

**Elm City College Preparatory  
Board of Directors**

Wednesday, November 14, 2018

370 James Street, New Haven

5:30 pm

**I. Call to Order & Attendance**

The meeting was called to order at 5:45 pm by Dick Ferguson. The following board members, constituting a quorum, and Achievement First staff were in attendance:

Richard Ferguson - Yes

Laura Saverin - Yes

Genevive Walker - Yes

Patricia Pierce - Yes

Stephanie Ma - Yes

Magaly Cajigas - Yes

Patric Gregory - Yes

Melinda Hamilton - Yes

Joe Rodriguez - No

Julia Halberstam - Yes

Nicole Brambila - Yes

Katherine Baker, ECCP School Leadership - Yes

Andrew Poole, ECCP School Leadership - Yes

Katie McPollom, ECCP School Leadership - Yes

Sarah Blanton, AF Network Support - Yes

Ken Paul, AF Network Support - Yes

Blake Bergeron, AF Network Support - Yes

Katie Rosa Moher, AF Network Support - Yes

Amy D'Angelo, AF Network Support - Yes

Public: n/a

**II. Open session for public comment**

There was no public comment.

**III. Approve Minutes**

RESOLVED, the Elm City College Preparatory Board of Directors hereby approves the meeting minutes from September 12, 2018.

Motion by Genevive Walker

Seconded by Stephanie Ma

All in favor

**IV. Reports and Discussion**

**A. Principal Reports**

Katie McPollom, principal of Elm City College Prep Middle, reported that the school continues to take measures to build school culture, setting the path for academic success. To support this

work, Ms. McPollom and several teachers visited one of AF's highest-performing schools in Brooklyn to collaborate and observe school procedures.

Ms. McPollom reported that the school is also focusing on providing additional math and ELA instruction to drive student gains, and that they recently hired a new teacher to support this effort. Ms. McPollom is heartened by students' strong performance on interim assessments and hopes for continued academic growth.

Ms. McPollom also noted that extracurriculars, including volleyball and basketball, have been very popular, and that the school has been able to use them to help incentivize strong academic performance.

Kate Baker, principal of Elm City College Prep K-2, reported that school culture is growing stronger, allowing staff to double down on academics.

In anticipation of upcoming maternity leaves, Kate is working with Andrew Poole to shift some staff to provide adequate coverage and continuously strong instruction.

She expressed her excitement at seeing how invested both students and teachers were during the first round of Greenfield Expeditions for the year. She feels the Expeditions have energized students and given academics a strong boost. She also reported that Dream Teams have been highly productive and meaningful and that parent engagement and participation have been strong.

Andrew Poole, principal of Elm City College Prep grades 3-6, shared a story from the recent Greenfield Expeditions. In the Business Expedition, students worked in teams to develop business plans for a pop-up store which they would open during the family and community showcase. By the time the showcase ended, the students had made more than \$500 which they donated to a local charity. Mr. Poole discussed how the experience helped students see the connection between their academic coursework and potential business careers, allowing them to find a personal "why" for succeeding in their studies.

Mr. Poole reported that the school is currently pivoting from the development of school culture, to a stronger focus on academics, which he expects to drive interim assessment performance. He also discussed the importance of fostering strong attendance. While he feels the school has good momentum in this area, he thinks there's still room for growth.

## **B. Executive Session**

The board entered executive session at 6:28 pm to discuss personnel. The board exited executive session at 6:47 pm.

**C. Joint High School Committee Report**

The Joint High School Committee did not convene on 11/14/2018, as Amistad Academy High School principal Morgan Barth was unable to attend because he was chaperoning a college trip to Williams College. Mr Barth provided a written report to the High School Committee.

**D. Finance Committee Report**

Laura Saverin provided the Finance Committee report.

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

Motion by Patricia Pierce  
Seconded by Stephanie Ma  
All in favor

**E. Board Chair Report**

RESOLVED, that the Board of Directors of Elm City College Preparatory, Inc. ("Elm City College Prep") hereby authorizes and directs that the Certificate of Incorporation of Elm City College Prep be amended to reflect the removal of Achievement First, Inc. as the sole member of Elm City College Prep, as provided in the Certificate of Amendment attached hereto as Exhibit A;

RESOLVED, that the Board of Directors hereby authorizes and directs that the Certificate of Amendment be filed with the Connecticut Secretary of State and that the directors and officers of Elm City College Prep do all such things and acts and to negotiate and execute and deliver all such applications, documents and instruments and to expend such fees for and on behalf of Elm City College Prep as may be necessary or advisable in order to give effect to and, generally, carry out the intent of these resolutions.

Motion by Laura Saverin  
Seconded by Patricia Pierce  
All in favor

**V. Adjourn**

The meeting was adjourned at 6:56 pm by Dick Ferguson

Motion by Genevive Walker  
Seconded by Stephanie Ma

All in favor