

Achievement First Connecticut Board of Directors Annual Retreat

Monday, July 21st, 2014 – Amistad Academy, 130 Edgewood Avenue, New Haven, CT

12:00 – 12:15 pm **Networking** (Lunch available)

12:15 – 12:30 pm **Call to Order & Welcome** (Dick Ferguson; Scot Kerr and Sarah Blanton)

12:30 – 1:15 pm **High School Program** (Chris Bostock)
Overview of the Amistad High School program.

1:15 – 1:25 pm **Board Objectives & Theory of Change** (Tony Siddall)
The role that boards can play in support of the Achievement First's "Theory of Change". This presentation will answer the question, "What does AF need the local boards to do?"

1:25 – 1:30 pm **Break - Transition to Breakout Groups**

1:30 – 2:15 pm **Workshop Breakout Groups**
Three concurrent sessions. Board members will choose one session to attend.

- ✓ **Session One: Scholar Support Systems** (Chris Kunhardt and Jennifer Lindsay)
In this session, directors will perform a review of our existing scholar support programs including Book Scholarships, Summer Academic Programs, and Internships. Directors will then explore ways to strengthen these programs through their direct efforts.
- ✓ **Session Two: Board Goals** (Marnie Halsey and Sarah Blanton)
Based on learnings from the "Board Objectives & Theory of Change" presentation, directors will discuss the priorities for the coming year and identify specific actions that individual directors can take to make an impact.
- ✓ **Session Three: Community Engagement** (Erik Clemons and Candice Dormon)
AF schools recognize the importance of re-imagining community engagement, and have numerous opportunities to do so including the scheduled opening of Amistad High School in Newhallville. During this session directors will learn of recent strides building partnerships with community organizations like the Stetson branch of the New Haven Library.

2:15 – 2:20 pm **Break - Transition from Breakout Groups**

2:20 – 2:30 pm **Workshop Share out**

2:30 – 3:45 pm **Q&A and Greenfield Update** (Dacia Toll)

- ✓ Key components of Board Responsibilities & Theory of Change and answer questions/concerns from directors.
- ✓ The latest understanding of how we will measure performance in the context of new SBAC testing, and the impact it will have on the AF Report Card and directors' ability to measure our progress.
- ✓ An update on the Greenfield design initiative, sharing key components of the plans for the new schools.

3:45 – 4:00 pm **Break**

4:00 – 4:50 pm **Connection to the Mission**

Amistad High School graduates will return to tell stories and answer questions from directors about their college experiences and how they were prepared and assisted through college by AF College initiatives.

4:50 – 5:00 pm **Closing & Adjournment**