

Amistad Academy

Board Meeting

Tuesday, July 28, 12:00 pm
Zoom Video Conference

Agenda

- I. Call to Order
- II. Discussion of 2020-21 School Reopening Plan
- III. Adjourn



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Amistad Academy

Board Meeting

Tuesday, July 28, 2020, 12:00 pm

Zoom Video Conference

Board Members in Attendance:

Carolyn Greenspan, Jane Levin, Lorraine Gibbons, Jen Alexander, Ethan Tyminski, Pat Sweet

Staff and Guests in Attendance: Dacia Toll, Sarah Blanton, Ken Paul, Katie Rosa Moher, Scot Kerr

Sarah Blanton recorded the minutes. The meeting was called to order at 12:04 pm.

NOTE: This was a joint meeting with all Achievement First school boards.

1. Public Comment

There was no public comment.

2. Discussion of 2020-21 School Reopening Plan

Dacia Toll reviewed the draft plans for the upcoming 2020-21 school year and engaged the board in a discussion about their feedback and questions, especially around the strength and vulnerabilities in the plans, how to address anxiety of staff about returning and how to support students and families who most need in-person school.

The draft plans are influenced by research from public health experts, guidance from local authorities, surveys of students, families and staff, and lessons from other districts around the world who have reopened.

Each of the plans begins with the following guiding principles:

1. Safety first
2. Family choice
3. Prioritize our youngest scholars
4. Flexibility
5. Strong socioemotional support
6. Strong student learning.

Under the AF draft plan, families will be able to choose whether they want their children to learn remotely or in-person and AF is committed to making both options excellent. In Rhode Island, the draft plans calls for kindergarten and first grade returning in person on August 31, with other grades starting remote on that date and returning for in-person on September 15. In Connecticut, all grades will start

remote on September 1 or 2 and in-person learning will be phased in starting on September 15. In New York, all grades will start remote on September 1 or 2 and in person will start no sooner than September 15.

Ms. Toll reviewed a sample schedule for in-person and remote, for elementary, middle and high school. She also reviewed the timeline for each state for gathering input on the plans, sharing them with families, collecting responses on whether they want in-person or remote, and school-specific follow up with families.

3. Adjourn

The meeting was adjourned at 1:41 pm.



Amistad Academy Board of Directors

Zoom meeting
September 8, 2020
5:30 pm

- I. Call to Order
- II. Public Comment
- III. Approve Minutes
- IV. Elect Parent Representative
- V. Discussion and Business
 - Principal Reports
 - Joint High School Committee Report
 - Finance Committee Report
 - i. Approve amended budget
 - Executive Session – discussion and possible action regarding interim principal of Amistad Elementary School
 - Board Chair Report
 - i. Elect Leadership Slate
 - ii. Approve Amistad High School Cooperative Agreement
 - iii. Approve Mask Policy
 - iv. Review CMO Evaluation
 - v. Conflict of Interest Disclosure Statements
 - vi. Lead for Racial Equity Commitments
 - vii. Amistad Name
 - viii. Board committees
- VI. Adjourn



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Amistad Academy

Board of Directors

Zoom Video Conference

Tuesday, September 8, 2020, 5:30 pm

I. Call to Order and Attendance

The meeting was called to order at 5:34 pm by Carolyn Greenspan. The following board members and Achievement First Staff were in attendance:

Carolyn Greenspan - Yes	Brooke Williams, Amistad Elementary School Principal
Lorraine Gibbons - Yes	Roseann Basile, Amistad Middle School Principal
Jane Levin - Yes	Christina Ellington, Regional Superintendent
Pat Sweet - Yes	Jesse Balis-Harris, Regional Superintendent
Jennifer Alexander - Yes	Sarah Blanton, AF Network Support
Albert Maldonado - No	Victor De La Paz, AF Network Support
Ethan Tyminski - No	Ken Paul, AF Network Support
Tyra Smallwood - Yes	

Public: Shannelle Whyte, Julie Hajducky

II. Open Session for Public Comment

There was no public comment.

III. Discussion and Business

A. Principal reports

Ms. Brooke Williams updated the board on the start of the school year which has been going smoothly.

Ms. Williams has hosted two town hall meetings. She reported that parents shared appreciation with the staff but did encourage the school to increase engagement between scholars during Zoom. This feedback was consistent with what the teachers were also focused on.

Ms. Williams discussed student attendance and teacher retention. The school is currently fully staffed. Three teachers are not certified but they have their tests scheduled within the next few weeks. All members of the leadership team returned this year..

Ms. Williams discussed some lessons learned from remote learning last spring including shifting

the remote school day to mirror a regular school day, keeping kids in pods, and grading,

Ms. Christina Ellington, regional superintendent, shared her impressions of the start of the year and how the Amistad Elementary teachers are showing patience and pizzazz to help kids enjoy their learning.

Ms. Roseann Basile, Amistad Middle School principal, shared that she's enjoyed meeting the staff and establishing shared commitments to establish a strong vision for school culture. She shared survey feedback which was strong with helpful pushes. That feedback was shared with the staff the next day along with the action steps they were taking in response to the feedback.

Three teachers left over the summer. Two of the teachers who left were new teachers who left on the first day and the third shared that she was offered another position where she can be 100% remote which was a better choice for her.

Back to school night is approaching and they are hoping to get as many families involved as possible. Ms. Basile plans to implement town halls to engage families.

Finally, Ms. Basile shared that the new teachers are paired with more experienced teacher which helps the transition and provides consistent modeling.

B. Approve Minutes

RESOLVED, the Amistad Academy Board of Directors hereby approves the meeting minutes from May 13 and July 28, 2020.

Motion by Tyra Smallwood

Seconded by Pat Sweet

All in favor

C. Elect Parent Representative

RESOLVED, the Amistad Academy Board of Directors hereby elects Ms. Shannelle Whyte to serve as a director for a three year term ending June 30, 2023.

Motion by Carolyn Greenspan

Seconded by Tyra Smallwood

All in favor

D. Joint High School Committee Report

Jane Levin gave the Amistad High School report noting strong leadership team retention (they lost one member of the LT who is now a principal at another AF school). Ms. Levin reviewed

enrollment, student and staff retention. All students have the technology needed for remote learning.

Seniors are finalizing their college lists. Professional development is continuing for teachers at the same level as it had been prior to COVID and special education services are continuing for scholars.

E. Executive Session – Personnel discussion (interview) regarding the hiring of an interim principal

The board entered executive session at 6:03 pm and invited the following members of the Achievement First staff to join: Sarah Blanton, Brooke Williams, Christina Ellington and Lauren Gemske. Motion by Tyra Smallwood. Second by Lorraine Gibbons.

The board exited executive session at 6:17pm to vote on the resolution for interim principal.

