

Alief Montessori Community School

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4th Quarter Regular Board Meeting Minutes

Friday, June 26, 2026 @ 5:56 pm to 7:44 pm

A regular board meeting of the AMCS board members was held on Friday, June 26, 2026 from 5:56 p.m. to 7:44 p.m. in the AMCS middle school conference room at 4203 J Street, Houston, TX 77072.

In attendance were Charmaine Constantine, Paula Palamountain, Delia Presillas, Cerlito Salarda, Elizabeth Smith, and Perpetua Salvatus-Guerrero. Staff members Sophia Teng and Rahila Khawaja attended via Zoom. Paula called the meeting to order at 6:06 p.m. after a quorum was established with six board members present.

Paula asked board members to read the minutes from the 3rd quarter board meeting held on March 30, 2026 silently on their own. Denden moved and Paula seconded board approval of the 3rd quarter minutes. The motion passed unanimously.

The following items were presented for information and for action:

For Information:

1. School Operations Updates

a. Projected SY 2026-27 Enrollment and Personnel Update

Currently AMCS enrollment is projected to increase from 403 to 460 students total. Kindergarten enrollment will increase from 37 to 63 students, and 7th grade enrollment will increase from 17 to 29 students. Personnel totals 53, with 23 teachers, 16 Teacher Assistants, and 14 administrative positions and other support staff.

b. School Safety and Security Update:

(1) Protective 8ml film has been installed on ALL exterior windows and doors as of May 31, 2026, per Mr. Salarda.

(2) AMCS plans to train and practice Reunification Procedures with students, staff, and parents. These procedures must be determined, known and practiced in the event of any threat or emergency that may occur on campus during the school day and cause a lockdown. AMCS is currently working with Alief ISD on a plan to evacuate our students to its nearby sports stadium. There the students can safely be reunited with their parents. Members of the Board discussed and decided that it is important that the chain of

command during such an emergency be written into the procedures to avoid any confusion by AMCS Staff, Law Enforcement, and other authorities that may be involved in assisting with the crisis.

c. TIA Application Update

(1) Six AMCS teachers have been designated as qualifying for the TIA; two as Master, one as Exemplary, and three as Recognized educators.

(2) The TIA application has been modified and expanded to include Special Ed and RTI teachers; revision on the criteria to be a recipient of TIA or spending plan after the first year of implementation.

d. SY 26-27 ESSA Grant Parent Survey

Delia presented the results of the ESSA Parent Survey to the Board on screen. Elizabeth requested that a copy of these results be emailed to Board members for further review.

e. SY 26-27 School Climate and Culture Survey

Delia presented the results of the School Climate and Culture Survey which had been received from parents. Overall, parents strongly agree that the school is doing great things for its students and staff.

f. AMCS Construction and Project

(1) Building D

The permit drawing set is currently in its second review cycle at the City of Houston. We anticipate that this second review period will be completed by July 10, 2026. Due to further comments from the city related to us not having an updated Plat or approved TIA, the drawings will have to be resubmitted for a third review.

(2) Plat: Windrose (the surveyor company) submitted an updated plat drawing to the city of Houston with the revisions that we previously discussed regarding the 3'-0" setback. The city accepted the application, and the plat will now start the recordation process. We are waiting for confirmation from Windrose regarding how long the recordation process will take.

(3) Traffic Impact Analysis (TIA) is a traffic study for the AMCS campus, and has been completed by Stevens-Technical and submitted to the City of Houston for review. They received one round of comments and responded to them, and are now waiting for a response from the City of Houston.

g. Purchase of Two Properties Adjacent to the School

AMCS has purchased two properties to be added to the campus:

- (1) 0 6th Street LAND ONLY for \$30,000 - 3,750 sq. feet.
- (2) 4223 J Street House and Lot for \$174,000 - 3,375 sq. feet lot and 1,623 sq. feet house.

h. Board Training Requirements and Update

Delia reminded the Board members present that the deadline for submitting completion certificates for training for the 2025-26 school year is June 30, 2026. Six hours of training is required for current members.

i. School Facility Incentive Grant (SFIG) Award

The purpose of this program is to accelerate the impact of state facilities funding by providing supplemental federal facilities funding to high-performing charter schools, increasing their capacity to serve Texas communities with the greatest need for educational choice.

AMCS has been awarded \$43,258 for the years 2026-2028. Allowable expenses include:

- (1) Rental of a school facility
- (2) Purchase of a building of land
- (3) Construction or renovation
- (4) Leasehold Improvements
- (5) Debt servicing

AMCS would most likely apply to use the grant for property purchase and/or construction or renovation expenses, as the other two items will not be applicable.

2. SY 2026-27 Evaluating and Improving Student Outcomes (EISO) and STAAR Update

Delia presented the STAAR test results for AMCS students for the 2025-26 school year. Improvements were made overall in all subject areas, but the school rating will most likely not change from last year as the numbers were very close to being the same as school year 2024-25. The most progress made was in Social Studies.

