

Approved, 1/22/15

Achievement First Brooklyn Board of Trustees

**November Board Meeting**

Tuesday, November 18, 2014

AF Network Support Offices, 335 Adams Street, Suite 700, Brooklyn, NY

The following Trustees were in attendance:

Amy Arthur Samuels	Claire Robinson
Adrienne Loiseau	Gabriel Schwartz
Justin Cohen	Deborah Shanley
Ted Coons	Matt Tartaglia
Lee Gause	Kelly Wachowicz
Lee Gelernt	Ambrose Wooden, Jr.

Hon. L. Priscilla Hall

AF Staff and Attorney: Elandria Jackson, Ken Paul, John Furniss, Max Polaner, Rhea Byer-Ettinger, Max Koltuv, and Jonathan Bardavid (attorney for the board)

**I. Call to Order & Attendance**

The meeting was called to order by Ms. Shanley, Chair, 6:22PM

**II. Discussion Items**

**a. AFBHS Hearing**

Ms. Shanley provided a general overview of the disciplinary hearing process at Achievement First Brooklyn High School and the role of the Panel (Ms. Wachowicz, Ms. Shanley, and L. Priscilla Hall). Ms. Shanley then introduced Mr. Jonathan Bardavid, Attorney for the Board.

Ms. Shanley recommended the board go into Executive Session due to the confidential nature of the discussion.

Moved by: Kelly Wachowicz

Seconded by: Amy Samuels

Ms. Shanley recommended the Board leave Executive Session.

Moved by: L. Priscilla Hall

Seconded by: Deb Shanley

Motion to approve the Panel's recommendation to reinstate the student to AF Brooklyn High School, along with other suggested changes.

Moved by: Gabriel Schwartz

Seconded by: L. Priscilla Hall

The motion passed unanimously.

#### **d. Hearing Panel**

Board discussed creating a disciplinary panel to oversee hearings, particularly if the need arises before January 2015. Motion to designate Justin Cohen, Deborah Shanley, Lee Gelernt, and Ambrose Wooden as members of the disciplinary panel.

Moved by: Kelly Wachowicz

Seconded by: Lee Gause

### **III. Committee Reports**

#### **a. Academic**

Ms. Kelly Wachowicz, Chair of the Academic Committee, introduced Max Koltuv, AF Regional Superintendent, who gave an overview of Interim Assessment 1 results. He described how Interim Assessments and other tests such as MAP Test and F&P/STEP are used to measure student achievement throughout the year. He highlighted particular schools, specifically noting opportunity areas.

Ms. Wachowicz noted information Regional Superintendents shared about special services and the potential to introduce revised service models to best meet those students' needs. Mr. Cohen commented on the culture data, noting a focus on decreasing suspension rates at particular schools.

#### **b. Finance**

Mr. Gabe Schwartz reported on behalf of the Finance Committee. He voiced over the outcome of the financial audits for all AF New York schools. He detailed that all but two AF New York schools are at or below budget. Mr. Schwartz stated that the two schools that are over budget have been able to reduce spending elsewhere to mitigate any deficit.

#### **c. Development**

Mr. Ted Coons reported on behalf of the Development Committee. He summarized the committee's review of AF funders and prospects. In the philanthropic update he noted that AF is 83% toward goal due to a few recent large gifts. He also described the Committee's

desire to broaden AF's funding base via high net worth individuals and to establish a board giving goal.

**d. Family Engagement**

Judge Hall, Chair of the Family Engagement Committee, invited Adrienne Loiseau, Family Representative, to speak. Ms. Loiseau provided an overview of feedback received from the Family Advisory Council, specifically around discipline, amount of homework, and scheduling of parent council meetings. She relayed parent's desire to be more actively and substantially involved in the decision-making process. Ms. Shanley and Judge Hall commented in agreement.

**IV. Routine Business**

**a. Previous Meeting Minutes**

RESOLVED, the AF Board of Trustees hereby approved the following sets of Board minutes as presented: September 22, 2014.

Moved by: Lee Gelernt

Seconded by: Kelly Wachowicz

**b. Audited Financial Statements**

RESOLVED, the AF Board of Trustees hereby approves the financial report as presented.

Moved by: Gabe Shchwarz

Seconded by: Lee Gause

**V. Adjourn**

Adjourned at 8:10pm by Deb Shanley, Chair.