

- Draft Minutes -

## **Achievement First Rhode Island**

### **Board of Directors Retreat**

October 7, 2019, 11:30 am

370 Hartford Avenue, Providence

#### **I. Call to Order & Attendance**

The meeting was called to order at 11:40 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 - Yes

John Iglizzi, AFRI Board - Yes

Soraida Morales, AFRI Board - No

Ben Smith, AFRI Board - Yes

Maryellen Butke, AFRI Board - Yes

James Wiley, AFRI Board - Yes (phone)

Robert Luciano, AFRI Board - No

Percy Ballah, AFRI Board - Yes

Jorge Cardenas, AFRI Board - Yes

Sarah Blanton, AF Network Support - Yes

Elizabeth Winangun, AF Network Support - Yes

Ken Paul, AF Network Support - Yes

Public: Jillian Fain, Linda Borg

#### **II. Public Comment**

There was no public comment.

#### **III. Approve Minutes**

RESOLVED, the AF Rhode Island Board of Directors hereby approves the meeting minutes from August 19, 2019.

Motion by Maryellen Butke

Second by Reshma Singh

All in favor

#### **IV. Reports and Business**

##### **A. External Relations Update**

Elizabeth Winangun, Director of External Relations, noted the ribbon cutting at AF Illuminar Elementary and Middle School at 85 Garfield St, Cranston, from 10-11am on October 8th. All are welcome.

## **B. Board Chair Report**

Sarah Blanton, Director of Governance, presented the Charter Management Agreement updates and the Personnel Committee which will be created in the resolution to follow. John Igliazzi made requests for procedural clarity for the Personnel Committee's work.

RESOLVED, the AF Rhode Island Board of Directors hereby approves the amendments to the Charter Management Agreement as presented.

Motion by Ben Smith

Second by Reshma Singh

All in favor

RESOLVED, the AF Rhode Island Board of Directors hereby creates a Personnel Committee and delegates to the Personnel Committee the authority to (i) consider allegations of misconduct and issue disciplinary consequences for principals, except that the Committee does not have the authority to terminate a principal; and (ii) make a recommendation for termination of a principal to the full Board.

Motion by John Igliazzi

Second by Maryellen Butke

All in favor

The Board discussed the Family Handbook template as presented including ways to ensure that it is accessible to all families.

RESOLVED, the AF Rhode Island Board of Directors hereby approves the Family Handbook as presented.

Motion by John Igliazzi

Second by Reshma Singh

All in favor

The final resolution before the board involves the expansion of Achievement First. Mayor Elorza referenced the resolution from three years ago that supported expansion but with limitations regarding the financial impact that expansion would have on the district. Mayor Elorza has worked with the State and is pleased to support the expansion. Maryellen Butke and Reshma Singh voiced their appreciation for the Mayor's efforts to find a path forward.

The timeline is aggressive. In voting today, a K-1st grade school could potentially open in August or September 2020. Elizabeth Winangun articulated the need to find a facility, a school leader, and philanthropy.

WHEREAS, the AF Rhode Island Board of Directors held a vote on September 29, 2016, regarding the expansion of AF Rhode Island, and

WHEREAS, the State of Rhode Island approved the expansion of an additional AF Rhode Island K-

8 school in December 2016,

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Directors of AF Rhode Island authorizes Achievement First to move forward in opening a new school serving grades K-8, starting in grades K-1.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Board of Directors of AF Rhode Island hereby authorizes and directs Achievement First Network Support to prepare, execute, and deliver such documentation and to take and carry out any other action required to effectuate the foregoing resolution.

Motion by John Iglizzi  
Second by Maryellen Butke  
All in favor

Following the vote, Mayor Elorza needed to depart and Brian Gallogly, vice chair, led the meeting.

#### **C. Chief Financial Officer Report**

Victor De La Paz dialed in to the meeting by phone to give a financial report on how FY19 wrapped up and how FY20 is going thus far. The audit for FY19 is not complete. Mr. De La Paz offered to meet with board members who are interested in having a call to review the mechanics of the funding formula.

#### **V. Adjourn**

The meeting was adjourned at 12:45 pm by Brian Gallogly.

Motion by Maryellen Butke  
Seconded by Ben Smith  
All in favor