

- DRAFT -

Amistad Academy
Joint High School Committee Meeting

March 6, 2019, 4:30 p.m.

370 James St, New Haven

I. Call to Order & Attendance

The meeting was called to order at 4:35 pm by Jane Levin. The following board members and Achievement First Staff were in attendance:

Carolyn Greenspan, Amistad Board - Yes	Emery Sykes, Amistad High School Principal - Yes
Jane Levin, Amistad Board - Yes	
Albert Maldonado, Amistad Board - Yes	Sarah Blanton, AF Network Support - Yes
Richard Ferguson, ECCP Board - Yes	Ken Paul, AF Network Support - Yes
Laura Saverin, ECCP Board - Yes	Sarah Claybaugh, AF Network Support - Yes
Genevive Walker, ECCP Board - Yes	Fatimah Barker, AF Network Support - Yes
Chris Kunhardt, AFBA Board - No	Ken Paul, AF Network Support - Yes
Jim Bennett, AFBA Board - Yes	Christi George, AF Network Support - Yes
Dick Kalt - AFBA Board - Yes (Phone)	Shannon Garfield, AF Network Support - Yes

Public: Philip Delgado, Khadijah Muhammad, Simon Obas, Charlene Francois

II. Open Session For Public Comment

There was no public comment

III. Principal Report

Emery Sykes reported that they are working hard to create conditions for students to feel safe, identify distractions and reduce those which are detracting from learning. Parents are visiting the school, observing classrooms and engaging with the leadership team.

To address concerns about school culture, they are reviewing consequences and clarifying expectations with the goal of maximizing student success. Illustratively, a new cell phone policy has been put in place and Amistad High School is engaging with students and families in the implementation of this policy.

At this point in the school year, 98 percent of students have been accepted to a four-year college. The school is working with students and families to give scholars as many opportunities as possible.

The first PLC meeting was held on February 28, 2019. 37 families attended which is the highest turnout to date. Ms. Sykes is encouraged that parents want to partner. The next PLC meeting will be held March 20, 2019. Amistad High School has also made a commitment that all written communication goes

out with a Spanish translation

After January, each grade level held town halls where students were asked what they wanted to see. Future rounds will focus on what creates a safe school environment. These conversations are starting with the student government.

Ms Sykes spoke about the importance of seniors having a memorable and fun experience which will include prom and a senior trip.

IV. Executive Session - Personnel

The Committee entered executive session at 4:55 pm

Motion by Laura Saverin

Seconded by Carolyn Greenspan

The committee exited executive session at 6:24 pm

Motion by Laura Saverin

Seconded by Carolyn Greenspan

V. Board Discussion

Jane Levin stated that the Board was able to have a robust conversation during an executive session.

VI. Board Business

RESOLVED, the Amistad Academy High School Committee hereby approves the meeting minutes (as corrected by Genevive Walker to include comment on bilingual communications) from January 23, 2019.

Motion by Laura Saverin

Seconded by Albert Maldonado

All in favor

RESOLVED, the Amistad Academy High School Committee hereby accepts the nomination by Achievement First of Simon Obas as the principal of Achievement First Amistad High School, effective July 1, 2019.

Motion by Richard Ferguson

Seconded by Carolyn Greenspan

All in favor

VII. Adjourn

The meeting was adjourned at 6:27 pm by Jane Levin.

Motion by Genevive Walker

Seconded by Jim Bennett

All in favor