



DUAL IMMERSION ACADEMY

DIA Board Meeting, February 8, 2018

Meeting started at 6:10 p.m.

In attendance: Gabriela Benitez, Jesse Soriano, Rich Stowell, Ray Betancourt

Absent: Carmen Finn, Brian Loe, Mac Newbold

Staff: Angela Fanjul, DIA Director, Brian Cates (Red Apple)

Others in attendance: Rocio Gonzalez, Board secretary

Financial Report:

DIA is at 58% through fiscal year. Reflecting operating margins. Doing well. Overall expenses and revenue close to forecast. Restricted funds reported. Revenue doing well. Will continue to track some over. State revenue on target. Federal low because we have not yet received those funds. UCE funds will be requested soon and will come in around march.

Administrative Report:

Follow up on Solar Discussion:

Discussion regarding pros and cons, letter of intent and follow up with Monti to get more information about others schools using solar.

Discussion about bidding process and opening up to other solar companies in the community. To announce the opportunity for bidding in newspaper, reaching out to the UT Chamber of Commerce and UT Hispanic Chamber of Commerce, including deadline for submission.

Angela will contact Monti and Gabriela will reach out to Hispanic chamber and Asian chamber of commerce. Angela will draft letter of interest.

Comcast Cares: Event scheduled for Saturday, April 21st. Board are committed to bringing four volunteers each. Angela will send the board a list of all projects planned for the day of the event. Comcast will pay for all materials and volunteers that attend and participate. The event will last for four hours and Comcast will provide breakfast and T-shirt. There may be two additional paint days and those volunteer hours will count as well. Comcast Team Lead is excited to work with us and believe the event will also originate enrollment interest. Comcast has approved all the projects DIA has proposed and they will provide a team leader for each project. The computer lab will be refurbished.

There is also a partnership with Comcast to do newsmakers, which are air spots on how DIA is doing and opportunities to get involved. It will provide great exposure to increase enrollment and

create interest from people in the community. There will also be public announcements on their web site with pictures of DIA kids and bilingualism.

Letters are being sent home with the students to inform parents about the Comcast event, which information is also on website.

Enrollment: Report on current enrollment, available spots and number of children for next year. 450 children currently enrolled and it is an increase from years past. Retention of children have improved. The goal is to have a waiting list. A survey will be completed with parents asking what brought them to DIA. Discussion about incentives vs expectations. Suggestion about holding seminars about dual immersion model and how it has helped DIA children. Also, it was recommended to continue brainstorming for other opportunities to promote DIA, including press releases and maybe a news article.

Development – Newsletter, other donor communication: Angela and Gabriela have discussed the creation of a newsletter that can be shared with our donors, sponsors and the university. Also, discussion about having a speaker once a month to talk to DIA kids. It was recommended for board members to find people who could come in and speak and also who can be show cased in the newsletter.

Articles on Teachers: Information on articles used by Angela learn more about what needs to be present in the school for teachers to stay on the job. She shared articles with her teaching staff and discussed reasons why teachers stayed on the job, what brought them to it, what kept them at the school, why they left and who changed professions. Article included information about interactions with peers, how they were treated and if they were intellectually challenged, etc. Number one factor was Performance Measures. DIA Team Leads expressed they want to make a difference and teach children. They like the fact that children can be taught an additional language, the opportunity to teach in their native language, and working in the community. Two teachers came to DIA due to family connected in some way with the school and some due to friends. Angela indicated that her goal is to take this information shared to create that environment where teachers love to teach and interact with each other, families and community.

Approval of minutes: January 11, 2018

Correction to the January minutes: Rich Stowell was not present at the January 11 meeting.

Motion by Jesse Soriano

Second by Rich Stowell

Motion to close the meeting:

Motion by Gabriela Benitez

Second by Rich Stowell

Meeting concluded by 7:30

Next meeting: 6:00pm Thursday, March 8, 2018