

- Draft Minutes -
AF Hartford Academy
Board of Directors
September 13, 2021, 5:30 pm
Zoom Video Conference

I. Call to Order and Attendance

The meeting was called to order at 5:34 pm by Patsy Mundy. The following board members, constituting a quorum, and Achievement First staff were in attendance:

Patsy Mundy - Yes	Raven Obas, AFBA School Leadership
Bildade Augustin - Yes	Emily Wojtusik, AFHA School Leadership
Ja Hannah - Yes	Laneka Thomas, AFHA School Leadership
Alice Turner - Yes	Claire Shin, AF Network Support
David Dee - Yes	Michael Hendricks, AF Network Support
Lisa Tanen-LaFontaine - No	Neil Shah, AF Network Support
Celina Whitmore - Yes	Sarah Blanton, AF Network Support
Jessica Glover - Yes	Ken Paul, AF Network Support
Erwin Hurst - Yes	

II. Open Session for Public Comment

There was no public comment.

III. Approve Minutes

RESOLVED, the AF Hartford Academy Board of Directors hereby approves the meeting minutes from May 10, 2021.

Motion by Billie Augustin

Seconded by Erwin Hurst, Sr

All in favor

IV. Discussion and Business

A. Discussion with AFHA principals

Ms. Raven Obas, shared that the start of the school year has been strong, despite challenges around managing the operations and logistics of the COVID safety protocol. Ms. Wojtusik added

that, at the middle school, they have been dealing with changes to staffing, coverage resulting in leaders covering instruction.

The principals each named the individual who they would recommend to serve as interim for a short period of time (less than two week) in the event they had to be out of the building.

The principals talked about parental engagement. Ms. Wojtusik talked about being thoughtful about timing and purpose to ensure that when parents are being asked to come together, they will get something out of it. Ms. Raven Obas talked about how to increase daily communication with families. They use Class Dojo to share videos, photos and quick updates on what the children are doing during the day. Engaging parents with Class Dojo as their kids are away from home during a difficult time helps families feel at ease that their children are safe and happy. Ms. Thomas underscored the importance of varying and extending the timing of engagement opportunities. Parents want to engage so the school must create structures to provide that. She also wants to expand how they think about parent engagement, beyond all school events. How is each teacher engagement with families? How can they leverage communication tools on a small scale?

B. Professional Growth Plan (PGP) Review

The board entered executive session to discuss the personnel matters related to the PGPs of the AFHA principals at 6:04 pm and invited Sarah Blanton, Claire Shin and Michael Hendricks to join. Motion by David Dee. Seconded by Billie Augustin.

The board exited executive session at 6:23 pm. Motion by Ja Hannah. Second by Jessica Glover. All in favor.

C. Finance Committee Report

Neil Shah joined the meeting to present the financial report. AFHA's PPP loan was forgiven in June. The FY21 fiscal year ended strongly.

In May, the board briefly discussed ESSER. Since then, AF engaged in a holistic process to ensure that we can use the money allocated over a multi-year period. This process was aligned to the five AF COVID response strategies putting dollars towards three in particular: design for physical safety, student experience, reading intervention.

Enrollment is strong.

Mr. Shah shared the proposed budgets.

RESOLVED, the AF Hartford Academy Board of Directors hereby approves the amended budget as recommended by the Finance Committee and prepared by Achievement First for the 2021-22 fiscal year.

Motion by Billie Augustin

Seconded by David Dee

All in favor

D. Board Chair Report

1. Discussion

a) CMO evaluation

Ms. Mundy requested that board members submit any feedback by September 27th. She will then submit to Sarah Blanton.

b) COI disclosure statements

Conflict of interest disclosure statements must be completed. Some board members have already done so.

c) Board committees

Ms. Mundy reviewed the board committee appointments.

Personnel Committee: Patsy Mundy, Billie Augustin and David Dee

AF Hartford HS Committee: Patsy Mundy, Alice Turner and Erwin Hurst, Sr.

Finance Committee: Patsy Mundy, Billie Augustin and Lisa Tanen-LaFontaine

d) Interim principal hiring process

The board discussed questions and considerations for adopting a policy for interim principals. Patsy Mundy, Billie Augustin and Erwin Hurst, Sr. will engage in this work between now and the November meeting.

2. Board business

The board briefly discussed each resolution prior to taking a vote.

RESOLVED, the AF Hartford Academy Board of Directors hereby elects the following leadership slate for the 2020-21 fiscal year:

Patsy Mundy, Chair
Erwin Hurst, Sr., Vice Chair
Bildade Augustin, Treasurer
Ja Hannah, Secretary

Motion by Billie Augustin

Seconded by Ja Hannah

All in favor

RESOLVED, the AF Hartford Academy Board of Directors hereby elects the following Directors to serve on the AF Hartford High School Joint Committee:

Patsy Mundy (Committee Chair)
Erwin Hurst, Sr
Alice Turner

Motion by Ja Hannah

Seconded by Jessica Glover

All in favor

RESOLVED, the AF Hartford Academy Board of Directors hereby elects the following Directors to serve on the AF Hartford Academy Finance Committee:

Bildade Augustin (Committee Chair)
Patsy Mindy
Lisa Tanen-LaFontaine

Motion by Ja Hannah

Seconded by Jessica Glover

All in favor

RESOLVED, the AF Hartford Academy Board of Directors hereby elects the following Directors to serve on the AF Hartford Academy Personnel Committee:

Patsy Mundy (Committee Chair)
David Dee
Bildade Augustin

Motion by Ja Hannah

Seconded by Jessica Glover

All in favor

RESOLVED, the AF Hartford Academy Board of Directors hereby approves the Family Handbook as presented by Achievement First.

Motion by Billie Augustin

Seconded by David Dee

All in favor

RESOLVED, the AF Hartford Academy Board of Directors hereby approves the following individuals to serve in the role of interim principal, as needed, for a term not to exceed two weeks, between September 14, 2021 and November 2, 2021

AF Hartford High School: Jahki Manley, Jo-Ann Dominique

AF Hartford Summit Middle School: Rochelle Collins

AF Hartford ES: Sueleidy Cruz

Motion by Billie Augustin

Second by Patsy Mundy

All in favor

V. Additional Business

There was no additional business.

VI. Adjourn

The meeting was adjourned at 7:13 pm by Patsy Mundy.

Motion by Billie Augustin

Seconded by David Dee

All in favor