RESOLVED, the Amistad Academy Board of Directors hereby approves Ms. Lauren Gemske to serve as the Interim Principal of Amistad Elementary School for the duration of Ms. Brooke Williams' parental leave (12 weeks).

Motion by Pat Sweet

Seconded by Tyra Smallwood

All in favor

F. Board Chair Report

Carolyn Greenspan reviewed the recommended resolutions before the board.

RESOLVED, the Amistad Academy Board of Directors hereby elects the following leadership slate for the 2020-21 fiscal year:

Carolyn Greenspan, Chair

Lorraine Gibbons, Secretary

Motion by Pat Sweet

Seconded by Jane Levin

All in favor

RESOLVED, the Amistad Academy Board of Directors hereby renews the Cooperative Arrangement Agreement by and between Amistad Academy, Elm City College Preparatory, and AF Bridgeport Academy as presented for five (5) years.

Motion by Lorraine Gibbons

Seconded by Tyra Smallwood

All in favor

Ms. Greenspan noted how impressed she was with the mask policy.

RESOLVED, the Amistad Academy Board of Directors hereby approves the facial covering (mask) policy as presented by Achievement First.

Motion by Pat Sweet

Seconded by Tyra Smallwood

All in favor

G. Finance Committee Report

Victor De La Paz, CFO, joined the meeting to give an overview of the financials. There is a budget amendment before the board which takes into consideration adjustments to expenses for COVID and remote learning as well as shifts in revenue. The balance sheet shows a strong cash balance because of the PPP loan.

Mr. De La Paz reviewed changes to the PPP loan.

RESOLVED, the Amistad Academy Board of Directors hereby approves the amended budget as recommended by the Finance Committee and prepared by Achievement First for the 2020-21 fiscal year.

Motion by Lorraine Gibbons

Seconded by Pat Sweet

All in favor

Ms. Greenspan welcomed Lashell Rountree to share teacher certification data. Ms Rountree projected 100% certification once all paperwork is processed by the state.

Ms. Greenspan reviewed the CMO evaluation which is required annually by the State. The Conflict of Interest Disclosure Statements must be completed and emailed to Sarah Blanton. Finally, Ms. Greenspan reviewed the following resolution in support of Achievement First's Lead for Racial Equity core value and the resolution passed by the Network Support Board.

WHEREAS, Amistad Academy was founded to address the legacy of racism in public education and to support the young people in New Haven to realize their full power and potential;

WHEREAS, Amistad Academy has entered into an Academic and Business Services Agreement with Achievement First, Inc ("AF"), dated as of July 1, 2020;

WHEREAS, Lead for Racial Equity was defined as the lead core value for AF, but AF has acknowledged that it has not -- and does not currently -- consistently live that value in its schools. While AF has made meaningful progress in some areas, AF has not acted urgently or boldly enough to be consistently anti-racist in its instruction and curriculum, school discipline and student experience, talent practices and policies, family engagement, and decision-making; and

WHEREAS, Amistad Academy, in alignment with AF, aspires to lead the education sector not just in what our scholars achieve but also in the values-based way we operate. We believe that when we know better, we must do better. We are committed to becoming the anti-racist school system and community that our scholars, families, and staff deserve. We believe that we must interrogate our current practices, accelerate change, and institutionalize the equity-based mindsets, policies, and practices that are needed to move us collectively toward that vision.

BE IT RESOLVED, the Amistad Academy Board of Directors hereby affirms that Amistad Academy will uphold the values of Lead for Racial Equity and:

1. Vehemently denounce racism and actively work to dismantle it within and outside Amistad Academy;
2. Build structures and accountability to ensure all students, families, and staff are treated equitably and feel heard and valued; specifically, work to amplify Black and Latinx voices and perspectives both internally and externally;
3. Implement an anti-racist approach to the its beliefs, mindsets, policies, and practices with goals and actions in each of the following areas:
 - Adult culture and inclusive decision-making
 - Student Experience/School Culture (including student discipline policies and practices)
 - Talent (including equitable development, promotion, and compensation)
 - Instructional practices and curriculum
4. Instruct the principals of Amistad Academy to report at board meetings on the progress against these commitments, what has been accomplished, how different parts of the Amistad community have been engaged, and what the next phase of the work will be; and
5. Ensure all new Amistad Academy priorities and initiatives are developed, launched, and executed with an intentional and embedded focus on Leading for Racial Equity; take any additional steps necessary to ensure Amistad Academy becomes the powerful, anti-racist engine for equity that we were founded to be - and that our scholars, families and staff deserve.

Motion by Lorraine Gibbons

Seconded by Jen Alexander
All in favor

IV. Adjourn

There being no other business before the board, it was unanimously decided to adjourn at 6:34 pm.

Motion by Lorraine Gibbons
Second by Jane Levin
All in favor



Amistad Academy Board of Directors

Zoom meeting
October 7, 2020
5:00 pm

- I. Call to Order
- II. Public Comment
- III. Discussion and possible action related to determining a process for reconsidering the Amistad name
- IV. Adjourn



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Amistad Academy

Board of Directors

Zoom Video Conference

October 7, 2020, 5:00 pm

I. Call to Order and Attendance

The meeting was called to order at 5:03 pm by Carolyn Greenspan. The following board members and Achievement First Staff were in attendance:

Carolyn Greenspan - Yes	John Motley, AF Network Support Board
Lorraine Gibbons - Yes	
Jane Levin - Yes	Roseann Basile, Amistad Middle School Principal
Pat Sweet - Yes	Simon Obas, Amistad High School Principal
Jennifer Alexander - Yes	Jesse Balis-Harris, Regional Superintendent
Albert Maldonado - No	Sarah Blanton, AF Network Support
Ethan Tyminski - No	Ken Paul, AF Network Support
Tyra Smallwood - Yes	

Ms. Greenspan introduced herself and shared that the purpose of the board meeting is to discuss a process for reconsidering whether Amistad should continue to be the name of our schools. She welcomed and thanked everyone for joining the meeting.

Ms. Greenspan framed the discussion by noting the original intent behind the Amistad name and acknowledging the views of many students, staff, alumni and families that this is not the right name for the school. She stated the board respects this view and looks forward to public comment.

II. Open Session for Public Comment

Several members of the community, including students and staff, made comments in support of changing the Amistad name.

III. Discussion and possible action related to determining a process for reconsidering the Amistad name

Ms. Greenspan previewed the resolution before the board and outlined the process for making a material change to the charter.

There was no board discussion on the resolution.

RESOLVED, the Amistad Academy Board of Directors hereby authorizes and directs the formation of a focus group co-chaired by John Motley, Achievement First Board Member, and Simon Obas, Amistad High School Principal, to explore options for re-naming Amistad Academy, seeking input from the community, with the intention of submitting a recommendation to the Amistad Academy Board of Directors for consideration.

