

Achievement First (AF) Brooklyn Charter Schools

Board of Trustees Meeting

Thursday, January 28, 2021

Zoom Video Conference

- DRAFT MEETING MINUTES -

Board Members in Attendance: Deb Shanley, Romy Coquillette, Jon Atkeson, Warren Young, Andy Hubbard, Kevin Miquelon, Chris Lynch, Alison Richardson, Theresa Hayes, Will Robalino, Amy Samuels

Staff and Guests in Attendance: Sarah Blanton, Ken Paul, Dacia Toll, Amy Christie, Jasmine Daniels, Maura Bonanni

Sarah Blanton recorded the minutes. The meeting was called to order at 6:05 pm by Deb Shanley.

1. Public Comment

There was no public comment.

2. Committee Reports

Real Estate Committee: Eduardo del Valle updated the board on the current projects.

- Having closed the deal with Civic Builders for AF Linden MS, AF is currently in the process of selecting an architect for the building.
- AF is finalizing negotiations for incubator site in Bushwick for AF Ujima HS which would be a good space for the first three years.
- The work is ongoing for AF Queens ES #1 work is ongoing.

Finance Committee: Victor De La Paz shared the year to date financials through November (the most recent closed month) with AF Brooklyn schools. Enrollment, which drives revenue, is strong. Warren Young drew attention to the new schedule which shows how cash on hand is being earmarked for future expenses.

3. AF through College: Early Decision Update and Bridge Funding Update

Amy Christie updated the board on the early decision results from AF Brooklyn HS, AF University Prep, AF East Brooklyn HS. This year, almost every college was SAT optional which led to significant increases in the size of the applicant pool for early decision. Nonetheless, the team feels good about these results.

Ms. Christie gave a quick overview of Bridge Funding and the awards for the class of 2020. FAFSA is based on prior year taxes so the team anticipates having to work with colleges on the financial realities that our families may be currently facing because of COVID.

Dacia Toll praised the College Team for their hard work and the outstanding Early Decision results, as well as the board's commitment to Bridge Funding as a means to get kids into schools where they are more likely to persist.

AF will support Bridge Funding with philanthropy. There is a philanthropy line item in the Brooklyn budget. The board expressed support for allocating this philanthropy towards Bridge Funding. In addition to that amount, AF is committing to raising additional philanthropy for Bridge Funding.

4. Board Business

RESOLVED, the AF Brooklyn Board of Trustees hereby earmarks up to \$250K of private revenue from the FY21 budget to be invested in the Bridge Funding program.

Motion by Jon Atkeson

Second by Warren Young

All in favor

RESOLVED, the AF Brooklyn Board of Trustees, pursuant to article IV of its by-laws, hereby elects Theresa Hayes to serve an additional one-year term that shall expire on June 30, 2021.

Motion by Warren Young

Second by Romy Coquillette

All in favor

RESOLVED, the AF Brooklyn Board of Trustees hereby approves the financial report as presented.

Motion by Deb Shanley

Second by Andy Hubbard

All in favor

RESOLVED, the AF Brooklyn Board of Trustees hereby approves the meeting minutes from November 12, 2020.

Motion by Deb Shanley

Second by Jon Atkeson

All in favor

WHEREAS the Achievement First Brooklyn Board of Trustees has reviewed, considered and vetted the relevant facts and circumstances concerning the subject of these Resolutions;

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Achievement First Brooklyn Board of Trustees approves the plan to revise the enrollment plan of Achievement First Voyager Middle School to serve grades 6-8 beginning in the 2021-22 school year, subject to approval by the charter authorizer; and

RESOLVED FURTHER, that the Achievement First Brooklyn Board of Trustees hereby authorizes and directs Achievement First Network Support and the schools to take and carry out such action as required in connection with the foregoing Resolution.

Motion by Deb Shanley

Second by Alison Richardson

All in favor

RESOLVED, the AF Brooklyn Board of Trustees hereby delegates to the Academic Committee the authority to consider and approve recommendations of individuals to serve in the role of interim principal for a period of time not to exceed six months; and make a recommendation to the full Board in the event that an interim principal shall serve for a period of time longer than six months.

Motion by Deb Shanley

Second by Romy Coquillette

All in favor

5. Additional Updates

Victor De La Paz shared that he is likely to be departing AF as CFO to pursue an opportunity to be the Chief Financial Officer for the Peace Corp under the Biden Harris administration.

Deb Shanley shared that she and Romy are working to identify strong candidates for the AF Brooklyn Board. She also reminded the board that schools plan to reopen on March 9th with hybrid learning. Rich Buery shared that reopening is a very challenging decision for teachers, leaders and families. AF is working very hard to ensure a safe reopen.

Ms. Shanley thanked all board members who were able to attend the joint meeting on January 20th to discuss AF's Vision Process.

6. Adjourn

It was unanimously decided to adjourn the meeting at 8:15 pm.

Motion by Warren Young

Second by Will Robalino

All in favor