

- DRAFT -

**Amistad Academy**  
**Joint High School Committee Meeting**  
Wednesday, May 18, 2016  
580 Dixwell Ave, New Haven

**I. Call to Order & Attendance**

The meeting was called to order at 4:35 pm by Caroline Williams.

The following board members and Achievement First Staff were in attendance:

Caroline Williams, AA Board - Yes	William Heins, ECCP Board - Yes
Carolyn Greenspan, AA Board - Yes	Laura Saverin, ECCP Board - Yes
Reginald Simmons, AA Board - Yes	Richard Ferguson, ECCP Board - Yes
Andrew Lachman, AA Board - No	Dick Kalt - AFBA Board - Yes
Reginald Simmons, AA Board - Yes	Sarah Blanton, AF Network Support - Yes
Lorraine Gibbons, AA Board - Yes	Megan Tokarski, AF Network Support - No
Max Perez, AFBA Board - No	Ken Paul, AF Network Support - Yes
Chris Kunhardt, AFBA Board - No	John Furniss, AF Network Support - Yes
Cornelius Medas, AFBA Board - No	Jeff Sudmyer, AF Network Support - Yes

**II. Open Session For Public Comment**

At this point in the meeting, there were no members of the public present.

**III. Reports**

**A. School Report (Jeff Sudmyer)**

Mr. Sudmyer, Regional Superintendent for Amistad High School, reported that the school expects, once again, to have 100% acceptance and matriculation to college and their results included acceptances to colleges and universities such as Amherst, Boston College, Haverford, Howard, Princeton, and two scholars for Yale. Students are also excelling in AP classes and performing well on the exams.

Summer programs, run by Lauren Cohen, are also on track, with 70 students registered for a pre-college program this summer including Rhodes College and Leadership Diversity Program Princeton (10% acceptance rate), and many others set up with internships, including new opportunities with New Haven Diaper Bank (Marketing), Webster Bank, New Haven Independent and Junta for Progressive Action.

Teacher retention at AF Amistad High from 2015-16 to 2016-17 is currently 82%, as compared to an AF network average of 77%.

Enter Executive Session at 4:52

Motion by Carolyn Greenspan

Seconded by Laura Saverin

All in favor

Exit Executive session at 5:15 pm

Motion by Caroline Williams

Seconded by Carolyn Greenspan

All in favor

### **III. Public Comment**

At 5:15pm, several scholars and family members joined the meeting and the Committee re-opened the public comment session. Collectively, the remarks focused on AF's merit/demerit system, school culture, teacher/staff retention and diversity, student and parent voice in management decisions, and parent-staff communication.

There were also remarks about the Amistad High School PLC, its role in addressing student and parent concerns and the best ways to engage in solution oriented discussions.

### **IV. Board Business & Discussion**

**RESOLVED, the Amistad Academy High School Committee hereby approves the meeting minutes from March 23, 2016.**

The Committee did not have quorum and did not pass any resolutions.

**RESOLVED, the Amistad Academy High School Committee hereby approves the financial report as presented.**

The Committee did not have quorum and did not pass any resolutions.

### **Adjourn**

The meeting was adjourned at 6:25 by Caroline Williams

Moved by Carolyn Greenspan

Seconded by Dick Ferguson

All in favor