

Amana Academy Governing Board Meeting

January 26, 2018 (8:00am-10:00am)

Attendees: Board members present were Saddat Abbas, Maria Ebrahimji, Leslie Jensen Link, Stephanie Dean, Kristina Eisenhardt. Ehab Jaleel, Niki Fox, and Kristi Davis from Administration, and ~12 guest parents.

	Agenda Item	Notes
1.0	Slice of Amana Life	
10 min	Performance - School Choice Week	performance by Elementary kids in back lot
2.0	Executive Committee	
5 min	Marketing for Enrollment	approximately 150 signed up for the Lottery. Re-commitment is light from existing families. We are marketing in local newspapers and with yard signs. Deadline for re-commitment is January 31 st .
15 min	Academic FastBridge	Fastbridge Winter Screening Status Finished with Reading and Math (Grades 4,6,7) Almost Finished (Jan 29 th) – Grades 1,2,3,5 Haven't tested yet (Feb 7 th) – Grades K,8 Fulton County has extended the screening window to Feb 14 th due to the weather related closure. Fastbridge Results – Overall, Fastbridge scores are meant to be a predictor of Milestones performance, but this test is a lot harder scored than STAR testing. Refer to the supplementary files for specific test score performance.
5 min	Make-up Days due to weather	Mrs. Campbell has recommended that we have one makeup day on March 12 th . Discussion included a statement of need for policy regarding virtual assignments. There was inconsistency with assignments across the grades, and also inconsistency with how it was delivered. Concerns with communicating to the students that they did the virtual assignments, especially if they were lengthy, would be punished for still having to come to school. The vote was called. 4 members voted for the makeup day, 1 voted against the makeup day. There will be a makeup day on March 12.

3.0	Academic Committee Report	
5 min	AdvancEd SACS	the committee will come for review on Monday 1/29 and Tuesday 1/30. Initial feedback is that we have provided much more documentation than is normally provided by schools.
3.0	Financial Report	
5 min	Monthly Financials	<p>We are performing in excess of \$123k on net income. One key improvement is in the cafeteria program, where we are \$18k positive (vs. taking a loss in past years).</p> <p>See financial report for additional details. A vote was called and the financials for December 2017 were approved. The vote was unanimous.</p> <p>A request was made by Kristi to determine how we would report financials to include the Dissemination grant in future months. After discussion we agreed that we would revise the total budget to include the dissemination grant, and the new budget will be voted on by the board. A vote was called, and the vote was unanimous in favor.</p>
4.0	Fund Development	
5 min	Annual Fund Update	Stephanie shared that we have raised over \$50k for the Annual Fund. This campaign is complete for this year.
5 min	Squawk & Walk	<p>Squawk & Walk: The spring event will be on Saturday May 5th, registration opens at 2:30, and will end at 6 pm. The Fundraising committee has decided to rename and restructure the event. Instead of Squawk & Walk, the event will be named “Amana’s ChangeMaker Faire”. We will drop the walk from the event, and focus on increased presence with the Maker Faire. We will still have food trucks and bounce house activities. We will not ask Verizon to sponsor us this year, but will focus on our new community/ corporate partners for sponsorship. Families will also be able to be a sponsor for \$100 per family, which includes admission for 3 children, 5 t-shirts, and the family’s name printed on the t-shirt as a sponsor.</p>

5 min	Grants: Coca-Cola; Grants to Green	Up for Charter School of the Year award from Coca-Cola; Applying for a grant to help Green up the school. Can get matching dollars if granted.
5.0	Founders Day	
5 min		Welcome to the Founders.. In honor of Founders Day (Jan 26 th), Ehab invited several of our founding board members, parents, and friends, to join the board meeting. Introductions were made – special thanks to these special folks for their vision and courage to start Amana’s charter.
7.0	Workgroup Updates	
25 min	Charter Replication Briefing	Ehab and Ed Chang from RedefinED presented information about a replication plan and the research that Ehab has done to seek insight about opportunities and pitfalls. Refer to his presentation for more details. This month is to inform the board about the issue. March and April will be to develop questions and vet the full plan, with a vote expected to be called by the April board meeting.
8.0	Community Feedback (10 min)	
5 min		<p>questions related to replication:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Kira Milford - Questions about teacher recruitment – seems as if we have a hard time recruiting teachers already – will this limit the pool, or where will we recruit teachers from? Can we truly retain our current teachers better with expansion? 2. Staci Lewis - Need to see how the expansion will strengthen us financially. 3. Sheila Boyd - We will need to use specific case examples where a single school expanded and had positive benefits for the original school. 4. Mandy Bush - Concerns about expanding to entice corporate sponsors, and if they will influence our culture or dilute it. Concerned about money changing who we are.. 5. Bilal Wajid – counter comment that corporations can open many more opportunities for us.
9.0	Executive Session - Private Mtg	
20 min	Real estate matter	Executive session included Kristina Eisenhardt, Stephanie Dean, Maria Ebrahimji, and was adjourned after 5 minutes.

