



**AF Bridgeport Academy**

**Board of Directors**

Zoom Video Conference

Thursday, September 23, 2021, 5:30 pm

-Draft minutes-

I. Call to Order

The meeting was called to order at 5:33 pm by Dick Kalt. The following board members, constituting a quorum, and Achievement First Staff were in attendance:

Dick Kalt - Yes

Marlene Macaуда - No

Debra Hertz - Yes

Kimberly Bruce - Yes

Michael Strambler - Yes

Ruben Felipe – Yes

Ebrima Jobe – Yes

Rajeev Lakra - Yes

Dewey Loselle - Yes

Shalia Garnett - Yes

Samantha Lucky, AF School Leadership

Annedrea Coleman, AF School Leadership

Laura Fisher, AF School Leadership

Petrina Hospedales, AF School Leadership

Michael Hendricks, AF Network Support

Kristin Damo, AF Network Support

Sarah Blanton, AF Network Support

Ken Paul, AF Network Support

Neil Shah, 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 May 20, 2021.

Motion by Debra Hertz

Seconded by Michael Strambler

All in favor

IV. Discussion and Business

a. Principal Reports



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The principals discussed questions posed by the board in advance of the meeting. Ms. Coleman discussed COVID safety protocol and staffing challenges which may be further impacted by the vaccine mandate. She shared that students seem glad to be back in school. She reviewed the Middle School's strategies for ESSER spending.

Ms. Coleman discussed attendance and enrollment. Ms. Laura Fisher, the Director of Operations at AF Bridgeport Middle, feels confident that they will be at 100% enrolled on October 1<sup>st</sup>. AFBA Middle School has not yet reviewed their SBAC results.

Petrina Hospedales, Director of School Operations at AF Bridgeport Elementary, shared attendance and enrollment. They are working to get families off the waitlist to fill all empty seats.

Ms. Samantha Lucky shared that this is a very challenging year. She said her staff is rallying and the students are happy. Teachers are doing an excellent job making the classrooms a place where kids want to be. Ms. Lucky is checking in with staff to see how the vaccine mandate is affecting the staff.

There have been no positive COVID cases at school but some students have had to stay home because of contact outside of school.

#### b. Joint High School Committee Report

Dick Kalt updated the board about Amistad High School. He shared that Mr. Rod Bowen is the new regional sup working with Simon Obas.

Mr. Kalt reviewed academics, staff and school culture and COVID safety protocol. The school has gone to a block schedule with four, 90-minute periods each day. He noted there are a substantial number of AP and ECE courses and the disciplinary system is moving away from demerits and towards a more communicative, collaborative, engaged system.

#### c. Professional Growth Plan (PGP) Review

The board entered executive session at 6:26 pm to discuss the personnel matters related to the AFBA principals' performance and invited Sarah Blanton, Kristin Damo, Michael Hendricks and Ken Paul to join.

Motion by Rajeev Lakra  
Seconded by Debra Hertz  
All in favor



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The board exited executive session at 7:09 pm.

Motion by Dewey Loselle

Seconded by Michael Strambler

All in favor

d. Finance Committee Report

Neil Shah updated the board on the unaudited FY21 balance sheet which reflects that the PPP loan was forgiven and the amended budgets.

Mr. Shah then reviewed the Federal ESSER II/III restricted grant funding and the ways that AF is aligning the grant opportunities to AF's COVID Response Strategies. Each school chose from options for allocating grant resources aligned to one of the following three strategies: design for physical safety, student experience, reading intervention.

The board discussed the CT state funding formula and changes to potential per pupil funding for charter schools.

RESOLVED, the AF Bridgeport 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 Rajeev Lakra

Seconded by Ruben Felipe

All in favor

e. Board Chair Report

Mr. Kalt reminded the board that the CMO evaluation is submitted on an annual basis. He encouraged the board to review the copy he emailed and give feedback.

Each board member will need to complete the conflict of interest disclosure statement and send to Sarah Blanton.

Mr. Kalt noted the board will vote for committee appointments.

Mr. Kalt shared that the board will vote on interim principals for the elementary and middle school who might serve for a short period of time, as defined as less than two weeks.



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i. Board Business

RESOLVED, the AF Bridgeport Academy Board of Directors hereby elects the following leadership slate for the 2021-22 fiscal year:

Richard Kalt, Chair

Michael Strambler, Vice Chair

Rajeev Lakra, Treasurer

Marlene Macaуда, Secretary

Motion by Ruben Felipe

Seconded by Dewey Loselle

All in favor

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

Richard Kalt

Michael Strambler

Kimberly Bruce

Motion by Rajeev Lakra

Seconded by Dewey Loselle

All in favor

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

Rajeev Lakra (Committee Chair)

Richard Kalt

Dewey Loselle

Motion by Ebrima Jobe

Seconded by Ruben Felipe

All in favor

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

Richard Kalt (Committee Chair)

Michael Strambler

Debra Hertz

Motion by Dewey Loselle



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Seconded by Rajeev Lakra  
All in favor

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

Motion by Rajeev Lakra  
Seconded by Dewey Loselle  
All in favor

RESOLVED, the AF Bridgeport Academy Board of Directors hereby approves the following individuals to serve as interim principal, as needed, for a term not to exceed two weeks, between September 24, 2021 and November 5, 2021.

Lauren D'Addario, AF Bridgeport Elementary  
Stephanie Fox, AF Bridgeport Middle  
Motion by Dick Kalt  
Seconded by Rajeev Lakra  
All in favor

## II. Adjourn

The meeting was adjourned at 7:55 pm by Dick Kalt.

Motion by Rajeev Lakra  
Seconded by Dewey Loselle  
All in favor



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**AF Bridgeport Academy**  
Recommended Resolutions

**Resolution 1:**

RESOLVED, the AF Bridgeport Academy Board of Directors hereby approves the meeting minutes from May 20, 2021.

**Resolution 2:**

**Resolution 3:**



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