

**Elm City College Preparatory
Board of Directors**

Zoom Meeting

Monday, November 02, 2020, 5:30 pm

I. Call to Order and Attendance

The meeting was called to order at 5:32 pm by Dick Ferguson. The following board members, constituting a quorum, and Achievement First staff were in attendance:

Richard Ferguson - Yes	Shanice Adams, ECCP School Leadership
Laura Saverin - Yes	Christina Ellington, Regional Superintendent
Stephanie Ma - Yes	Ashia Parks, ECCP School Leadership
Prish Pierce - Yes	Karin Gould, ECCP School Leadership
Patric Gregory - Yes	Riley Bauling, Regional Superintendent
Julia Halberstam - Yes	Sarah Blanton, AF Network Support
LaVonta Bryant - Yes	Ken Paul, AF Network Support
	Dacia Toll, AF Network Support
	Rich Buery, AF Network Support

Public: Tanesha Forman, Peter Butler, Mrs. Johnson

II. Open session for public comment

Ms. Tanesha Forman commented on the need for improved communication with families.

III. Approve Minutes

RESOLVED, the Elm City College Preparatory Board of Directors hereby approves the meeting minutes from September 9, 2020.

Motion by Pat Gregory

Seconded by Laura Saverin

All in favor

IV. Discussion and Business

A. Principal Reports

The Elm City College Preparatory Elementary School team is preparing to go back to fully remote.

Ms. Shanice Adams, ECCP Elementary School principal, shared some images from the Zoom classes emphasizing the focus on belief and belonging. Most classes have 14-15 scholars in a

zoom with a maximum of 18.

Ms. Adams shared organizational health data and student climate results. They have been prioritizing the student experience and the student investment survey results were positive, with strong year over year improvement around belief and belonging, and teacher relationships.

Ms. Adams noted that they have not seen any significant backsliding in reading skills and they are looking ahead to ensure that reading groups meet the needs for scholars during remote learning.

Ms. Ashia Parks, Elm City College Prep Middle School principal, shared with the board the strong work the school did around social emotional learning. They've been trying to highlight top quality work as well as instill a sense of belief and belonging. She shared feedback from the student investment survey. Students report very high overall favorability around feeling safe and that they feel like they belong.

There was a mini adult pulse survey. The school is proud of the results some of which are up 15 points or more from the spring survey (staff feeling positively about working at ECCP MS, learning and developing in their roles and being able to do what they do best every day). There are areas where Ms. Parks named that they need to address, especially around staff morale which is considerably lower than the positive feeling that individuals have working at ECCP MS. Ms. Parks attributes this to the many changes the team has had to face: the new leadership team, new principal, hybrid learning, shifting from two to four grades.

Attendance looked strong in the first week of school, as measured by the percentage of scholars attending classes each day. However, as they've examined whether students are attending every class every day, the attendance was not as strong. This is concerning given the extent that it correlates with work completion.

The school is providing weekly progress reports.

Ms. Parks believes that because most families have opted for remote learning during chapter one, and because the number one priority is safety for scholars and staff, she believes that the change to fully remote is going to be smooth.

B. Joint High School Committee Report

Dick Ferguson gave the Joint High School Committee report noting enrollment and college

application data, and organizational health results. He shared the experience reported by Mr. Obas about remote learning and the hybrid experience which are remarkably similar because of in-person instruction at the high school often happening via Zoom.

28 students have applied to college, 22 of whom applied early decision.

C. Treasurer Report

Laura Saverin shared that all three schools are expecting break even budgets, given the updated budget approved at the last meeting. Enrollment is solid due to low attrition. The cash position is strong because per pupil funding came in since the last meeting.

RESOLVED, the Elm City College Preparatory Board of Directors hereby approves the financial report as presented.

Motion by Prish Pierce

Seconded by Julia Halberstam

All in favor

D. Introduction to Rich Buery

Dacia Toll joined the meeting to talk about her transition out of the CEO role. Rich Buery was introduced as the new President and the individual who will go through a validation process to be considered as her successor. The board asked Rich and Dacia questions about the path ahead and the ways in which they are thinking about ensuring stability and strength.

I. Adjourn

The meeting was adjourned at 6:38 pm by Dick Ferguson.