

**Achievement First Rhode Island, Inc.**  
**(d.b.a.) Achievement First Providence Mayoral Academy**  
**Board of Directors Meeting**  
August 23, 2016, 10:00 am – 2:00 pm  
370 Hartford Avenue, Providence

The following board members, constituting a quorum, and Achievement First Staff were in attendance:

**I. Call to Order & Attendance**

The meeting was called to order at 10:05am by Mayor Jorge Elorza.

Jorge Elorza, AFRI Board - Yes	Ben Smith, AFRI Board - Yes
Brian Gallogly, AFRI Board - Yes	Ken Paul, AF Network Support - Yes
Macky McCleary, AFRI Board - Yes	Dacia Toll, AF Network Support - Yes
Reshma Singh, AFRI Board - Yes	Sarah Blanton, AF Network Support - Yes
Norman McCulloch, AFRI Board - Yes	Ken Paul, AF Network Support - Yes
John Igliazzi, AFRI Board - Yes	Elizabeth Winangun, AF Network Support - Yes
Soraida Morales, AFRI Board - No	John Furniss, AF Network Support - Yes
	Gina Musumeci, AF Network Support - Yes

Public: Lily Gutterman

**II. Open Session for Public Comment**

No public comment.

**III. Reports**

Dacia Toll, AF's Co-CEO reviewed the strong PARCC results from AF Providence's third graders. The math results were particularly strong but in both subjects, math and ELA, the AF Providence scholars did quite well. Once the results are made public, we will be able to see how the AF Providence 3rd graders performed compared to the students in wealthier towns.

Mayor Elorza highlighted the importance of improvement as well as absolute results. AF tracks both.

The board also discussed suspension policies and their implementation, detention policies, and the ways in which the schools have improved teacher training around classroom management.

On the topic of teacher turnover, most of the teachers who are leaving the AF schools are in their first or second year. A certain amount of turnover is natural but of course, the merits of a long tenure are clearly

positive. Principals are told that the commitment must be at least five years for their leadership role.

The board was encouraged by the very strong State test results and the low attrition rates.

Ms. Toll led a discussion about AF's 2016-17 Priorities, the new Greenfield model being implemented in New Haven, advocacy (especially grassroots advocacy), and expansion to a middle and high school as well as an additional K-8.

Gina Musumeci, Regional Superintendent, joined the meeting to talk about her role managing both Kevin Lohela and Morgan Carter, the successes and challenges of the past year and the plan for supporting continued and increasing success at each school.

Following the departure of both Dacia Toll and Gina Musumeci, the board had a discussion about advocacy and the need for facilities funding.

Mayor Elorza had to leave at 1:30pm after which point Brian Gallogly led a discussion of some of the priorities for the board in this coming year.

#### **IV. Adjourn**

The meeting was adjourned at 2:20 pm by Brian Gallogly.