

- Draft -

**Elm City College Preparatory  
Board of Directors**

370 James St, New Haven

Monday, August 17, 2020, 10:30 am

**I. Call to Order and Attendance**

The meeting was called to order at 10:31 am by Dick Ferguson. The following board members, constituting a quorum, and Achievement First staff were in attendance:

Richard Ferguson

Laura Saverin

Stephanie Ma

Prish Pierce

Patric Gregory

Julia Halberstam

Christina Ellington, AF Network Support

Riley Bauling, AF Network Support

Sarah Blanton, AF Network Support

Ken Paul, 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 the following dates:

- May 13, 2020

- July 28, 2020

Motion by Laura Saverin

Second by Patric Gregory

All in favor

**IV. Discussion and Business**

**A. Discussion with Regional Superintendents**

Christina Ellington, regional superintendent for Elm City College Prep Elementary, introduced herself and her background at AF. She is working with Shanice Adams who Ms. Ellington originally hired as a dean when she was principal at AF Bridgeport Elementary.

Ms. Ellington is focusing on the following two priorities.

1. Staff org health: is the principal really aware of how people are doing?
2. Parent engagement: surveys went out last week to determine whether

families want to continue remote or come back to in-person school as of September 21<sup>st</sup>.

ECCP is at 74% response from families on the survey. Currently 61% want to continue with remote after September 21<sup>st</sup>. about 16% want four days of in person instruction. 20% are flexible/hybrid where students come in two days (Monday/Tuesday or Thursday/Friday).

The board discussed policies around families taking children's temperatures before school, considerations for when classrooms, grades or schools would shut down if/when positive cases arise.

Riley Bauling introduced himself. He was originally a math teacher in Brooklyn, then a dean and principal. He shared that the leadership team at ECCP Middle School is strong. He has multiple touchpoints with Ashia Parks each week. Together they've been working on the following priorities:

1. Heathy and effective leadership team
2. Excellent execution of summer PD
  - a. Tons of connection, love and care for one another as teammates
  - b. Strong family outreach – understand families interests
  - c. A strong plan for remote instruction
3. Clear remote learning vision and training for teachers

Riley is meeting one-on-one with every teacher and heard consistent excitement about Ms. Parks. Feedback from teachers has been 100% agree or strongly agree with the strength and impact of the summer PD.

71% of families have responded thus far to the parent survey about what options they were interested in for the school year. 70% indicated they want a remote option which would be the 6-8 week period after the all-remote start to the year. They also heard from many families that they want more time to connect with teachers. There will be a daily advisory (25 min), and on Fridays a 45 minute grade-wide block for building connection and community. Families also wanted for enrichment even in a remote environment.

## **B. Board chair report**

The board discussed the categories in the annual CMO evaluation. Each topic was covered. The board emphasized the importance of receiving the PGP or some annual evaluation in advance

of the annual contract renewal.

Ken Paul updated the board on the fundraising goals for this year.

The board gave the highest ratings in each category.

Dick Ferguson asked the board to complete their conflict of interest disclosure forms and send them to Sarah Blanton.

RESOLVED, the Elm City College Preparatory Board of Directors hereby elects the following leadership slate for the 2020-21 fiscal year:

Dick Ferguson, Chair

Julia Halberstam, Vice Chair

Laura Saverin, Treasurer

Stephanie Ma, Secretary

Motion by Prish Pierce

Second by Patric Gregory

All in favor

The board reviewed the committee appointments listed below:

Finance: Laura Saverin (chair), Dick Ferguson, Pat Gregory, Julia Halberstam

Governance: Stephanie Ma (chair), Dick Ferguson, Laura Saverin, Prish Pierce

Amistad Joint High School: Dick Ferguson, Laura Saverin, Julia Halberstam

Personnel: Julia Halberstam, Laura Saverin, Prish Pierce, Patric Gregory, Dick Ferguson

Dick Ferguson shared with the board the desire to bring two parents onto the board. He also articulated a desire to bring more people of color onto the board to have a total of ten or eleven directors.

Prior to adjournment, the board requested an update on the sale of the ECCP Middle School building on Dixwell Ave and the construction at the James St site.

## **V. Adjourn**

The meeting was adjourned by Dick Ferguson at 11:30 am. Motion by Laura Saverin. Seconded by Julia Halberstam. All in favor.