETS and MASTERS levels.

Erica asked if AMCS will be adopting Blue Bonnet Math resources for next school year, which could help improve math outcomes since these resources are said to be tailored for the STAAR tests.

Delia also reported on the MClass Reading results for K-2 students which showed students achieving on or above level scores for K at 91%, 90% for 1st graders at 80% for 2nd grade. In MClass Math, results showed students achieving on or above level scores for K at 88%, 1st graders at 73% and 2nd graders at only 41%.

At the PK level, the Teaching Strategies Gold results showed the percentage of students achieving targets at 74% in the Physical domain, 80% in Language, 78% in Cognitive Development, 74% in Literacy, 80% in Math.

Paula asked Delia to present the "for action" items:

- 7.1 Delia requested the board to approve AMCS to apply on own for the Special Ed Consolidated Grant for SY 2025-26 and future years. AMCS has submitted grant application on June 16, 2025. Planning amount--\$57, 806 for IDEA B Formula and \$1,232 for IDEA B Preschool, following the closing of the Sped Cooperative.
 - Erica had the motion to approve, Elizabeth seconded. Paula asked if all board members approved. Board members said "aye."
- 7.2 Sophia Teng, AMCS Finance Officer, presented the financial statements and actual expenditures as of May 31, 2025, noting the cash available at \$6.3 M, \$4 M of which is in Logics deposit and \$2M used for school operations. Buildings improvements account for \$11 M bringing the total asset balance to more than \$16M. The income statement projects \$322,009 income. AMCS Finance is requesting the board to authorize a one-time revision of the financial statements in order to include financial data as of June 30, 2025.

7.3 Sophia presented the initial budget to the board for SY 2025-26 emphasizing that \$1.7 M has been allocated for the construction of the new building.

Erica asked what the status is of the construction project. Delia updated the board there were only two construction contractors that participated—Nash Industries and Mission Construction. Delia presented the selection criteria to the board and how the two companies were scored, resulting in Mission Construction winning the project, awarded through a resolution signed by the board.

Erica asked if the \$1.7M set aside in SY2025-26 is enough for the construction project activities. Sophia mentioned that most of the activities would only include permitting, surveying and architect fees. Construction activities would begin at the end of SY 25-26 or closer to the 2nd year, SY 2026-27.

Sophia continued with the budget presentation indicating that the HB2 allotment is still not included in the budget as we are waiting for more information before we can determine a more accurate adjustments for personnel costs.

Sophia also mentioned that in SY 2025-26, the medical premium per staff member per month covered by AMCS would increase from \$486 to \$521, increase of \$35.

Delia asked the board to approve the SY 2025-26 budget. Erica motion for its approval. Charmaine seconded. Paula asked if all are in favor. All board members present, approved.

7.4. Delia asked the board members to consider the following dates for SY2025-25 board meetings which are on a Friday:

September 26

November 14 (due to annual finance audit reporting)

March 27

June 26

Erica motion for approval, Elizabeth seconded. Board members present, approved.

8. Executive Session

- 8.1 A board resolution was passed awarding the CMR project to Mission Construction.
- 8.2 Board approved the Superintendent's contract for SY 2025-26.
- 8.3 Board member Tim Snow announced his resignation from the board as he plans to accept a teaching position in AMCS in SY 2025-26.

Meeting was adjourned at 12:57 PM.

Certified:

Paula Palamountain, Board President

Elizabeth Smith, Board Secretary

9-29-2025

Date

9-29-2025

Date