Motion by Jane Levin

Seconded by Lorraine Gibbons

All in favor

Ms. Greenspan committed to keeping the public apprised of the progress of the focus group.

IV. Adjourn

The meeting was adjourned by Carolyn Greenspan at 5:18 pm.

Motion by Lorraine Gibbons

Second by Tyra Smallwood

All in favor



**Amistad Academy
Board of Directors**

Zoom meeting

Wednesday, November 4, 2020

5:30 pm

- I. Call to Order
- II. Public Comment
- III. Approve Minutes
- IV. Introduction to AF President, Rich Buery
- V. Discussion and Business
 - Principal Reports
 - Joint High School Committee Report
 - Board Chair Report
 - i. Elect Treasurer
 - ii. Approve CSGF Loan Guaranty
 - Treasurer Report
 - i. Approve Financial Report
- VI. Adjourn



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Amistad Academy

Board of Directors

Zoom Video Conference

Wednesday, November 4, 2020, 5:30 pm

I. Call to Order and Attendance

The meeting was called to order at 5:37 pm by Carolyn Greenspan. The following board members and Achievement First Staff were in attendance:

Carolyn Greenspan - Yes	Lauren Gemske, Amistad Elementary School Principal
Lorraine Gibbons - Yes	Roseann Basile, Amistad Middle School Principal
Jane Levin - Yes	Christina Ellington, Regional Superintendent
Pat Sweet - Yes	Jesse Balis-Harris, Regional Superintendent
Jennifer Alexander - Yes	Sarah Blanton, AF Network Support
Albert Maldonado - No	
Ethan Tyminski - Yes	Ken Paul, AF Network Support
Tyra Smallwood - No	
Shannelle Whyte - Yes	

II. Open Session for Public Comment

There was no public comment.

III. Introduction to Rich Buery

Dacia Toll and Rich Buery joined the meeting to discuss Ms. Toll's plans to transition out of her role as CEO towards the end of this academic year. She shared that the decision feels right and that AF has been a tremendous joy. She is convinced that this is healthy and right for the organization and feels very strongly that Rich Buery is the leader that will take AF to the next level.

In her introduction of Mr. Buery, she shared his professional experience founding and leading organizations, including the Children's Aid Society and NYC's Pre-K for All initiative. She spoke about his extraordinary people leadership skills and his high standards for the scholars we serve.

Mr. Buery introduced himself by sharing a bit about his background, growing up as the son of a high school teacher in East New York. His history with Achievement First includes watching

Amistad Academy open in 1999 (having been at Yale Law School at the same time as Ms. Toll) and serving as a founding board chair of one of the Brooklyn Charters

IV. Discussion and Business

A. Principal reports

Ms. Rosie Basile, Amistad Middle School principal, shared that with school is transitioning back to remote learning after what she believed was a very productive hybrid learning period. Scholars were able to get much more done and were enjoying being in school.

In mid-December, they will have organizational health data survey results. Preliminary pulse checks have been very positive.

The Dean of Special Services resigned in October which was unanticipated. There is a strong internal candidate for the role. In addition, there should be four special services teachers but they currently only have three. All work is getting done but Ms. Basile noted that the team feels stretched.

“Chapter two,” which marked the second phase of the academic year, in which families could opt into hybrid learning or remote, was supposed to have more scholars back in school than chapter one. Ms. Basile is hopeful that when they are able to be back in the building, those scholars will opt into in-person learning.

Ms. Basile said that everyone is working hard and taking feedback well, but they want to continue to improve instruction. There are no issues with professionalism but there are some substantial academic gaps that need to be closed.

She shared tremendous year-over-year gains in student investment survey results. The Network classroom environment walk-through results were up significantly from last year. The staff experience data shows no variation by race.

Her top priority is for scholars to feel cared for and also to maintain a strong adult culture.

Ms. Lauren Gemske, Amistad Elementary School interim principal, updated the board that chapter two was set to begin with 56% of students back in school. Kids were disappointed to go back to remote. It’s especially challenging for the younger scholars to be remote.

Organizational health data shows that 100% of teachers said they feel supported by the

leadership team and 90% said they felt they understand their roles and responsibilities. The 10% who were not clear on their roles and responsibilities were teachers who don't have direct classroom responsibilities and indicated they were not clear on how best to support remote instruction.

STEP (reading) test results showed students falling behind where they had been in March. Ms. Gemske discussed how the team is looking to improve remote instruction.

There is a concern about attendance for a subset of students are not regularly attending school. And although kids are happy, they may not be focused and getting work done to the level and degree that the school would like.

Ms. Gemske shared that they are doing very intentional work with scholars around belief and belonging.

Amistad Elementary is soliciting input from staff on programmatic decisions. All voices are being elevated and Ms. Gemske believes they landed in a better place because of the additional input from staff.

B. Joint High School Committee Report

Jane Levin reported from the Joint High School Committee meeting. Unlike at the younger grades, a sizeable number of students who had opted into in-person learning during chapter one decided to be remote during chapter two. At this point, though, they are going fully remote.

Twenty eight students in the senior class have applied to college already, 22 of whom applied early decision. Mr. Obas shared some strong organizational health data but also a concerning area around whether the teachers feel they are adequately preparing the scholars academically. Remote learning is an enormous challenge.

C. Board Chair Report

RESOLVED, the Amistad Academy Board of Directors hereby approves the meeting minutes from September 8 and October 7, 2020.

Motion by Ethan Tyminski

Seconded by Shannelle Whyte

All in favor

RESOLVED, the Amistad Academy Board of Directors hereby elects Patricia Sweet to serve as Treasurer for the 2020-21 fiscal year.

Motion by Carolyn Greenspan

Second by Ethan Tyminski

All in favor

Ms. Greenspan shared with the board that Elm City is doing renovations on the building that Amistad owns and the Amistad Board is agreeing to guarantee the loan.

WHEREAS, the Amistad Board of Directors (the "Board") are the owners of property located at 407 James Street, New Haven, CT (the "Property"), and is leased to the Elm City College Preparatory Board of Directors ("ECCP");

WHEREAS, ECCP has approved and substantially completed the facilities consolidation and renovation project at the Property;

WHEREAS, ECCP has approved a loan agreement by and between itself and the Charter School Growth Fund ("CSGF") for nine hundred and fifty thousand dollars (\$950,000.00) at a three percent (3%) interest rate, to be repaid on terms described above;

WHEREAS, the loan is predicated on a) a guarantee from Amistad, owner and beneficiary of the improvements, and b) on a management fee subordination agreement from AF Inc.;

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board hereby agrees to serve as guarantor of the Loan Agreement with CSGF, for nine hundred and fifty thousand dollars (\$950,000.00), binding the Board to the terms and obligations in the Loan Agreement attached as Exhibit A.

