

Achievement First Bridgeport Academy

Board of Directors Meeting

November 5, 2020, 5:30 pm

Zoom Video Conference

I. Call to Order and Attendance

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

Dick Kalt - Yes	Samantha Lucky, AFBA School Leadership
Marlene Macauda - No	Petrina Hospedales, AFBA School Leadership
Debra Hertz - Yes	Domonique Marshall, AFBA School Leadership
Kimberly Bruce - No	Christina Ellington, AF Network Support
Michael Strambler - Yes	Michael Hendricks, AF Network Support
Ruben Felipe – Yes	Sarah Blanton, AF Network Support
Ebrima Jobe - No	Ken Paul, AF Network Support
Rajeev Lakra - Yes	Dacia Toll, AF Network Support
Dewey Loselle - Yes	Richard Buery, AF Network Support

II. Open Session for Public Comment

There was no public comment.

III. Approve Minutes

RESOLVED, the AF Bridgeport Academy Board of Directors hereby approves the meeting minutes from September 17, 2020.

Motion by Debra Hertz

Seconded by Dewey Loselle

All in favor

IV. Discussion and Business

A. Principal Reports

Ms. Samantha Lucky, principal of AF Bridgeport Elementary School, updated the board on the decision to go remote until December 7th.

While the priority is still for the students to feel safe and happy, they are also focused on ensuring kids are doing high quality work. The pulse survey of students had an 87% response rate and despite the challenges of hybrid instruction, kids were feeling good about their experience. There will be a family survey in the next week so Ms. Lucky will have a better sense

of how AFBA Elementary School families are feeling.

She shared quotes from staff about their satisfaction with the leadership team.

The board discussed attrition data which is largely because of families leaving the area, especially in kindergarten. Backfilling allowed for the enrollment number of remain steady.

Michael Hendricks, regional superintendent, provided the update for AF Bridgeport Middle. Student and staff safety is the top priority and they feel on track there. All social distancing guidelines and PPE equipment is in place.

AF Bridgeport Middle School is focused on creating a positive classroom culture where kids feel seen and loved and investment is high. The school met its goals for student investment and work completion.

Mr. Hendricks shared student pulse survey results and in December there will be a formal survey. In three weeks there will be an organizational health survey for staff. They just hired a new science teacher and there have been no mid-year departures.

He shared that they are rethinking how to assess academics given all the changes students have been through. AF decided not to run its typical interim assessment (IA) in the fall. There are unit assessments in each class but the data is not normed across schools. There are summative assessments, reading assessments and mock exams for scholars.

B. Joint High School Committee Report

Dick Kalt shared that the high school has put safety as the top priority and they will be remote until December 7th.

Twenty eight students have applied to college already 22 of whom applied early decision.

Mr. Kalt shared some organizational health data.

C. Finance Committee Report

Mr. Rajeev Lakra noted that the schools are in a strong position financially. All three schools, AF Bridgeport Elementary, Middle and Amistad High School are either break even or at a slight surplus.

RESOLVED, the AF Bridgeport Academy Board of Directors hereby approves the financial report as presented.

Motion by Rajeev Lakra

Seconded by Mike Strambler

All in favor

D. Introduction to Rich Buery

Dacia Toll shared with the board her sentiments around her decision to depart after 21 years. She believes that this transition will be healthy and important for AF. There are advantages and disadvantages to having a founder led organization and Ms. Toll deeply believes this is what is best for the organization. She shared her hopes that Rich Buery, AF's current President, will be approved as the next CEO.

Mr. Rich Buery introduced himself and shared his background and engaged the board in a discussion about his leadership and the future of AF.

V. Adjourn

The meeting was adjourned at 7:01 pm by Mike Strambler.

Motion by Ruben Felipe

Seconded by Rajeev Lakra

All in favor