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**Achievement First Bridgeport Academy**

**Board of Directors Meeting**

May 20, 2021, 5:30 pm

Zoom Video Conference

I. Call to Order and Attendance

The meeting was called to order at 5:35 pm by Dick Kalt. The following board members and Achievement First Staff were in attendance:

Dick Kalt - Yes	Samantha Lucky, AF School Leadership
Marlene Macaуда - Yes	Annedrea Coleman, AF School Leadership
Debra Hertz - Yes	Christina Ellington, AF Network Support
Kimberly Bruce - Yes	Sarah Blanton, AF Network Support
Michael Strambler - Yes	Ken Paul, AF Network Support
Ruben Felipe – Yes	Neil Shah, AF Network Support
Ebrima Jobe – Yes	Xanthe Jory, AF Network Support
Rajeev Lakra - Yes	
Dewey Loselle - No	
Shalia Garnett - Yes	

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 May 12, 2021.

Motion by Debra Hertz

Seconded by Marlene Macaуда

All in favor

IV. Discussion and Business

A. Principal Reports

Ms. Sam Lucky, AF Bridgeport Elementary School principal, began her report by discussing SBAC testing and the scholar pulse survey results which they feel good about. The annual talent show (virtual) is coming up tomorrow. They are busy planning end of year activities. All grades will participate in a drive through parade.

Ms. Lucky shared her excitement about their community garden, done in partnership with the Green Village Initiative which will include summer opportunities for families to plant. They also have new school colors and a new mascot – the panther!

She reviewed AF guidelines for the next school year. They are going back to in-person learning, five days a week with remote options for students with qualifying conditions. The leadership team will remain the same and staff retention is very high. Her priorities for next year are:

1. Safe and happy school culture,
2. Academic support and excellence for all.
3. Team and family community.

Ms. Lucky discussed strategies for addressing chronic absenteeism and attendance. The board discussed teacher/leader retention, parental engagement and student mental health.

Ms. Annedrea Coleman, AF Bridgeport Middle School principal, shared that they are currently in the middle of SBAC testing which has been both remote and in person. Students are going through end of year assessments which will be used to plan for next year.

She is feeling strong about planning for next year. They are looking forward to 8<sup>th</sup> grade graduation and the ways they are partnering with the elementary school on a Lead for Racial Equity workshop with an outside consultant.

They have a partnership with Great Oaks Foundation to provide tutoring next year. She shared her excitement about the solar panels on the building's roof and a more interactive science program.

Next year will be in person unless a scholar has a medical accommodation. The leadership team will welcome one new leader into the DSO seat when the current DSO moves to an AF school in Brooklyn. The incoming DSO has experience as a DSO at another school. 85% of staff are returning. Ms. Coleman's priorities for next year are:

1. Positive student experience
2. Strong reading program
3. Positive staff experience

## B. Joint High School Committee Report

Dick Kalt gave the Amistad Joint High School Committee report from the May 12<sup>th</sup> meeting.

A majority of the staff will be returning next year and Principal Simon Obas feelings strongly about the new staff who will join the team next year.

He shared the post-secondary plans of the senior class and the hard work of the college counselors. 96% of seniors have received at least one college acceptance but there are still many students who are figuring out their plans for next year.

Virtual Senior Signing Day will be June 3<sup>rd</sup> and graduation is June 24<sup>th</sup> in person. The last day of school for the senior class is May 21<sup>st</sup>.

AP exam results will be available in the summer but for now, because the school did not emphasize assessments over the course of the year, there is not a complete picture of academic performance.

The AFBA cohort at the high school is dropping by approximately 20 students next year.

### C. Board Chair Report

Dick Kalt gave an update on the Vision Process which has included three Summits, thus far. He described the focus and outcomes of each Summit and encouraged board members to participate if possible.

There are three directors who need to be re-elected and Sarah Blanton explained the different lengths of time presented in the following resolution.

RESOLVED, the AF Bridgeport Academy Board of Directors hereby ratifies the re-election of the following directors:

Ms. Marlene Macaуда, with a three year term ending June 30, 2024

Mr. Ebrima Jobe, with a two year term ending June 30, 2022

Ms. Kimberly Bruce, with a two year term ending June 30, 2023

Motion by Shalia Garnett

Seconded by Debra Hertz

All in favor

### D. Treasurer Report

Rajeev Lakra, treasurer, gave the financial update. The cash position is strong and the schools are on budget. The proposed FY22 budget may be readjusted in the future but for now, the school budgets are based largely on the core AF model along with the COVID program which will include federal stimulus funds.

There is no update on the PPP loan forgiveness. Neil Shah noted the board will be asked to reappoint the audit firm, CohnReznick.

RESOLVED, the AF Bridgeport Academy Board of Directors hereby ratifies the re-appointment of CohnReznick to perform the financial audit of the 2020-21 fiscal year.

Motion by Rajeev Lakra

Seconded by Mike Strambler

All in favor

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

Motion by Marlene Macaуда

Seconded by Ebrima Jobe

All in favor

RESOLVED, the AF Bridgeport Academy Board of Directors hereby approves the financial budget as prepared by Achievement First for the 2021-22 fiscal year.

Motion by Rajeev Lakra

Seconded by Marlene Macaуда

All in favor

Prior to the conclusion of the meeting, Ms. Xanthe Jory, AF's new Chief Operating Officer, introduced herself. Her background is in education, having founded and led a charter school in the Bronx and she also worked at the NYC Department of Education. She's excited to bring her school leadership experience and also her operations experience to this role. She spoke about areas where she plans to focus her attention in the near term, including enrollment and data systems.

#### V. Adjourn

There being no addition business before the board, meeting was adjourned at 6:47 pm by Dick Kalt.

Motion by Debra Hertz

Seconded by Marlene Macaуда

All in favor