BE IT RESOLVED FURTHER, Achievement First Inc., acting through its officers or designees (each an "Authorized Person") are, jointly and severally, authorized and directed, in the name of the Board, to do all such things and acts and to execute and deliver all such applications, documents and instruments in writing and to expend such fees for and on behalf of the Board as may be necessary or advisable in order to give effect to and, generally, carry out the intent of the foregoing resolution including, without limitation, to execute and deliver any instruments and documents required in connection with the Loan Agreement, in the name and on behalf of the Board, on such terms and conditions and in such form deemed necessary or desirable and approved by such Authorized Person with such changes, modifications and amendments thereto as such Authorized Person may in such person's discretion approve, which approval shall be conclusively evidenced by the execution and delivery of such applications, documents and instruments in writing; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that all actions previously taken by any Authorized Person in furtherance of the foregoing resolutions are hereby ratified and confirmed.

Motion by Ethan Tyminski

Seconded by Jane Levin

All in favor

D. Finance Committee Report

Pat Sweet reported that the per-pupil funding has remained the same and enrollment is strong. The elementary school is projected to break even while the middle school is facing a small deficit.

RESOLVED, the Amistad Academy Board of Directors hereby approves the financial report as presented.

Motion by Jane Levin

Seconded by Lorraine Gibbons

All in favor

V. Adjourn

There being no other business before the board, it was unanimously decided to adjourn at 6:50 pm.

Motion by Pat Sweet

Second by Ethan Tyminski

All in favor



Amistad Academy Board of Directors

Zoom meeting
December 18, 2020
2:15 pm

- I. Call to Order
- II. Public Comment
- III. Approve Minutes
- IV. Discussion and action related to Amistad Middle School Interim Principal
- V. Adjourn



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Amistad Academy
Board of Directors
Zoom Video Conference
Friday, December 18, 2020, 2:15 pm

I. Call to Order and Attendance

The meeting was called to order at 2:18 pm by Carolyn Greenspan. The following board members and Achievement First Staff were in attendance:

Carolyn Greenspan - Yes	Ethan Tyminski - Yes
Lorraine Gibbons - Yes	Tyra Smallwood - Yes
Jane Levin - Yes	Shannelle Whyte - No
Pat Sweet - Yes	Roseann Basile, Amistad Middle School Principal
Jennifer Alexander - Yes	LaShell Rountree, Amistad Middle School DSO
Albert Maldonado - No	Sarah Blanton, AF Network Support

II. Open Session for Public Comment

There was no public comment.

III. Approve Minutes

RESOLVED, the Amistad Academy Board of Directors hereby approves the meeting minutes from November 4, 2020.

Motion by Jane Levin
Seconded by Pat Sweet
All in favor

IV. Discussion and action related to Amistad Middle School Interim Principal

The board had a discussion about the plan to divide responsibilities at Amistad Middle School during Principal Roseanne Basile's medical leave. Mrs. LaShell Rountree, Director of Operations, is recommended to serve as the interim principal.

RESOLVED, the Amistad Academy Board of Directors hereby approves Ms. LaShell Rountree to serve as the Interim Principal of Amistad Middle School from January 4, 2021 – January 15, 2021.

Motion by Carolyn Greenspan
Seconded by Lorraine Gibbons
All in favor

V. Adjourn

There being no other business before the board, it was unanimously decided to adjourn at 2:28

pm.

Motion by Pat Sweet

Second by Ethan Tyminski

All in favor



**Amistad Academy
Board of Directors**
Zoom meeting
Tuesday, January 19, 2021
5:30 pm

- I. Call to Order
- II. Public Comment
- III. Approve Minutes
- IV. Discussion and Business
 - Joint High School Committee Report
 - Board Chair Report
 - Treasurer Report
 - i. Financial Report
 - ii. Audited Financial Statements
 - iii. Debt Refinancing
- V. Adjourn



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Amistad Academy

Board of Directors

Zoom Video Conference

Tuesday, January 19, 2021

5:30 pm

I. Call to Order and Attendance

The meeting was called to order at 5:31 pm by Carolyn Greenspan. The following board members and Achievement First Staff were in attendance:

Carolyn Greenspan - Yes	Priyanka Junankar – Yale SOM Board Fellow
Lorraine Gibbons - Yes	Tyra Smallwood - No
Jane Levin - Yes	Shannelle Whyte - Yes
Pat Sweet - Yes	Victor De La Paz, AF Network Support
Jennifer Alexander - Yes	Eduardo del Valle, AF Network Support
Albert Maldonado - No	Cassidy McKee, AF Network Support
Ethan Tyminski - Yes	Sarah Blanton, AF Network Support

Public: Susan Kiernan, Gerald Francese

II. Open Session for Public Comment

There was no public comment.

III. Approve Minutes

RESOLVED, the Amistad Academy Board of Directors hereby approves the meeting minutes from December 18, 2020.

Motion by Pat Sweet

Seconded by Jane Levin

All in favor

IV. Discussion and Business

A. Joint High School Committee Report

There was no report because the Amistad Joint High School Committee Meeting will take place on Wednesday, January 20th at 4:00 pm.

B. Board Chair Report

Carolyn Greenspan shared that the Amistad Renaming Focus Group is meeting weekly. The Amistad High School students held a meeting to brainstorm new names and they've sent a survey to the entire high school student body. Those results will be shared with the Focus Group for consideration. The Focus Group intends to survey the broad Amistad community of students, staff, families and alumni for feedback on name ideas and they will submit their recommendation to the Amistad Board at the March Board Meeting.

C. Treasurer Report

Ms. Patricia Sweet gave the Treasurer Report noting that everything looks to be in good shape. The audited financial statements were clean and reported no concerns with management.

RESOLVED, the Amistad Academy Board of Directors hereby approves the financial report as presented.

Motion by Jen Alexander

Seconded by Jane Levin

All in favor

RESOLVED, the Amistad Academy Board of Directors hereby accepts the report of the independent auditors CohnReznick prepared in relation to the fiscal year ending 6/30/20.

Motion by Ethan Tyminski

Seconded by Carolyn Greenspan

All in favor

Ms. Cassidy McKee gave an overview of the options for refinancing Amistad's outstanding debt. The board was joined by two attorneys who answered questions related to those transactions and the possible resolutions the board could consider. After a robust discussion, the board decided not to vote on any resolutions at this time but to continue the discussion at the next board meeting.

V. Adjourn

There being no other business before the board, it was unanimously decided to adjourn at 6:32 pm.

