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Achievement First Bridgeport Academy

Board of Directors Meeting

May 22, 2019

580 Dixwell Ave, New Haven

I. Call to Order & Attendance

The meeting was called to order at 5:39 pm by Chris Kunhardt. The following board members, constituting a quorum, and Achievement First Staff were in attendance:

Chris Kunhardt - Yes

Dick Kalt - Yes

Marlene Macaуда - Yes (phone)

Debra Hertz - Yes

James Bennett - Yes

Kimberly Bruce - Yes

Michael Strambler - Yes

Ruben Felipe - Yes (phone)

Ebrima Jobe - Yes

Katherine Gallagher - Yes

Christina Ellington, AFBA School Leadership - Yes

Simon Obas, AFBA School Leadership - No

Florisca Carter, AFBA School Leadership - No

Natasha Noel, AFBA School Leadership - No

Shannon Garfield, AF Network Support - Yes

Sarah Blanton, AF Network Support - Yes

Sarah Claybaugh, AF Network Support - Yes

Public: Julie Hajducky

II. Open Session for Public Comment

There was no public comment.

III. Approve Minutes

RESOLVED, the AF Bridgeport Academy Board of Directors hereby approves the meeting minutes from March 11, 2019.

Motion by: Debra Hertz

Seconded by Dick Kalt

All in favor

IV. Reports, Discussion and Board Business

A. Principal Reports

Christina Ellington gave a report highlighting readiness for the coming school year. Staff retention is strong with 80% of the staff returning. Six AFBA Elementary School teachers were recognized as distinguished and master teachers. The school has increased the percentage of certified staff through very deliberate hiring decisions.

At the close of Ms. Ellington's report, Chris Kunhardt thanked her for her leadership of the school over the last several years as she prepares to assume a regional superintendent role at Achievement First. In return, Ms. Ellington thanked the board for their support.

Shannon Garfield, Regional Superintendent gave a report on AFBA Middle School, as Simon Obas was unable to attend the meeting (the original date of the board meeting was 5/23). Shannon reported on the progress of the incoming principal, Annendrea Coleman, who is being welcomed by the school community.

B. Amistad High School Committee Report

Chris Kunhardt reported out from the Amistad High School Committee, noting many of the positive accomplishments of the high school students: students took over 1,000 AP exams, and 300 students have internships for the summer. It was also noted that the high school committee passed the budget.

Chris Kunhardt called on Scot Kerr from AF Network Support to update the board on upcoming charter renewals. Scot informed the board that documents will begin to be provided to CSDE in the next few weeks, the application is due September 2nd, and Bridgeport site visits will be either October 22nd or 23rd after confirming the best date for the school.

C. Finance Committee Report

Dick Kalt gave the financial report including year to date financials, the balance sheet, the audit firm selection process, the updated fiscal policies and the FY20 budget.

RESOLVED, the AF Bridgeport Academy Board of Directors hereby ratifies the re-appointment of CohnReznick to perform the financial audit of the 2018-19 fiscal year.

Motion by Dick Kalt

Seconded by Mike Strambler

All in favor

RESOLVED, the AF Bridgeport Academy Board of Directors hereby approves the financial report as presented.

Motion by Debra Hertz

Seconded by Katherine Gallagher

All in favor

RESOLVED, the AF Bridgeport Academy Board of Directors hereby approves the financial budget

as recommended by the Finance Committee and prepared by Achievement First for the 2019-20 fiscal year.

Motion by Mike Strambler

Seconded by Debra Hertz

All in favor

RESOLVED, the AF Bridgeport Academy Board of Directors hereby approves the updated Fiscal Policies and Procedures as presented.

Motion by Dick Kalt

Seconded by Debra Hertz

All in favor

D. Board Chair Report

RESOLVED, the AF Bridgeport Academy Board of Directors hereby ratifies the re-election of Parent Representative, Kimberly Bruce, for a two year term ending June 30, 2021 and the following Directors with a three year term ending June 30, 2022:

Jim Bennett

Dick Kalt

Mike Strambler

Motion by Marlene Macauda

Seconded by Katherine Gallagher

All in favor with abstentions of board candidates (The board voted three times in succession, with each candidate abstaining from their own election.)

WHEREAS, pursuant to C.G.S. Section 10-215f, the board of education or governing authority certifies that all food items offered for sale to students in the schools under its jurisdiction, and not exempted from the Connecticut Nutrition Standards published by the Connecticut State Department of Education, will comply with the Connecticut Nutrition Standards during the period of July 1, 2019, through June 30, 2020.

AND WHEREAS, This certification shall include all food offered for sale to students separately from reimbursable meals at all times and from all sources, including but not limited to, school stores, vending machines, school cafeterias, and any fundraising activities on school premises sponsored by the school or by non-school organizations and groups.

AND WHEREAS, The board of education or governing authority will allow the sale to students of food items that do not meet the Connecticut Nutrition Standards provided that the following conditions are met: 1) the sale is in connection with an event occurring after the end of the

regular school day or on the weekend; 2) the sale is at the location of the event; and 3) the food items are not sold from a vending machine or school store. An “event” is an occurrence that involves more than just a regularly scheduled practice, meeting, or extracurricular activity. For example, soccer games, school plays, and interscholastic debates are events but soccer practices, play rehearsals, and debate team meetings are not. The “regular school day” is the period from midnight before to 30 minutes after the end of the official school day. “Location” means where the event is being held.

RESOLVED, the AF Bridgeport Academy Board of Directors hereby authorizes the Board Chair to certify that AF Bridgeport Academy Elementary and Middle Schools meet the standards specified in Section 10-215e of the Connecticut General Statutes for the period July 1, 2019 through June 30, 2020.

Motion by Dick Kalt

Seconded by Mike Strambler

All in favor

E. Executive Session – Discussion of attorney client privileged communication regarding review of school incident

The board entered executive session at 6:29 pm.

Motion by Debra Hertz

Seconded by Marlene Macaуда

All in favor

The board exited executive session at 8:43 pm

Motion by Dick Kalt

Seconded by Jim Bennett

All in favor

F. Approve Release of Conclusions and Recommendations

BE IT RESOLVED, the AF Bridgeport Academy Board of Directors hereby approves the release of the conclusions and recommendations of the investigator, Leander Dolphin, Shipman & Goodwin LLP, dated May 22, 2019.

Motion by Dick Kalt

Seconded by Debra Hertz

All in favor

V. Adjourn

The meeting was adjourned at 8:50 pm by Chris Kunhardt.

Motion by Marlene Macaуда

Seconded by Dick Kalt
All in favor