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Elm City College Preparatory Board of Directors

Thursday, April 16, 2020, 4:00 pm Zoom Video Conference

I. Call to Order and Attendance

The meeting was called to order at 4:01 pm by Dick Ferguson. The following board members, constituting a quorum, and Achievement First staff were in attendance:

Richard Ferguson - Yes

Ashia Parks, AF School Leadership

Laura Saverin - Yes

Amy D'Angelo, AF Network Support

Stephanie Ma - Yes

Sarah Blanton, AF Network Support

Prish Pierce - Yes

Dacia Toll, AF Network Support

Melika Forbes, AF Network Support

Julia Halberstam - Yes

Christi George, AF Network Support

Shannon Garfield, AF Network Support

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 March 11, 2020.

Motion by Prish Pierce Seconded by Julia Halberstam All in favor

IV. Discussion and Possible Action of ECCP Middle School Curriculum Model: proposed changes for 2020-21 school year

Ms. Ashia Parks gave an overview of the process by which she and her team came to a decision about the Classic vs Greenfield curriculum model. There were multiple opportunities for staff input and surveys were administered. The core team came to the conclusion that the strongest recommendation is for the school to adopt the classic core curriculum going forward.

Ms. Parks gave illustrative examples, by subject, of how the two models differ.

Ms. Parks said they intend to keep components of the Greenfield model in the school such as social-emotional learning, enrichment, character development and goal teams

Following the discussion, the board unanimously, passed the following resolution:

BE IT RESOLVED, Elm City College Preparatory Middle (grades 5-6) will transition from the "Greenfield" model and curriculum to the "AF Classic" for the 2020-21 academic year and each school year thereafter with a curricular base of core subjects and a scope and sequence aligned to AF classic middle schools across the network with added Greenfield components (e.g., dream teams, double enrichment, and expeditions, etc.).

Motion by Patric Gregory Seconded by Prish Pierce

Amy D'Angelo applauded the way in which Ms. Parks got investment from the team throughout the process. As a point of clarification, she noted that double enrichment is not yet resolved (it is noted parenthetically in the resolution, as an example of a component of Greenfield). It is possible that there would be two enrichments during the year but unlikely two enrichment blocks in each day. The team wants to prioritize independent reading, interventions and social-emotional learning next year. The school day will be shorter which will limit the options for two enrichment blocks.

Athletics will continue next year for scholars across all grades. Exact specifics have not yet been determined but the 2019-20 school year saw teams at both schools and there is a desire to continue next year.

V. Discussion and Possible Action relating to Amistad High School principal performance and contract renewal for 2020-21 school year

Dacia Toll, Shannon Garfield, Christi George and Melika Forbes joined the meeting.

Laura Saverin made a motion to enter executive session at 4:27 pm to discuss a personnel matter involving the principal's performance at Amistad High School. Sarah Blanton, Melika Forbes, Dacia Toll, Shannon Garfield and Christi George were invited to join.

Dick Ferguson made a motion to exit executive session at 5:25 pm. Laura Saverin seconded the motion. All were in favor.

RESOLVED, the Elm City College Preparatory Board of Directors reviewed the recommendation of the Amistad High School Committee and discussed the performance of the Amistad High School Principal, Simon Obas, and the compensation package as proposed by Achievement First, and hereby approves the renewal of the principal, with a final compensation package to be incorporated in the FY21 Budget to be reviewed and approved in May.

Motion by Dick Ferguson Seconded by Laura Saverin All in favor

VI. Adjourn

It was unanimously decided to adjourn the meeting at 5:27 pm.

Motion by Julia Halberstam

Second by Prish Pierce