Motion by Pat Sweet

Second by Jen Alexander

All in favor



Joint Meeting of the Achievement First School Boards of Directors

**Amistad Academy, Elm City College Preparatory,
AF Bridgeport Academy, AF Hartford Academy,
AF Brooklyn and AF Rhode Island**

Zoom meeting

Wednesday, January 20, 2021

5:30 – 7:00 pm

- I. Call to Order
- II. Presentation and Discussion of AF Vision Process
 - a. Vision Process Overview
 - b. Deep Dive on Graduate Aims
- III. Adjourn



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- DRAFT -

Joint Meeting of the Achievement First School Boards of Directors

**Amistad Academy, Elm City College Preparatory,
AF Bridgeport Academy, AF Hartford Academy,
AF Brooklyn and AF Rhode Island**

Zoom meeting
Wednesday, January 20, 2021
5:30 – 7:00 pm

I. Call to Order and Attendance

The meeting was called to order at 5:32 pm by Dick Ferguson, Elm City College Preparatory Board Chair. The following board members and Achievement First Staff were in attendance:

Amistad Academy Board Members in Attendance: Carolyn Greenspan, Lorraine Gibbons, Jane Levin, Ethan Tyminski, Patricia Sweet, Tyra Smallwood, Priyanka Junankar (Yale SOM Board Fellow)

Elm City College Preparatory Board Members in Attendance: Dick Ferguson, Laura Saverin, Patric Gregory, Stephanie Ma, Julia Halberstam, LaVonta Bryant, Nicola Fleischer (Yale SOM Board Fellow)

AF Bridgeport Academy Board Members in Attendance: Dick Kalt, Rajeev Lakra, Marlene Macaudo, Debra Hertz, Ebrima Jobe, Mike Strambler, Kimberly Bruce, Dewey Loselle

AF Hartford Academy Board Members in Attendance: Patsy Mundy, Bildade Augustin, Ja Hannah, Alice Turner, Lisa Tanen-LaFontaine

AF Rhode Island Board Members in Attendance: Mayor Jorge Elorza, Reshma Singh, Ben Smith, James Wiley, Maryellen Butke

AF Brooklyn Board Members in Attendance: Deb Shanley, Romy Coquillette, Jon Atkeson, Kevin Miquelon, Chris Lynch, Warren Young, Will Robalino, Justin Cohen, Theresa Hayes

Achievement First Staff: Dacia Toll, Rich Buery, Sarah Blanton, Ken Paul, Katie Rosa Moher, Paul Astuto, Albert Pulido, Elise Major, Connor McGann, Jasmine Jeffers

Public: Genevive Walker, Peter Butler, Shalia Garnett, Tanesha Forman

II. Presentation and Discussion of AF Vision Process

Mr. Rich Buery gave a presentation on AF's Vision Process. AF's goal is to bring a broad cross section of the AF community together to define a vision of excellence and create multi-year plan.

Following the presentation, the boards discussed what their dreams are for the AF graduates and the skills and mindsets they hope AF students develop. This discussion will help define the graduate aims which will inform the goals for the network and the strategic plan for the organization.

III. Adjourn

The meeting was adjourned at 7:02 pm.

Motion by Dick Kalt.

Second by Dick Ferguson.

All in favor



Amistad Academy Board of Directors

Zoom meeting
March 10, 2021
5:30 pm

- I. Call to Order
- II. Public Comment
- III. Board Business
 - a. Approve Minutes
 - b. Remove Director
 - c. Elect New Director
 - d. Approve Financial Report
- IV. Discussion and Additional Business
 - a. Principal Reports
 - b. Joint High School Committee Report
 - c. Approve Healthy Food Certification
 - d. Amistad Name Discussion
 - e. Debt Refinancing Discussion
 - i. Approve loans
 - ii. Approve preparation of leases
 - f. Proposed Executive Session: Personnel discussion regarding principal renewal offers for 2021-22 school year
 - i. Approve principal renewal offers
- V. Adjourn



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Amistad Academy

Board of Directors

Zoom Video Conference

Wednesday, March 10, 2021

5:30 pm

I. Call to Order and Attendance

The meeting was called to order at 5:31 pm by Carolyn Greenspan. The following board members and Achievement First Staff were in attendance:

Carolyn Greenspan - Yes

Lorraine Gibbons - Yes

Jane Levin - Yes

Pat Sweet - Yes

Jennifer Alexander - Yes

Albert Maldonado - No

Ethan Tyminski - Yes

Tyra Smallwood - Yes

Shannelle Whyte - Yes

Priyanka Junankar – Yes

Yashira Agosto - Yes

Brooke Williams, Amistad School Leader

Roseann Basile, Amistad School Leader

Lashell Rountree, Amistad School Leader

Christina Ellington, AF Network Support

Jesse Balis-Harris, AF Network Support

Cassidy McKee, AF Network Support

Sarah Blanton, AF Network Support

Eduardo del Valle, AF Network Support

Faisal Jawaaid, AF Network Support

Elise Major, AF Network Support

Public: Brian Zahn, Gerald Francese

II. Open Session for Public Comment

There was no public comment.

III. Board Business

RESOLVED, the Amistad Academy Board of Directors hereby approves the meeting minutes from January 19 and January 20, 2021.

Motion by Pat Sweet

Seconded by Tyra Smallwood

All in favor

RESOLVED, pursuant to Article IV, Section 4(a) of the Amistad Academy Bylaws, the Amistad Academy Board of Directors hereby does, effective March 10, 2021, remove Albert Maldonado, Director.

Motion by Ethan Tyminski

Seconded by Jen Alexander

All in favor

RESOLVED, the Amistad Academy Board of Directors hereby elects Ms. Yashira Agosto to serve as a director for a three year term ending June 30, 2021.

Motion by Pat Sweet

Seconded by Jane Levin

All in favor

RESOLVED, the Amistad Academy Board of Directors hereby approves the financial report as presented.

Motion by Carolyn Greenspan

Seconded by Jen Alexander

All in favor

IV. Discussion and Additional Business

A. Principal Reports

Brooke Williams, principal of Amistad Elementary School, shared that the school is in a hybrid model as of March 2. It has been great to have kids back in the building. They have been very good about wearing masks and following the protocol.

Ms. Williams is hosting an upcoming town hall to engage with families.

She shared some academic data and how they are targeting student needs. Ms. Williams is working with the fourth grade in particular. They are projecting very strong teacher retention (91%) and all leaders are returning next year.

Ms. Rosie Basile, principal of Amistad Middle School, shared that reopening went smoothly with approximately 40% of students back in person which is higher than in the fall. She shared how proud she is of the adult enthusiasm to support scholars coming back to school.

Some parents are ambivalent about sending kids in to school for reasons related to positive experiences with remote learning. Ms. Basile started a weekly progress report to parents that goes out via email.

Org health gains have continued to be significant but she continues to strive for absolute success, not just relative success.

Staff retention is projected to be above 80%.

