

**AF Hartford High School**  
**Joint High School Committee Meeting**

September 18, 2017, 4:30 pm  
305 Greenfield St, Hartford

**Call to Order & Attendance**

The meeting was called to order at 4:34 pm by Barry Jacobson. The following board members and Achievement First Staff were in attendance:

Barry Jacobson, AFHA Board - Yes

Jose Rendon, AFHA Board - Yes (phone)

Ja Hannah, AFHA Board - No

Todd Cooper, Jumoke Board - Yes (phone)

Thomas Smith, Jumoke Board - Yes (phone)

Emily Banks, AF Hartford High School Principal - Yes

Ken Paul, AF Network Support - Yes

Sarah Blanton, AF Network Support - Yes

Troy Monroe, Jumoke Academy - Yes

Public: n/a

**Open Session for Public Comment**

There was no public comment.

**School Report (Emily Banks)**

Emily Banks shared that 100% of the AF Hartford High School class of 2017 showed up at college this fall. The alumni are attending colleges which have an average graduation rate of 65%.

Teacher retention was strong so the school is stable. In general, Emily feels good about the new teachers. Mindsets are in the right place, willingness to work hard and receive feedback has been very good. The staff feels more cohesive than it has in the last couple years.

For the first time, AF Hartford High School now has a STEM Dean and a Dean of Special Services. Emily now can spend her time coaching leaders and developing dean skill rapidly and intentionally. The coaches are stronger coaches and the leadership team is in a great place.

AP scores, in general, were disappointing. The upside was that the teachers are more determined and feel a greater sense of urgency than ever before. Going forward, they need to push teachers to expect higher quality work. They need to be sure the staffing matches the rigor of the course. Veteran teachers need to teach the AP courses.

Emily shared that overall, science and math are weak. There is a significant performance gap between the ELA and math/science results coming out of middle schools.

Troy Monroe shared some similar challenges around science and math and inquired about creative or innovative strategies. Emily shared that they made some difficult staffing changes and will be tracking data on a daily basis that both the teacher's coach and Emily can review each evening, and follow up to see what changes were made, student by student to get better results. All scholars must master each aim of each class every single day. Emily shared AF Hartford HS's approach to observations, both by her and her STEM dean and also by the regional superintendent, Jeff Sudmyer.

Troy Monroe shared there is an upcoming meeting of the JAPA board on Oct 12th at 250 Blue Hills Avenue. He invites representatives from AF to attend.

### **Financial Report**

Barry Jacobson gave the financial report.

### **Board Business**

RESOLVED, the AF Hartford High School Committee hereby approves the meeting minutes from May 22, 2017.

Motion by Todd Cooper

Seconded by Thomas Smith

All in favor

RESOLVED, the AF Hartford High School Committee hereby approves the financial report as presented.

Motion by Todd Cooper

Seconded by Thomas Smith

All in favor

### **Adjourn**

The meeting was adjourned at 4:52 pm by Barry Jacobson.

Motion by Thomas Smith

Seconded by Todd Cooper

All in favor