

# Achievement First (AF) Brooklyn Charter Schools Board of Trustees Meeting

Tuesday, January 4th, 2022, 6:00 pm Zoom Video Conference

#### -DRAFT MEETING MINUTES-

**Board Members in Attendance:** Romy Coquillette, Alison Richardson, Andy Hubbard, Josh Vidro, Tamika Bradley, Warren Young, Akeem Frett, Amy Arthur Samuels, Chris Lynch, Will Robalino, Kevin Miquelon, Anup Menon, Rhonda Barros, Judith Jenkins, Desiree Dalton, Jonathan Atkeson

**Staff and Guests in Attendance:** Ken Paul, Neil Shah, Xanthe Jory, Stephanie Keenoy, Fatimah Barker, Beth Cocuzza, De-Lea Deane-Allen, Patricia Granda-Malaver

Beth Cocuzza recorded the minutes. The meeting was called to order at 6:04 pm by Romy Coquillette.

#### 1. Public Comment

There was no public comment.

#### 2. Safety on Campus

Ms. Fatimah Barker and Ms. Xanthe Jory provided an overview and update on school safety threats prior to the winter break, including the number of incidents, a summary of how they were handled, and some lessons learned from the experiences. Parents, students, and staff were cooperative throughout all of the investigations.

The presentation was followed by Q and A.

- Mr. Atkeson posed a question about whether the uptick we experienced before the holidays was fading or whether we expected it to continue.
- Ms. Coquillette posed a question about why middle schools seemed to be the target of these threats, and whether we saw any underlying commonalities in the underlying reasons behind the threats being made.

Ms. Coquillette moved the board to a discussion of a proposed resolution to spend money on hiring a consultant to review our safety and security operating procedures.

Following a discussion, the board moved and voted on the following resolution.

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WHEREAS, there has been an increase in threats of violence against K-12 schools in recent months; and

WHEREAS, Achievement First Brooklyn Board of Directors ("AF Brooklyn") is committed to ensuring the safety of all scholars, staff and other members of the school community;

RESOLVED, the AF Brooklyn hereby authorizes Achievement First, Inc. ("Achievement First") to hire an independent consultant for an amount not to exceed [20K] to review and recommend changes, as necessary, to current emergency preparedness and operations policies, procedures and practices relating to school safety; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, Achievement First and its designee are, jointly and severally, authorized and directed, in the name of AF Brooklyn, to take any and all action needed to effectuate the foregoing resolution.

Moved by Jonathan Atkeson Seconded by Warren Young All in favor

Ms. Coquillette noted that there is a regular board meeting at the end of the month, and committed to providing an update at that time

### 3. COVID 19 Update

Ms. Romy Coquillette provided an update to the Board about the challenges of reopening schools in NYC, both in the DOE and in AF Schools.

Ms. Fatimah Barker provided an update on the decision for AF to start virtually this week, as well as the planning that is underway to achieve the goal of bringing students back in person on January 10.

Ms. Dalton asked a question about what the protocol would be that would reverse the decision to go back on the 10th.

Mr. Miquelon posed a question about how we were handling technological or access issues that students might be facing and attendance issues.

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## 4. Adjourn

The meeting was adjourned at 7:00 pm by Romy Coquillette.

Motion by Chris Lynch

Seconded by Kevin Miquelon

All in favor

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