

**Minutes of the Regular Meeting of the Board of Directors of Austin International School**  
**Feb 26, 2019; 6:30 pm**  
**Adelphi Campus**

**Board Members Present:** Amy Brown, Suman Mallick, Mike Carper (non-voting member), Marie Musalem, Claudio Occhipinti, Michael Haberman, Francois Waelbroeck, Stacey McDougal

**Absent:** Holly Johnson, Nathan Yang, Ricardo Sanchez

**Staff:** Emily, Jacques, April

**Visitors:** Sergio, Rena (PTO president), Ester

**6:39 call to order of the Board of Directors**

**PUBLIC SESSION**

Vote on open session minutes from last time - passed

**Announcements**

- I. Moment of Gratitude for Gala
- II. PTO report
  - a. GS bake sale for reading bench and book locker
  - b. Storage locker cleanup/thin out. Clear containers, shelf etc...
  - c. PTO picnic March 8<sup>th</sup> and bake sale for CM2 France trip fund raiser
  - d. April 13 Bachata dance
  - e. May 10<sup>th</sup> Skate Land fundraiser
  - f. **Next PTO meeting: Bylaws** getting updated/ in-process with HOS, vote in new PTO Board, \$17k PTO surplus to get spent –ideas and vote to community.
    - i. Bylaws updates include language, approval amounts, positions/responsibilities
- III. HOS Report
  - a. Recent Events in Feb – see HOS slides
  - b. No J1 Visas for French Admin. MLF wants to require it, but it's not possible due to visa's right now. It keeps coming up.
  - c. Feb 2<sup>nd</sup> Open House was pretty full
  - d. Community Survey back from AIS community
  - e. MAP and Progress reports went out 2/25
- IV. Enrollment (see slides)
  - a. Total current students ~180
  - b. 50 total inquiries for 2019-2020
  - c. 14 applications/ 7 pending
  - d. Overall more inquiries and movement than past two years
  - e. Open House/ Tours/ Inquiries /follow-up is much better than in the past. (April & Mathilde). Pipeline stronger now. (~5x the inquiries).
- V. Development Activity

- a. Annual fund \$7230 to date (against a \$12,500 goal)
  - b. Gala \$120k (last year \$118k); still a few post Gala auctions. Net ~ just under 100k
  - c. Fundraising for the year: Current amount is at \$128,591 against our goal of \$154,500
    - i. Still have a gap in funding and hope community will step up thru fund run, annual fund.
  - d. Gala 2019 Video; get up on the website. Fun video, the silent auction was successful. And the app seems to work and is well liked.
- VI. ISAS Update
- a. Currently at self-study Narrative (Feb 28, 2019)
  - b. March 7<sup>th</sup> is the pre-visit
  - c. April 8<sup>th</sup> is the visit day
  - d. Some parents question “why accreditation”?
    - i. AEFÉ/MLF already accredited the French, NAYEC for cycle 1, ISAS is for all cycles. Makes us legit with the English and School overall (in addition to French Gov’t)
    - ii. Validation of program, excellent school, expands to make sure English and Spanish all fits w/ the French and imperative for the Middle School and transferring credits to High School.
    - iii. Recommendation that we keep using the Accreditation One-slide w/ parents as a visual
- VII. Surveys: see HOS slide for more detail
- a. Family Satisfaction Survey
  - b. Student feedback to teachers
  - c. Faculty Satisfaction Survey
  - d. PTC software
  - e. Staff Evaluation and Growth
    - i. Semester 1 - Planning
    - ii. Semester 2 - Data Collection (documented)
    - iii. Semester 2 – Evaluation
  - f. Map results great for AIS and all are above the World Averages – great results
- VIII. Upcoming
- a. PTC
  - b. French Government Deadline
  - c. HOS coffee on March 5<sup>th</sup>, PTO picnic March 8<sup>th</sup>
  - d. Spring Break March 11 – 25
- IX. Committee updates:
- a. Audit Committee –See Claudio’s slides for detail
    - i. Policy review, look at other schools, identified gaps, needs for accreditations, and plan to fill gaps.
    - ii. Policies updates for this year and for next
    - iii. 49 policies to fix, HR/Personnel and Pedagogical have the most to update.
    - iv. Committee presented specifics on what we have and where we will fill needed gaps.
- X. Security Audit by APD (officer John)
- a. ~4-5 hrs in the building and came back at night
  - b. Delivered comprehensive report

- c. Advice on small inexpensive and the 'Full Package' of security and theft.
- d. Summary basically good; we received an "A" and praised the SWAT/Fire training AIS did.
- e. Active attacker preparedness we got an "A".
- f. We will take recommendations and feedback in consideration to continue to improve each year.


I. Public Comments Section:

- a. Spanish concerns – Necessary to improve the Spanish strategy
  - i. Told kids will be fluent in Trilingual.  
 Note: What is 'fluent'. We should define this for parents.
  - ii. Feels like there is not got enough Spanish Immersion or intensity in the structure for specific strong improvement compared to French or English. Needs more definition and cohesion between the grade levels for improvement.
- b. Special Needs education and concerns with classroom fit
  - i. CE1 has known issues of serious issues of disruption. Well known and not acceptable behavior. How is school addressing resources so that special needs don't take over the rest of class learning. Parents want to feel challenges aren't affecting excellence in the classroom. (Private school education).
  - ii. Parents requesting discipline issues be specifically addressed in shorter timeframe and stated AIS cannot put special needs of one child in front of the classroom. Comment about private school and paying for superior quality education.  
 Note: General policy is in place on accommodation of special needs, depending on the need. Public schools have tons of funding and resources for all types of needs. AIS does care about meeting the need of individuals and their growth if those needs can fit into the AIS classroom environment while maintaining a good fit for the classroom, style, and standards at AIS.
- c. Standardized Testing and Map
  - i. Standardized U.S. state testing question. Where are we compared to California (are we behind?) Austin, Texas, US mkt, then also the European countries, not the whole world Internationally but look at European market. Parent would like to see the data
  - ii. HOS responded some with International school curriculum diverting and circling back in HS in subjects like math. US teaching separate, linear subjects like Algebra 1, Algebra 2, Geometry, and Int'l teaching in a holistic way where the subjects are 'bundled'.
  - iii. Want AIS curriculum Incorporate/ ensure AIS is pushing to superior standards that prepare students like CA standards and TOP NOTCH International schools.

Parent Ask: How many parents took the Satisfaction Survey? 21.3% of student population. (39 parents) (152 families).

Next Board meeting on March 26  
 Open Session Adjourned at 8:35pm

Approved on: 3. 26. 19

Signed:   
 Board Secretary