

Achievement First Connecticut Board of Directors Annual Retreat

Thursday, August 1st, 2013 – Amistad Academy, 130 Edgewood Avenue, New Haven, CT

- 12:00 - 12:30 pm** **Welcome and Networking** (Lunch available)
- 12:30 – 1:45 pm** **Global Update** (Dacia Toll, Co-CEO & President, Chastity Lord, Chief External Officer)
- ✓ 2012-2013 Year in Review
 - ✓ Deep Dive on Challenges: Common Core & School Culture
 - ✓ Achievement First Theory of Change
 - ✓ Comments/Q & A
- 1:45 – 2:00 pm** **Interlude**
- 2:00 – 2:30 pm** **Moving Toward Strategic Governance** (Reshma Singh, VP/External Relations
Ken Paul, VP/Development)
- The most effective charter school boards spend 80% of their time on strategic oversight and 20% on routine business. At AF specifically this requires refocusing our Boards' attention on desired outcomes and shifting how we fill funding gaps. This session will lay out guiding principles to get this process started in the working sessions that follow.*
- 2:30 – 3:30 pm** **Working Sessions**
- Three concurrent sessions to shape key governance areas. Board members will choose one session to attend.*
- ✓ **Session One: Reporting and Data Sharing** – Working with members of Team Data, Team X, and a Regional Superintendent, Board Members will begin to redesign the Dashboard and Principal Reporting system to make it more meaningful for the Boards, and more efficient for principals.
 - ✓ **Session Two: Principal Hiring & Evaluation** – Board members will receive a review of the principal development process and timelines for both hiring and evaluation (PGP) from a Regional Superintendent. Using these materials in the context of the Management Agreement, Directors will identify opportunities to refine this process to ensure that the Board has full confidence in both the process and the recommended candidate.
 - ✓ **Session Three: Governance Committee** – With the “move toward strategic governance” as a guiding principle, Directors will evaluate our current position on the path and will work Bill Bouton and Team X staff to establish the top priorities for our governance work in 2013-2014 and beyond.
- 3:30 – 3:50 pm** **Break**
- 3:50 – 4:35 pm** **Connection to the Mission**
- Board members will learn about the community of Bridgeport through discussion in small groups about AF and Board understanding and work in that community.*
- 4:35 – 4:45 pm** **Closing & Adjournment:** (Adjourn to: The Cask Republic, 179 Crown Street)