

**Amistad Academy**  
**Board of Directors Meeting**

**May 29, 2013**

**5:30 – 7:30 p.m.**

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Directors in Attendance: KELONDA PLEASE FILL IN FROM REGULAR MEETING NOTES

Others in Attendance: Lauren Miller, Scot Kerr, Max Polaner, Hillary Bridges

Melinda Hamilton chaired the meeting and Lauren Miller recorded the meeting minutes.

Ms. Hamilton greeted the board and thanked them for coming to the meeting tonight. She started the meeting by asking board members what they would like to discuss at the board retreat which will be on August 1. Ms. Hamilton suggested that she herself would like to learn more about Team College and the work being done to prepare scholars for college. Ms. Gibbons requested more information on how Achievement First schools are transitioning to the common core. Ms. Bonnifield suggested learning more about processes and procedures in place in our schools for transitions between elementary, middle and high school. Ms. Czinger requested a conversation about health and wellbeing, more specifically mental health and balance. Mr. Kerr and Ms. Miller thanked everyone for their suggestions and said they would bring these suggestions back to Achievement First for planning the retreat agenda.

Ms. Hamilton then asked the board to join her in thanking Ms. Bonnifield for two years of service as the teacher representative on the board. Ms. Bonnifield will be participating in a fellowship program through KIPP where she will be training to open a school where she will be principal in Newark, New Jersey. The entire board thanked Ms. Bonnifield for her service.

Ms. Hamilton asked the board if they had a chance to review the meeting minutes. Ms. Hamilton asked if there were any edits or revisions. Hearing none she asked for a motion to approve the meeting minutes.

RESOLVED: To approve the meeting minutes in the form presented to the board

Motion: McCraven

Seconded: Muhammad

(all in favor)

Ms. Hamilton then asked the board if they had a chance to review the alternative educator plan. She explained that this is a plan put forward by Achievement First to the state that allows the TCP program to serve as a teacher evaluation system. Hearing no questions about the resolution, Ms. Hamilton requested a motion to approve. INSERT RESOLUTION LANGUAGE PLEASE

Motion: McCraven

Seconded: Czinger

Approved on: 8/20/2013  
(all in favor)

The board then moved on to discuss the approval of the auditors. Ms. Hamilton said that the board has worked with this firm in the past and that she believes they have done an exceptional job. Ms. Gibbons asked if this is a multi-year contract and Mr. Polaner responded that the contract is up for renewal every year. Hearing no further questions, Ms. Hamilton asked for a motion to approve the auditor. INSERT THE ACTUAL RESOLUTION LANGUAGE PLEASE

Motion: Williams  
Seconded: Bonnifield  
(all in favor)

Ms. Hamilton asked the board to consider the authorization of the board chair to execute the healthy food certification with the State Board of Education. Hearing no questions, she asked for a motion to approve it. INSERT ACTUAL RESOLUTION LANGUAGE HERE

Motion: Muhammad  
Seconded: Gibbons

Next the board discussed establishing a formal agreement between Elm City College Prep and Amistad Academy to use the space at 403 and 407 James Street resolution. The building is owned by Amistad academy and an MOU between Elm City and Amistad and one between Amistad and AF Network Support would formalize an agreement to use the space. Mr. Troy asked Mr. Polaner for clarification around this resolution and whether or not there is payment associated. Mr. Polaner said there is not rent payment associated but that they pay for building maintenance. The board engaged in dialogue about the options for the space and requested that Mr. Polaner come back to the board with some kind of recommendation at the next board meeting. Ms. Hamilton suggested that the board should wait to approve this until the next board meeting so that board members will have more time to consider this resolution.

Ms. Hamilton then asked for a vote to enter executive session. Ms. Bonnifield, Ms. Miller, Mr. Polaner and Ms. Bridges left the room.

Motion: McCraven  
Seconded: Troy

The board returned from executive session and voted to adjourn the meeting at 8:35pm

Motion: Hamilton  
Seconded: Muhammad