

- Draft Minutes -

**Achievement First Rhode Island
Board of Directors Meeting**

May 16, 2018, 5:30 pm

370 Hartford Avenue, Providence

I. Call to Order & Attendance

The meeting was called to order at 5:42 pm by Mayor Jorge Elorza. The following board members, constituting a quorum, and Achievement First Staff were in attendance:

Jorge Elorza, AFRI Board - Yes

Brian Gallogly, AFRI Board - Yes

Macky McCleary, AFRI Board - Yes (phone)

Reshma Singh, AFRI Board - No

John Iglizzi, AFRI Board - Yes

Soraida Morales, AFRI Board - Yes

Ben Smith, AFRI Board - No

Maryellen Butke, AFRI Board - Yes

James Wiley, AFRI Board - Yes

Robert Luciano, AFRI Board - Yes

Percy Ballah, AFRI Board - Yes

Morgan Carter, AFRI School Leadership - Yes

Kevin Lohela, AFRI School Leadership - Yes

Libby Miller, AFRI School Leadership - No

Sarah Blanton, AF Network Support - Yes

Ken Paul, AF Network Support - Yes (phone)

Elizabeth Winangun, AF Network Support - Yes

Public: Molly Rintz, AF Illuminar Social Worker, Adrienne Evans, AF Illuminar Parent

II. Open Session for Public Comment

There was no public comment.

III. Approve Minutes

RESOLVED, the Achievement First Rhode Island Board of Directors hereby approves the meeting minutes from March 28, 2018.

Motion by Brian Gallogly

Seconded by James Wiley

All in favor

IV. Reports and Discussion

A. Principal Reports

Morgan Carter, AF Providence Mayoral Academy Elementary School principal, shared that the kindergarten has already met several goals at the proficient and advanced levels for reading. Next week is the math RICAS. They feel good momentum going into testing. As the third and fourth graders walk down the halls to take their tests, the hallways are lined with K-2 grade scholars and teachers who applaud and cheer for them.

Teacher appreciation week was a fun week celebrating the team.

Student attendance has been strong lately.

Kevin Lohela, AF Illuminar Elementary principal, shared that staff retention is over 90% which they are excited about. They are onboarding two new members of the leadership team - both internal hires from the founding team. Student attrition is 0.08%. School culture data and parent survey results are strong and academic achievement is showing gains.

Molly Rintz, AF Illuminar Social Worker, shared that that students have not been stressed about the state tests.

Mayor Elorza inquired about chronic absenteeism. Molly Rintz discussed the approach to address the challenges. Partnering with families has been the key. They work to identify absenteeism early.

Elizabeth Winangun shared Libby Miller's report from AF Providence Mayoral Academy Middle School. Teacher retention is 100% which they are excited about. End of year events are coming up and Elizabeth will share dates with the board.

Aja Davis, incoming principal, will reside in Providence as of June.

Molly Rintz talked about the role of truancy officers.

RESOLVED, the AF Rhode Island Board of Directors hereby approves the following individuals to serve as Truancy Officers to serve in an authorized capacity on behalf of the scholars of AF Rhode Island.

AF Providence Elementary School:

Julissa Polanco, Director of School Operations

Kiara Fuller, Social Worker.

AF Illuminar Elementary School:

Shawna Melton, Director of School Operations

Diana Ferreira, School Services Manager

AF Providence Middle School:

Salvador Pellerano, Director of School Operations

Grace Moore, Social Worker

Motion by John Igliozi

Seconded by Maryellen Butke

All in favor

B. Facilities Update

The board discussed the Garfield and Westminster locations. James Wiley expressed a desire to see the matrix of "if then" scenarios for green lighting plans for moving ahead with each space.

WHEREAS, Achievement First Rhode Island, Inc. ("AFRI") leases the real property at 370 Hartford Avenue in Providence, Rhode Island and is working to create additional classroom space on the lower level,

establish a bus drop-off loop within the service drive, and fix steam pipe issues in the building; and

WHEREAS, AFRI has conditionally approved entering into a lease agreement for certain real property and improvements known as 85 Garfield Avenue in Cranston, Rhode Island and needs to undertake legal, due diligence, planning, regulatory, and renovation costs accordingly; and

WHEREAS, AFRI has conditionally approved the purchase of certain real property and improvements known as 870 Westminster Street in Providence, Rhode Island and needs to undertake legal, due diligence, planning, regulatory, and renovation costs accordingly; and

WHEREAS, both philanthropy and financing are being actively pursued for these projects, provided, however, funds are necessary to move the projects forward;

BE IT RESOLVED, that an allocation of five hundred thousand dollars (\$500,000) of cash is hereby designated and approved to be used in accordance with AFRI fiscal policies and procedures for any and all of the capital projects associated with 370 Hartford Avenue, 85 Garfield Avenue, and 870 Westminster Street.

Motion by John Igliozzi

Seconded by James Wiley

All in favor

C. External Relations Update

Elizabeth Winangun gave an update on guests she has hosted.

RIDE is rolling out a new rating system which will be a system of stars going forward. RIDE has created easy to understand graphics to explain the rating system. It will likely come out in the fall 2018. Right now, when a family wants to know how a school is performing, they get the Composite Index Score.

Final Visitor Day is May 30th from 9-10:30am.

D. Treasurer Report

Brian Gallogly gave the report on behalf of Ben Smith, Treasurer. Overall, the three schools together will end the year on budget. The Balance Sheet looks very strong.

On the proposed FY19 budget, Brian shared that philanthropy will be needed for the middle school as it continues to grow. Title I and II should increase. State funding is increasing by approximately 2%.

RESOLVED, the AF Rhode Island Board of Directors hereby approves the financial report as presented.

Motion by James Wiley

Seconded by John Igliozzi

All in favor

RESOLVED, the AF Rhode Island Board of Directors hereby approves the financial budget as recommended by the Finance Committee and prepared by Achievement First for the 2018-19 fiscal year.

Motion by James Wiley
Seconded by JOhn Igliozi
All in favor

RESOLVED, the AF Rhode Island Board of Directors hereby ratifies the re-appointment of CohnReznik to perform the financial audit of the 2017-18 fiscal year.

Motion by Maryellen Butke
Seconded by Brian Gallogly
All in favor

V. Board Chair Report

RESOLVED, the Achievement First Rhode Island Board of Directors hereby ratifies the re-election of all current Directors with a one year term limit ending June 30, 2019:

Mayor Jorge Elorza
Brian Gallogly
John Igliozi
Macky McCleary
Soraida Morales
Reshma Singh
Ben Smith
Maryellen Butke
James Wiley
Robert Luciano
Percy Ballah

Motion by Maryellen Butke
Seconded by Robert Luciano
All in favor

RESOLVED, the AF Rhode Island Board of Directors hereby affirms the following leadership slate:

Mayor Jorge Elorza, Chair
Brian Gallogly, Vice-Chair
Ben Smith, Treasurer
Reshma Singh, Secretary

Motion by John Igliozi
Seconded by James Wiley
All in favor

The board entered session at 6:45pm to discuss personnel. Motion by Maryellen Butke. Second by

Macky McCleary. The board exited executive session at 6:55. Motion by James Wiley. Second by Robert Luciano.

RESOLVED, the AF Rhode Island Board of Directors hereby approves Aja Davis as the principal of AF Providence Mayoral Academy Elementary School effective July 1, 2018.

Motion by Maryellen Butke

Seconded by James Wiley

All in favor

VI. Adjourn

The meeting was adjourned at 6:58 pm by Brian Gallogly.

Motion by John Igliozi

Seconded by Maryellen Butke

All in favor