

# **Elm City College Preparatory Board of Directors Meeting**

May 18, 2016

AF Amistad High School, 580 Dixwell Ave, New Haven

## **I. Call to Order & Attendance**

The following directors and staff were in attendance:

Richard Ferguson, ECCP Board - Yes	Sharon Oster, ECCP Board - Yes
William Heins, ECCP Board - Yes (Phone)	Stephanie Ma, ECCP Board - Yes
Laura Saverin, ECCP Board - Yes	Magaly Cajigas, ECCP Board - Yes
Lystra Richardson, ECCP Board - No	Andrew Poole, School Leadership - No
Carlos Torre, ECCP Board - No	Chris Friedline, School Leadership - Yes
Genevive Walker, ECCP Board - Yes (Phone)	Robert Hawke, School Leadership - Yes
Kaitlyn Stasik, ECCP Board - Yes	Karin Gould, School Leadership - Yes
Marnie Halsey, ECCP Board - Yes	Shirley Harrell, School Leadership - Yes
Patric Gregory, ECCP Board - Yes	Sarah Hogarty, School Leadership - No
Sean Williams, ECCP Board - No	Sarah Blanton, AF Network Support - Yes
Patricia Pierce, ECCP Board - No	John Furniss, AF Network Support - Yes
	Ken Paul, AF Network Support - Yes

Pubic: Donavan Tracey

## **II. Open Session For Public Comment**

There was no public comment.

## **III. Approval of Minutes**

**RESOLVED, the Elm City College Preparatory Board of Directors hereby approves the meeting minutes from March 23, April 7, and May 11, 2016.**

Moved by Laura Saverin

Seconded Kaitlyn Stasik

All in favor

## **IV. Reports and Discussion**

### **A. Principal Reports**

Due to the late start of the board meeting, the principals were permitted to leave before giving their official reports.

## **B. Board Chair Report (Dick Ferguson)**

Dick Ferguson reported that the Principal Committee had a excellent Professional Growth Plan (PGP) meeting with Doug McCurry discussing Andrew Poole. They still need to schedule the discussion with Marc Michaelson regarding Robert Hawke who will transition to be the principal for Elm City College Prep Middle School grades 7-8.

Elm City College Prep is up for its charter renewal in 2017.

The Summer Retreat will be 6/12 from 12pm - 5:30pm for all the Connecticut Boards to meet collectively.

Mr. Ferguson reminded the board that with the Greenfield Middle School grades 5-6 joining Elm City Elementary at 407 James St, the Network Support offices intend move to the Blake St location.

## **C. Election of Board Members (Dick Ferguson)**

### **1. Elect New Board Members**

Mr. Ferguson led a discussion on the new Board Member candidates.

Mr. Donavan Tracey, 3rd grade teacher at Elm City Elementary School, introduced himself and gave a brief discussion of his background (including that he will be graduating with a Ma. ED from SCSU on Thursday). He has been selected by Andrew Poole as a nominee for Teacher Representative.

Mr. Ferguson also directed board members to their materials for Sam Brill's resume.

**RESOLVED, the Elm City College Preparatory Board of Directors hereby elects the following individuals to the Board of Directors with a three year term beginning July 1, 2016 and ending June 30, 2019.**

#### **Sam Brill, Director**

Moved by Sharon Oster

Seconded by Marnie Halsey

All in favor

#### **Donavan Tracey, Teacher Representative**

Moved by Sharon Oster

Seconded by Laura Saverin

All in favor

### **2. Re-elect Board Members**

Mr. Ferguson shared the board members whose terms expire June 30, 2016 who would be up for re-election by board vote.

**RESOLVED, the Elm City College Preparatory Board of Directors hereby ratifies the re-election of Directors with a three year term ending June 30, 2019.**

**Patric Gregory, Director**  
**Stephanie Ma, Director**  
**Magaly Cajigas, Director**  
**Richard Ferguson, Director**

Moved by Laura Saverin  
Seconded by Kaitlyn Stasik  
All in favor

### **3. Elect Officers**

Mr. Ferguson presented the slate of officers for the upcoming year.

**RESOLVED, the Elm City College Preparatory Board of Directors hereby elects the following leadership slate:**

**Dick Ferguson, Chair**  
**Will Heins, Vice-Chair**  
**Laura Saverin, Treasurer**  
**Lystra Richardson, Secretary**

Moved by Patric Gregory  
Seconded by Magaly Cajigas  
All in favor

### **D. Financial Report (Laura Saverin)**

#### **1. Approve Financial Report**

Ms. Saverin gave the Financial Report. Ms. Saverin noted that the deficit at Amistad High School has been significantly reduced.

**RESOLVED, the Elm City College Preparatory Board of Directors hereby approves the financial report as presented.**

Moved by Patric Gregory  
Seconded by Kaitlyn Stasik

All in favor

## **2. Approve the 2016-17 Elm City College Preparatory Budget**

Ms. Saverin led a discussion about the proposed 2016-17 budget. AF is determined to decrease its reliance on philanthropy, including \$4MM from schools and \$2MM from Network Support. Core operations at Network Support are going down a little and some Accelerate initiatives (largely funded by philanthropy) are being shifted to Core operations. Certainly for our schools, increasing salaries and flat funding has led to an extremely tight budget situation.

The board discussed the end-of-year trips and how difficult it is to make decisions between full time employees and the cost of trips. In the past there was more room in the budget for trips but everything is tightening and the schools have had to make tough decisions. The board discussed ways to make the scholars, especially those in 7th and 8th grades, feel special in spite of trip cut backs.

If there is an interim period between the departure of Max Polaner, CFO, and the new hire, Lisa Defosses will serve in that role especially as it pertains to working with the boards.

**RESOLVED, the Elm City College Preparatory Board of Directors hereby approves the financial budget as recommended by the Finance Committee and prepared by Achievement First for the 2016-17 fiscal year.**

Moved by Patric Gregory  
Seconded by Magaly Cajigas  
All in favor

## **3. Appoint CohnReznik as Independent Auditors**

**RESOLVED, the Elm City College Preparatory Board of Directors hereby ratifies the re-appointment of CohnReznik to perform the financial audit of the 2015-16 fiscal year.**

Moved by Sharon Oster  
Seconded by Marnie Halsey  
All in favor

## **V. Additional Board Business**

### **A. Approve Amended and Restated Elm City College Preparatory Bylaws**

**RESOLVED, the Elm City College Preparatory Board of Trustees hereby approves the amended and restated Bylaws as presented.**

Moved by Stephanie Ma  
Seconded by Patric Gregory  
All in favor

**B. Approve CEP Policy**

**RESOLVED, the Elm City College Preparatory Board of Directors hereby approves the amendment of the Agreement for Child Nutrition Programs (ED-099) between the Connecticut State Department of Education (CSDE) and Elm City College Preparatory by the Community Eligibility Provision (CEP).**

Moved by Sharon Oster  
Seconded by Laura Saverin  
All in favor

**VI. Executive Session**

Motion into Executive Session at 7:25pm by Dick Ferguson  
Motion to exit Executive Session at 8:28 by Dick Ferguson

**Adjourn**

The meeting was adjourned at 8:31 pm. by Dick Ferguson,  
Motion by Patric Gregory, seconded by Laura Saverin.