

Meeting Minutes



Meeting Type: Board Town Hall	April 27, 2010
<p><u>Board Members Present:</u> Carrie Doulfikhar, Tracy Blair, Lynn Hedgepeth, Andrea Cooper Gatewood, Nada Diab, , Maher Budeir</p> <p><u>Board Members Absent:</u> Majd Almoayd, Shuaib Hanief</p>	<p>Recorder: Ehab Jaleel</p> <p>Start: 7:11 PM</p> <p>End: 7:50 PM</p>

DISCUSSION TOPICS	ACTION ITEMS
<p>The Board Town Hall followed Executive Director Ehab Jaleel’s ‘State of the School Address’ . Board Chair Maher Budeir made the following points:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Amana’s Board is committed to Fund Development and Policy Setting as its key priorities. Transitioning to this type of focus is an educational process. • Everyone is invited to the next public Board meeting on May 15th – when Board Officers will be chosen • 	
<p>Administrators and Board members took the following questions:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Q: What is the status of TAG at Amana? A: The school conducts two screenings annually and currently has 88 students in the program • Q: Will school calendar change next year? A: Yes, same as Fulton County • Q: When will TAG test be back? A: By end of year • Q: What grades are eligible for TAG? A: K-8 • Q: What is the state of the proposed [separate] Middle School Charter ? A: Amana will not pursue a separate charter at this time. • Q: Can parents help in summer programs? A: Yes. • Q: Does Amana offer speech therapy? A: Yes • Q: How does school address bullying? A: The school has a social curriculum in place that has specific consequences for infractions, such as bullying. • Q: What is the argument for students not attending FSA (Fulton Science Academy middle school)? A: The question is: what is the argument for going to FSA? The schools have different missions. Both are scoring well on CRCT. Amana goes beyond tests and offers engaging, in-depth small class instruction and field studies that sets students up for success in high school and college. We focus on the balance of intellect and ethical character and seek to produce 	

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<p>students who will play an active role in making a positive change in the modern world.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Q: Are there any plans to start a pre-K program at Amana? A: No. • Q: Will Amana move? A: We plan to expand within our space by 6000 square feet, but we will be in our leased facility for next 2 years. • Q: What is the class size at Amana this year and will it change next year? A: Our classes range from 15 students up to 25. We will see increases in some grades, but we do plan on staying well below State maximums. For example, other middle schools [such as FSA] will go up to 30+, while we will remain around 25. • Q: What is the first day of school? A: August 23rd! 	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Maher then introduced concept of Friends of Amana as a way for supporters to make meaning financial and non-financial contributions to the school. Friends of Amana will take an active role in fundraising outside the school where the parent organization may not be able to. He encouraged the audience to get involved at all levels. 	