

- DRAFT -

## **Joint Meeting of the Achievement First School Boards of Directors**

**Amistad Academy, Elm City College Preparatory,  
AF Bridgeport Academy, AF Hartford Academy,  
AF Brooklyn and AF Rhode Island**

Zoom meeting  
Wednesday, January 20, 2021  
5:30 – 7:00 pm

### **I. Call to Order and Attendance**

The meeting was called to order at 5:32 pm by Dick Ferguson, Elm City College Preparatory Board Chair. The following board members and Achievement First Staff were in attendance:

**Amistad Academy Board Members in Attendance:** Carolyn Greenspan, Lorraine Gibbons, Jane Levin, Ethan Tyminski, Patricia Sweet, Tyra Smallwood, Priyanka Junankar (Yale SOM Board Fellow)

**Elm City College Preparatory Board Members in Attendance:** Dick Ferguson, Laura Saverin, Patric Gregory, Stephanie Ma, Julia Halberstam, LaVonta Bryant, Nicola Fleischer (Yale SOM Board Fellow)

**AF Bridgeport Academy Board Members in Attendance:** Dick Kalt, Rajeev Lakra, Marlene Macaudo, Debra Hertz, Ebrima Jobe, Mike Strambler, Kimberly Bruce, Dewey Loselle

**AF Hartford Academy Board Members in Attendance:** Patsy Mundy, Bildade Augustin, Ja Hannah, Alice Turner, Lisa Tanen-LaFontaine

**AF Rhode Island Board Members in Attendance:** Mayor Jorge Elorza, Reshma Singh, Ben Smith, James Wiley, Maryellen Butke

**AF Brooklyn Board Members in Attendance:** Deb Shanley, Romy Coquillet, Jon Atkeson, Kevin Miquelon, Chris Lynch, Warren Young, Will Robalino, Justin Cohen, Theresa Hayes

**Achievement First Staff:** Dacia Toll, Rich Buery, Sarah Blanton, Ken Paul, Katie Rosa Moher, Paul Astuto, Albert Pulido, Elise Major, Connor McGann, Jasmine Jeffers

**Public:** Genevive Walker, Peter Butler, Shalia Garnett, Tanesha Forman

## **II. Presentation and Discussion of AF Vision Process**

Mr. Rich Buery gave a presentation on AF's Vision Process. AF's goal is to bring a broad cross section of the AF community together to define a vision of excellence and create multi-year plan.

Following the presentation, the boards discussed what their dreams are for the AF graduates and the skills and mindsets they hope AF students develop. This discussion will help define the graduate aims which will inform the goals for the network and the strategic plan for the organization.

## **III. Adjourn to individual meeting (15 minute break)**

The joint meeting was adjourned at 7:02 pm. Motion by Dick Kalt. Second by Dick Ferguson.

### **Achievement First Bridgeport Academy**

#### **Board of Directors Meeting**

January 20, 2021, 7:15 pm

Zoom meeting

## **IV. Call to order**

The AF Bridgeport Board meeting was called to order at 7:21 pm following a break from the joint meeting. The following directors, constituting a quorum, were in attendance: Dick Kalt, Debra Hertz, Marlene Macaуда, Rajeev Lakra, Dewey Loselle, Mike Strambler, Shalia Garnett

Sarah Blanton recorded the minutes.

## **V. Public Comment**

There was no public comment.

## **VI. Approve Minutes**

RESOLVED, the AF Bridgeport Academy Board of Directors hereby approves the meeting minutes from November 5, 2020.

Motion by Debra Hertz

Seconded by Dewey Loselle

All in favor

## **VII. Discussion and Business**

### **A. Board Chair Report**

Dick Kalt updated the board on the Amistad Joint High School Committee meeting noting the strong organizational health results and early decision college acceptance results. Senior Signing Day is going to take place but is likely to be virtual.

The biggest challenge the high school is facing involves the number of students who are struggling academically and are disengaged from remote learning. The leadership team is working on strategies to engage students for the third and fourth quarter of the school year.

School is scheduled to reopen for hybrid learning on March 2<sup>nd</sup>. Special services are ongoing.

Dick Kalt introduced Shalia Garnett who was nominated by Ms. Samantha Lucky to serve as the teacher representative. Ms. Garnett shared her interest in serving on the board.

RESOLVED, the AF Bridgeport Academy Board of Directors elects Ms. Shalia Garnett to serve as a Teacher Representative with a three year term ending June 30, 2023 and does, effective January 20, 2021, set the number of members of the Board of Directors at ten (10).

Motion by Dick Kalt

Seconded by Debra Hertz

All in favor

### **B. Treasurer Report**

Mr. Rajeev Lakra gave the treasurer report including the year to date financials, the FY20 audited financial statements and the status of the PPP loan.

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

Motion by Debra Hertz

Seconded by Marlene Macauda

All in favor

RESOLVED, the AF Bridgeport Academy Board of Directors hereby accepts the report of the independent auditors CohnReznick prepared in relation to the fiscal year ending 6/30/20.

Motion by Debra Hertz

Seconded by Marlene Macauda

All in favor

**VIII. Adjourn**

The meeting was adjourned at 7:45 pm by Dick Kalt.

Motion by Debra Hertz

Seconded by Rajeev Lakra

All in favor