Ms. Basile spoke about student mental health and the outstanding work of the school social

worker. The team is working collaboratively to share student wellbeing. Students seem to really enjoy being at school especially being at recess.

They are thinking about how to structure the school day next year to provide remediation and the social emotional issues that arise in conjunction with academic difficulties.

B. Joint High School Committee Report

Jane Levin shared that the high school reopened successfully but that only 50 students are in the building attending school in person. Those who do come in person are logging into their Zoom classes for synchronous learning.

Ms. Levin noted the mental health challenges the high school is facing and how the school is actively addressing it.

Attendance has been high and college results are good. She noted a program coming to Amistad High School next fall that provides college level coursework that will automatically provide college credit.

They have started planning for the 2021-22 school year with 100% leadership team retention and 89% projected teacher retention.

C. Approve Healthy Food Certification

Carolyn Greenspan introduced the following resolution.

Pursuant to C.G.S. Section 10-215f, the board of education or governing authority certifies that all food items offered for sale to students in the schools under its jurisdiction, and not exempted from the Connecticut Nutrition Standards published by the Connecticut State Department of Education, will comply with the Connecticut Nutrition Standards during the period of July 1, 2021, through June 30, 2022. This certification shall include all food offered for sale to students separately from reimbursable meals at all times and from all sources, including but not limited to school stores, vending machines, school cafeterias, culinary programs, and any fundraising activities on school premises sponsored by the school or non-school organizations and groups.

Motion by Pat Sweet

Seconded by Lorraine Gibbons

All in favor

The board of education or governing authority will allow the sale to students of food items that do not meet the Connecticut Nutrition Standards provided that the following conditions are met: 1) the sale is in connection with an event occurring after the end of the regular school day or on the weekend; 2) the sale is at the location of the event; and 3) the food items are not sold from a vending machine or school

store. An “event” is an occurrence that involves more than just a regularly scheduled practice, meeting, or extracurricular activity. For example, soccer games, school plays, and interscholastic debates are events but soccer practices, play rehearsals, and debate team meetings are not. The “regular school day” is the period from midnight before to 30 minutes after the end of the official school day. “Location” means where the event is being held.

Motion by Pat Sweet

Seconded by Lorraine Gibbons

All in favor

D. Amistad Name Discussion

John Motley, AF Network Support Board member and former board chair of the AF Hartford Board, gave an update about the work of the Amistad Renaming Focus Group. There are three recommendations before the board: AF Leadership Academy, AF Strive Academy and AF New Haven.

Given that there wasn’t broad community support for any particular name, the board requested a survey be sent to the Amistad community with those names as well as an option to keep Amistad Academy.

E. Debt Refinancing Discussion

Ms. Cassidy McKee gave an overview of the debt refinancing option presented to the board below.

130 Edgewood Ave NMTC Refi Loan. Approval of a loan from Low Income Investment Fund (“LIIF” or “Lender”) in the original face amount of approximately \$1,128,705. plus costs and fees, to refinance the existing NMTC loan which is secured by real property located at 130 Edgewood Avenue, New Haven, CT (the “130 Edgewood Refi”), upon the terms and conditions described in the Lender’s term sheet. By this resolution, the board of Amistad Academy grants authority to designated officers of Amistad Academy and Achievement First (“Authorized Officers”), for and on behalf of and in the name of Amistad Academy as borrower or guarantor, to negotiate, execute, deliver and perform for and on behalf of Amistad Academy, (i) the 130 Edgewood Refi, upon substantially the terms set forth on the attached Term Sheet, with such changes as the Authorized Officer executing the same may approve, such execution to be conclusive evidence of such approval, and any other finance documents to which Amistad Academy is a party with respect to the 130 Edgewood Refi, and (ii) all other instruments, certificates, papers, agreements and other documents (the “Other Documents”) which the Lender may require in connection with the 130 Edgewood Refi in such form and of such content as any such Authorized Officer shall approve, such execution to be conclusive evidence of such approval;

Motion by Pat Sweet

Seconded by Tyra Smallwood

All in favor

130 Edgewood Capital Loan. Approval of a loan from Lender in the original face amount of approximately \$202,000 to establish a capital reserve account for real estate located at 130 Edgewood Avenue, New Haven, CT (the “130 Edgewood Capital Loan”), upon the terms and conditions described in the Lender’s term sheet. By this resolution, the board of Amistad Academy grants authority to the Authorized Officers, for and on behalf of and in the name of Amistad Academy, to negotiate, execute, deliver and perform for and on behalf of Amistad Academy, (i) the 130 Edgewood Capital Loan, substantially accordance with the terms set forth on the attached Term Sheet, with such changes as the Authorized Officer executing the same may approve, such execution to be conclusive evidence of such approval, and any other finance documents to which Amistad Academy is a party with respect to the 130 Edgewood Capital Loan, and (ii) all other instruments, certificates, papers, agreements and other documents (the “Other Documents”) which the Lender may require in connection with the 130 Edgewood Capital Loan in such form and of such content as any such Authorized Officer shall approve, such execution to be conclusive evidence of such approval;

Motion by Jane Levin

Seconded by Jen Alexander

All in favor

403/407 James St Capital Loan. Approval of a loan from Lender in the original face amount of approximately \$202,000 to establish a capital reserve account for real estate located at 403/407 James Street, New Haven, CT (the “403/407 James Capital Loan”), upon the terms and conditions described in the Lender’s term sheet. By this resolution, the board of Amistad Academy grants authority to the Authorized Officers, for and on behalf of and in the name of Amistad Academy, to negotiate, execute, deliver and perform for and on behalf of Amistad Academy, (i) the 403/407 James Capital Loan, substantially accordance with the terms set forth on the attached Term Sheet, with such changes as the Authorized Officer executing the same may approve, such execution to be conclusive evidence of such approval, and any other finance documents to which Amistad Academy is a party with respect to the 403/407 James Capital Loan, and (ii) all other instruments, certificates, papers, agreements and other documents (the “Other Documents”) which the Lender may require in connection with the 403/407 James Capital Loan in such form and of such content as any such Authorized Officer shall approve, such execution to be conclusive evidence of such approval;

Motion by Yashira Agosto

Seconded by Pat Sweet

All in favor

Preparation of Property Leases. Approval of preparation of leases by and between Elm City Prep and Amistad Academy, for 580 Dixwell and 403/407 James St.