For Action Items:

1. Approval of Senate Bill 12 Policies and Certification of Compliance

Beginning with the 2026-27 school year, each school system must submit a board-approved certification of SB12 compliance to the Texas Education Agency (TEA) no later than September 30 of each school year as part of statewide 89th legislative changes (2025) regarding Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion (DEI) practices.

After review and much discussion, the Board acknowledged that it must approve this state required resolution. Elizabeth moved to approve, Charmaine seconded the motion. The motion was approved with one Board member voting against it.

2. Approval of the Revised SY 2026-27 Calendar and School Day Schedule

Delia explained that with the upcoming construction of the Building D, that the TIA (traffic study) recommends dismissal times should be altered with a 15 minute interval between each building. Primary students first, then 15 minutes later the elementary students, then 15 minutes later the upper elementary and middle school students. This means that the length of the school day will be longer, however on Fridays, school dismissal will end by 2:00 p.m. for primary students and 2:30 p.m. for elementary and middle school students. School will begin at 8:00 a.m. and end at 3:40 p.m. Monday through Thursday. Parents and teachers are satisfied with these changes and after care is provided at a very reduced rate for those parents who cannot pick up their children early on Fridays.

Paula moved to approve and Perpetua seconded the motion. The motion was unanimously approved.

3. Approval of the Certification of Provision of Instructional Materials Survey, SY 2026-2027

The Board approved the Instructional Materials Certification for Reading/Language Arts, Mathematics, Science, and Social Studies. Perpetua moved to approve and Elizabeth seconded the motion. The vote was unanimous.

4. Approval of Summer Pay for Teacher and Teacher Assistants

Delia explained that based on online research of ISD pay for summer school, the hourly rate is from \$33 to \$35 for teachers and \$14-\$18 for teacher aides. HISD, FBISD, Alief ISD are implementing this rate for SY 2026-27.

AMCS would like to implement the same pay rate for the following reasons:

- (1) The number of students per class is smaller, at 15-25 per class vs. 25-30 during the regular school year.

- (2) The focus of summer school is academics remediation in RLA and Math only vs. the four content areas during the regular school year.

Teachers and assistants have been informed of this pay rate for the Summer of 2026. For SY 2026-27 school year, the Board will vote on approving the pay rate at the 1st quarter meeting in September 2026. .

5. Approval of the Revised AMCS Retirement Policy, P. 18 of the AMCS Staff Handbook
The AMCS Staff Handbook, p. 18 will now say: "Full time and part-time employees with 20+ hours per week are eligible to participate in the Teacher Retirement System (TRS). . .

Eligible AMCS employees applying for retirement will receive \$50.00 per day for every unused local and state day up to 100 days. **The Retiree will also receive \$100.00 for every year of service with AMCS."**

Elizabeth moved to approve the revision and Paula seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

6. Approval of the Financial Statements and Actual Expenditure Ending May 31, 2026:

Sophia Teng, Business Manager, presented.

- a. Statement of financial condition: This report is as of June 17, 2026. A one-time revision is requested to include additional claims until June 30, 2026. Currently, cash operating is at \$6.9 M. This will go up by \$389,000 more. Denden asked the source of the increase. Sophia explained that the report has not accounted for the FSP money for June. Total assets are at \$16.8 M.
- b. Income statement: Revenue and other sources also reflect that the June FSP has not been included. On the expenditure side, the July accrued payment has not been included such as training and salary for summer. Total income is expected to be \$663,266. The budget revision page provides the line items adjusted for this income statement.

Delia Presillas asked the board to approve the financial statements and actual expenditures as of May 31 with the board authorizing a one-time revision by AMCS Business Office to include all items as of June 30, 2026. Denden moved to approve, Paula seconded the motion. The motion was unanimously approved.

7. The budget for SY 26-27 includes a 10% increase as a standard practice taking into account the 2% increase for AMCS personnel salaries and current cost of operations factoring in inflation. We have not included the cost associated with construction, TIA payout to teachers. We will update and request approval from the board in the next quarterly meeting for budget revisions needed.

Delia asked for the approval of the Budget for 26-27. Charmaine moved to approve. Denden seconded the motion. The motion was approved unanimously.

8. Approval of Proposed Board Meeting Dates for SY 2026-27

The Board will continue to meet on Fridays at 5:45 p.m. on:

September 25
November 13
March 19
June 25

Executive Session:

1. AMCS Superintendent Evaluation and Superintendent Contract Approval for SY 2026-27

The Board reviewed and evaluated the Superintendent's Contract terms and conditions. All agreed that Delia continues her outstanding performance in managing/directing AMCS and that she has earned a 2% pay increase. Charmaine moved to approve the contract and Paula seconded the motion. The vote for approval was unanimous.

Adjournment: There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 7:44 p.m.

Certified

Paula Palamountain, President

Date: _____

Elizabeth Smith, Secretary

Date: _____

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