

**Achievement First (AF) Brooklyn Charter Schools
Board of Trustees Meeting**

Monday, May 18, 2020, 5:00 pm
Zoom Video Conference

- DRAFT MEETING MINUTES -

Board Members in Attendance:

Deb Shanley, Romy Coquillette, Jon Atkeson, Chris Lynch, Andy Hubbard, Amy Arthur Samuels, Judith Jenkins, Judge Priscilla Hall, Warren Young, Kevin Miquelon, Theresa Hayes

Staff and Guests in Attendance: Sarah Blanton, Ken Paul, Fatimah Barker, Dacia Toll, Doug McCurry.

Sarah Blanton recorded the minutes. The meeting was called to order at 5:08 pm.

1. Public Comment

There was no public comment.

2. Discussion and Possible Action related to Summer Institute for AF Brooklyn

Doug McCurry gave an overview of the National Summer School Institute (NSSI) which is a five-week academic program available to AF scholars in grades three through eight (rising fourth through ninth graders). AF is expecting that despite a strong remote learning program, there is still some learning loss that will occur. NSSI is intended to mitigate against that loss.

The Lavinia Group has developed strong curriculum which will be used in the NSSI for AF scholars and AF teachers will teach that curriculum. Mr. McCurry feels very strong about the curriculum and training opportunities. AF is actively recruiting master teachers.

Theresa Hayes inquired about opportunities for scholars in the lower elementary grades.

Following a discussion, the board voted on the following resolution:

WHEREAS, Achievement First closed all AF Brooklyn schools in March 2020 as a result of the COVID-19 pandemic and moved to a remote learning model of instruction across all grades; and

WHEREAS, a group of high-performing charter networks have collaborated with Bellwether Education Partners to create the National Summer School Institute (NSSI) to provide academic programming by master teachers in core subjects of math and ELA, along with Movement and Enrichment, for students in grades 3-8 (rising 4th – 9th graders) over a 5-week period; and

WHEREAS, a group of national funders are supporting the cost of the centralized curriculum and operations, but not the cost of personnel (i.e., AF is responsible for the salaries of its master teachers who provide instruction to participating AF scholars), and

WHEREAS, the resulting AF Brooklyn Schools' year end forecasts project a surplus due to costs avoidances resulting from COVID-19; and

RESOLVED, the Board hereby authorizes up to \$700K in FY21 from any available AF New York budget surplus funds to support at least 2,100 AF Brooklyn scholars' participation in the NSSI.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, the AF Brooklyn Board of Trustees hereby authorizes Achievement First to take such actions to carry out the foregoing resolution.

Motion by Judge Hall

Seconded by Romy Coquillette

All in favor

Warren Young request a follow up discussion with Victor De la Paz about (1) the different ways in which resources have been allocated during this time of remote learning and (2) whether there is a way to set aside resources in advance (like the bridge funding).

3. Adjourn

The meeting was adjourned at 6:04 pm.

Motion by Jon Atkeson

Second by Warren Young

All in favor