The terms and conditions to replicate current arrangements as closely as possible to the extent that such terms cover debt service, maintenance of the facilities, and capital reserves. Each party to a lease shall have boards of directors that do not contain any common members who negotiate on an arms’ length basis and in good faith. By this resolution, the board of Amistad Academy grants authority to the

Authorized Officers, for and on behalf of and in the name of Amistad Academy, to negotiate, execute, deliver and perform for and on behalf of Amistad Academy, (i) the leases, substantially accordance with the terms set forth above, with such changes as the Authorized Officer executing the same may approve, such execution to be conclusive evidence of such approval, and (ii) all other instruments, certificates, papers, agreements and other documents (the "Other Documents") which may be required in connection with the execution of the leases in such form and of such content as any such Authorized Officer shall approve, such execution to be conclusive evidence of such approval;

Motion by Jane Levin

Seconded by Pat Sweet

All in favor

F. Proposed Executive Session: Personnel discussion regarding principal renewal offers for the 2021-22 school year

Carolyn Greenspan made a motion to go into executive session at 6:35 pm to have a personnel discussion regarding principal renewal offers for the 2021-22 school year. She invited Christina Ellington, Jesse Balis-Harris, Sarah Blanton and Ken Paul to join the board. Seconded by Lorraine Gibbons.

The board exited executive session at 6:49 pm. Motion by Ethan Tyminski. Seconded by Tyra Smallwood. All in favor.

RESOLVED, the Amistad Academy Board of Directors has discussed the performance of the Amistad Academy Principals intending to return for the 2021-22 school year and the compensation package as proposed by Achievement First, and hereby approves the renewal of the following principals, with a final compensation package to be incorporated in the FY22 Budget to be reviewed and approved in May 2021:

- Brooke Williams, Principal, Amistad Academy Elementary School
- Roseanne Basile, Principal, Amistad Academy Middle School
- Simon Obas, Principal, Amistad High School

Motion by Pat Sweet

Seconded by Jen Alexander

All in favor

Prior to adjourning, Shannelle Whyte raise a concern about the new, later start time and the new, earlier dismissal time. Christina Ellington addressed her concerns acknowledging the challenges for working parents as well as some teachers. She committed to reevaluating.

V. Adjourn

There being no other business before the board, it was unanimously decided to adjourn at 7:05 pm.

Motion by Jane Levin

Second by Shannelle Whyte

All in favor



Amistad Academy Board of Directors

Zoom meeting

May 5, 2021

4:00 pm

- I. Call to Order
- II. Public Comment
- III. Approve Minutes
- IV. Discussion and Possible action related to the Amistad Middle School Interim Principal
 - a. Proposed Executive Session to discuss a personnel matter related to the Amistad Middle School Interim Principal
- V. Discussion and possible action related to capital improvements on the Amistad K-8 and Amistad High School Buildings
- VI. Adjourn



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**Amistad Academy
Board of Directors**
Zoom Video Conference
Wednesday, May 5, 2021
4:00 pm

I. Call to Order and Attendance

The meeting was called to order at 4:01 pm by Carolyn Greenspan. The following board members and Achievement First Staff were in attendance:

Carolyn Greenspan - Yes
Lorraine Gibbons - Yes
Jane Levin - Yes
Pat Sweet - Yes
Jennifer Alexander - Yes
Ethan Tyminski - No
Tyra Smallwood - Yes

Shannelle Whyte - Yes
Priyanka Junankar – No
Yashira Agosto - Yes
Sarah Blanton, AF Network Support
Eduardo del Valle, AF Network Support
Ketki Harale, AF Network Support
Gaylord Bourne, AF Network Support

II. Open Session for Public Comment

There was no public comment.

III. Approve Minutes

The board will approve the minutes at the meeting next week.

IV. Discussion and Possible action related to the Amistad Middle School Interim Principal

Carolyn Greenspan shared that Ms. Rosie Basile will be out on leave and Ms. LaShell Rountree has been asked and agreed to serve as interim principal for the time that Ms. Basile will be out. There was no additional discussion.

RESOLVED, the Amistad Academy Board of Directors hereby approves Ms. LaShell Rountree to serve as the Interim Principal of Amistad Middle School for a period of time beginning on May 10, 2021 and ending no later than June 4, 2021.

Motion by Pat Sweet

Second by Shannelle Whyte

All in favor



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V. Discussion and possible action related to capital improvements on the Amistad K-8 and Amistad High School Buildings

Gaylord Bourne shared the financial context underlying the capital investment.

Eduardo del Valle, VP of Facilities, gave an overview of the capital improvement project and the benefits associated with solar panels including an educational component as the company will install meters in the STEM classrooms.

The vendor, 64Solar, is based in New York but has done work in Connecticut, specifically in Litchfield and Fairfield Counties. The AF Facilities Team noted the strong recommendations and the ease of working with them during the bidding process.

The work would be completed by June 30, 2021.

The board discussed their interest in having the contact thoroughly reviewed by counsel. AF has spoken with an attorney who is willing and able to do this work.

Given the desire to have the contract reviewed by counsel, the board made an amendment to the proposed resolution:

Tyra Smallwood made a motion, seconded by Lorraine Gibbons, and unanimously approved by the board, to add the following language to the resolution below: "Subject to review by counsel prior to 5/12/21 of the contract specific to Amistad Academy, with a report back to the board prior to 5/12/21."

WHEREAS, the PPP Loan that Amistad Academy received during FY21, having been fully allocated to employee compensation, has created opportunities to invest additional funds in capital facility improvements, and

WHEREAS, deploying photovoltaic (solar panel) arrays on the rooftops of Amistad Elementary/Middle School, located at 130 Edgewood Avenue, New Haven, and Amistad High School, located at 580 Dixwell Ave, New Haven, is a capital improvement that will create annual cost savings on future utility expenses while also reducing the Amistad Academy's carbon footprint,

BE IT RESOLVED, the Amistad Academy Board of Directors authorizes the aforementioned facilities improvement project for Amistad Elementary/Middle School, as presented, and



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approves spending up to, but not in excess of, \$425K for the purposes of completing the project, and

BE IT RESOLVED, pending approval by the Elm City College Preparatory Board of Directors and the AF Bridgeport Board of Directors, the Amistad Academy Board of Directors authorizes the aforementioned facilities improvement project for Amistad High School, as presented, and approves spending up to, but not in excess of, \$120K for purposes of completing the project, and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, Achievement First and its designee are, jointly and severally, authorized and directed, in the name of Amistad Academy, to take any and all actions and/or submit such documents needed to effectuate the foregoing resolution.

Motion by Shannelle Whyte
Seconded by Yashira Agosto
All in favor

VI. Adjourn

There being no other business before the board, it was unanimously decided to adjourn at 4:52 pm.

Motion by Jane Levin
Second by Pat Sweet
All in favor



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Amistad Academy Board of Directors

Zoom meeting
May 12, 2021
5:30 pm

- I. Call to Order
- II. Public Comment
- III. Approve Minutes
- IV. Discussion and Business
 - Principal Reports
 - Joint High School Committee Report
 - Board Chair Report
 - i. Amistad Renaming Update
 - ii. Vision Process Update
 - iii. Meet AF's new COO, Ms. Xanthe Jory
 - iv. Re-elect Directors
 - Treasurer Report
 - i. Re-appoint Auditors
 - ii. Financial Report
 - iii. FY22 Budget
 - New Business
- V. Adjourn



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- DRAFT -

Amistad Academy

Board of Directors

Zoom Video Conference

Wednesday, May 12, 2021

5:30 pm

I. Call to Order and Attendance

The meeting was called to order at 5:31 pm by Carolyn Greenspan. The following board members and Achievement First Staff were in attendance:

Carolyn Greenspan - Yes

Lorraine Gibbons - Yes

Jane Levin - Yes

Pat Sweet - Yes

Jennifer Alexander - Yes

Ethan Tyminski - Yes

Tyra Smallwood - No

Shannelle Whyte - Yes

Priyanka Junankar – No

Yashira Agosto - Yes

Brooke Williams, Amistad School Leader

Lashell Rountree, Amistad School Leader

Jesse Balis-Harris, AF Network Support

Sarah Blanton, AF Network Support

Neil Shah, AF Network Support

Ken Paul, AF Network Support

Xanthe Jory, AF Network Support

II. Open Session for Public Comment

There was no public comment.

III. Board Business

Prior to voting on board business the directors and Amistad leaders each introduced themselves and shared why they are excited about doing this work.

RESOLVED, the Amistad Academy Board of Directors hereby approves the meeting minutes from March 10 and May 5, 2021.

Motion by Pat Sweet

Seconded by Jane Levin

All in favor

IV. Discussion and Additional Business

A. Principal Reports

Brooke Williams, principal of Amistad Elementary School, shared the structure of remote and hybrid school with the breakdown of which grades and percentages of students are participating in which model. She discussed student investment data comparing results from the fall to the spring – both of which were strong. She reported that between February and April, the school has seen strong academic

growth in grades K-2. They start state testing in grades 3-4 and are working on preparing the students.

In planning for next year, they are considering how to plan the day to best support students. AF is offering remote summer academy and Amistad Elementary is encouraging everyone to attend.

She shared the very high teacher retention (98%) for next year and how positive that will be for adult and student culture. The board applauded her strong leadership.

Lashell Rountree is currently serving as the interim principal of Amistad Middle School. She shared that she's never seen the adult culture at the school as strong as it is. Everyone has been nimble, accommodating and supportive of one another through the transitions in and out of remote learning.

Students seem happy to be in the building. State testing began this week and everything has gone smoothly. She is hoping for a strong turnout for summer academy and they are encouraging participation.

Ms. Rountree concluded her remarks by acknowledging Rosie Basile's leadership as principal.

Jesse Balis Harris, regional superintendent, spoke about the summer academy which will be virtual and run by the same group that ran NSSI last summer. He also shared with the board that AF Camp is launching this summer with 500 seats available to students across the AF network.

B. Joint High School Committee Report

Jane Levin gave the Joint High School Committee report noting teacher and leader retention. She noted that much of the discussion from the Committee Meeting focused on the senior class and their plans for next year.

She shared that the school is not focused on academic testing, but instead has been about supporting the mental health and sense of safety of the students.

C. Board Chair Report

Carolyn Greenspan updated the board on the loan refinancing. The closing will be Thursday, May 13 and it includes a capital reserve and will put leases into place at the Edgewood and James St buildings.

The board had asked the lawyer to review the contracts for the solar panel project. That has taken place.

She also updated the board on the Amistad Renaming process. After the most recent survey, there was no consensus around a new name. The results showed support for changing the name - 57% of respondents wanted a name other than Amistad. Senior leaders are continuing to work on a strategy to get to consensus. The board will continue to discuss this and revisit in the new fiscal year.

She also shared updates on the Vision Process which has had three summits, each with a different focus. The next meeting is May 27th and everyone is welcome and encouraged to attend.

She introduced AF's new COO, Xanthe Jory. Ms. Jory shared that she is in her second week at AF and shared that her work is going to focus on student enrollment, school operations and facilities. She shared her background in school leadership and operations and hopes to bring both of those lenses to this work. Most recently she worked on the pre-K expansion at the NYC Department of Education.

RESOLVED, the Amistad Academy Board of Directors hereby dissolves the Amistad Renaming focus group effective May 12, 2021 and thanks the focus group for its efforts.

Motion by Yashira Agosto

Seconded by Ethan Tyminski

All in favor

RESOLVED, the Amistad Academy Board of Directors hereby ratifies the re-election of the following directors with a three year term ending June 30, 2024:

Ms. Jennifer Alexander

Ms. Yashira Agosto

Ms. Patricia Sweet

Ms. Lorraine Gibbons

Motion by Jane Levin

Seconded by Shannelle Whyte

All in favor

D. Treasurer Report

Pat Sweet began her report by speaking of the audit firm that has performed the audits and has provided engagement letters to perform the FY21 audit.

On the year to date financials, she shared that all three schools are looking to break even this year. Neil Shah, AF's interim CFO, presented the proposed budget for the 2021-22 school year. He discussed federal stimulus funds and the additive resources we will be able to provide over the next 2-4 years to supplement the educational program. AF is working with principals to determine how they want to allocate those resources.

RESOLVED, the Amistad Academy Board of Directors hereby ratifies the re-appointment of CohnReznick to perform the financial audit of the 2020-21 fiscal year.

Motion by Pat Sweet

Seconded by Carolyn Greenspan

All in favor

RESOLVED, the Amistad Academy Board of Directors hereby approves the financial report as presented.

Motion by Pat Sweet

Seconded by Yashira Agosto
All in favor

RESOLVED, the Amistad Academy Board of Directors hereby approves the financial budget as prepared by Achievement First for the 2021-22 fiscal year.

Motion by Pat Sweet
Seconded by Jane Levin
All in favor

E. New Business

There was no new business.

V. Adjourn

There being no other business before the board, it was unanimously decided to adjourn at 6:36 pm.

Motion by Jane Levin
Second by Shannelle Whyte
All in favor

**Amistad Academy
Zoom Recordings**

July 28, 2020

<https://vimeo.com/442474169/d3d9a5e8ae>

September 8, 2020

<https://vimeo.com/442474169/d3d9a5e8ae>

October 7, 2020

<https://vimeo.com/465954201/6c98e631c5>

November 4, 2020

<https://vimeo.com/476025118/199f8947ae>

December 18, 2020

<https://vimeo.com/492622697/3eb5346870>

January 19, 2021

<https://vimeo.com/504446053/e25d12221b>

January 20, 2021

<https://vimeo.com/504164512/189a84fbb8>

March 10, 2021

<https://vimeo.com/522365233/2416cd26d5>

May 5, 2021

<https://vimeo.com/546278209/5b04e753e3>

May 12, 2021

<https://vimeo.com/552066863/530e60714d>