

- DRAFT -

AF Bridgeport Academy Board of Directors

Zoom Video Conference

Thursday, March 17, 2022

5:30 p.m.

I. Call to Order

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

Kimberly Bruce - No	Stephanie Keenoy, Superintendent
Ruben Felipe - No	Kristin Damo, Regional Superintendent
Shalia Garnett - Yes	Michael Hendricks, Regional Superintendent
Debra Hertz - Yes	Stephanie Fox, AF Bridgeport Academy Middle
Ebrima Jobe - Yes	Laura Fisher, AF Bridgeport Academy Middle
Dick Kalt - Yes	Beth Cocuzza, AF Network Support
Raj Lakra - Yes	Connor McGann, AF Network Support
Dewey Loselle - Yes	Ken Paul, AF Network Support
Marlene Macaуда - No	Neil Shah, AF Network Support
Michael Strambler - Yes	Megan Tokarski, AF Network Support

Public: Terrie-Ann Marshall

II. Public Comment

There was no public comment.

III. Board Business

A. Approve Minutes

RESOLVED, the AF Bridgeport Academy Board of Directors hereby approves the meeting minutes from January 19, 2022.

Motion by Raj Lakra

Seconded by Debra Hertz

All in favor

B. Approve Financial Report

Neil Shah, Chief Financial Officer, presented AF Bridgeport Academy's year-to-date financial statements, through January 31, 2022, including the balance sheet and profit-and-loss statements for the charter and individual schools, as previously reviewed with the Board's Finance Committee. Overall, AF Bridgeport Academy is projecting a balanced budget.

In May 2022, the Board will review AF Bridgeport Academy's year-to-date financial statements, through March 31, 2022, as well as vote on the budget for FY23 (2022-23).

Representing the Finance Committee, Raj Lakra and Dewey Loselle reported that AF Bridgeport Academy's financial condition continues to be historically strong, notably due to government-funded COVID support. The charter is also managing cash flow well.

Dick Kalt asked if there were any changes with regard to how AF Bridgeport Academy's ESSER funds will be applied. Mr. Shah confirmed no changes since the revised spending forecast for FY22 (2021-22) shared at the January 19, 2022, meeting. A FY23 (2022-23) ESSER spending plan will be included in the May 2022 financial report.

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

Motion by Dewey Loselle

Seconded by Michael Strambler

All in favor

IV. Discussion and Additional Business

A. Vote to Approve Shalia Garnett to Serve as AF Bridgeport Academy Elementary Interim Principal

RESOLVED, the AF Bridgeport Academy Board of Directors hereby approves Shalia Garnett to serve as Interim Principal for AF Bridgeport Academy Elementary, for the period of April 22, 2022, to June 1, 2022.

Motion by Raj Lakra

Seconded by Debra Hertz

All in favor (Shalia Garnett Abstained)

B. Schools Discussion with Regional Superintendents

Michael Hendricks gave a report about AF Bridgeport Academy Middle. The school just finished the first round of mock ELA assessments, which will provide an indicator of potential student outcomes on state assessments. The mock Math assessments will be administered next week. Critical hiring for the 2022-23 school year is underway, in partnership with AF's Team Recruit.

Kristin Damo delivered a report about AF Bridgeport Academy Elementary. The school continues to be in a strong place in terms of adult culture and staff retention, with 93% of staff projected to return for the 2022-23 school year (one of highest intent-to-return rates in the AF network). In her capacity as Interim Principal during Principal Samantha Lucky's family leave, Lauren D'Addario has been working on hiring for 2022-23. Ms. D'Addario will be out on family leave beginning in April 2022, and Shalia Garnett will take over as Interim Principal until Ms. Lucky returns. Three school leaders will simultaneously be out on family leave when Ms. Garnett steps into the Interim Principal role, so Ms. Damo plans to spend additional time at the school to support Ms. Garnett and the Leadership Team. Student suspensions remain low, and more than 85% of students and families report feeling positive about AF Bridgeport Academy Elementary. The mid-year reading assessment cycle recently concluded. Students are making progress, but there is still room for improvement.

- Raj Lakra asked if Ms. Damo has noticed any drop-off or change in student or staff culture while Ms. Lucky has been out on family leave. Ms. Damo said there was not. Ms. D'Addario has been at AF Bridgeport Academy Elementary for nearly a decade and has strong relationships with students, families, and staff.

C. Proposed Executive Session: Personnel Discussion Regarding Principal Renewal Offer for 2022-23 School Year and Principal Appointment

Prior to entering Executive Session, Dick Kalt introduced Stephanie Fox and reported a positive Personnel Meeting. He offered board members an opportunity to ask Ms. Fox any questions. Dewey Loselle asked about Ms. Fox's perception of AF Bridgeport Academy Middle's greatest challenges, and Ken Paul prompted Ms. Fox to speak about the advantages of stepping into the Principal role now, with regard to being able to set a vision, oversee hiring, etc. for the 2022-23 school year.

The Board entered Executive Session at 6:04 p.m. and invited the following members of the Achievement First staff to join: Stephanie Keenoy, Kristin Damo, and Michael Hendricks. Shalia Garnett recused herself. Motion by Dewey Loselle. Seconded by Michael Strambler.

The board exited Executive Session at 6:31 p.m. Motion by Raj Lakra. Seconded by Michael Strambler.

RESOLVED, the AF Bridgeport Academy Board of Directors hereby approves Stephanie Fox to serve as Principal of AF Bridgeport Academy Middle, effective March 21, 2022.

Motion by Debra Hertz
Seconded by Raj Lakra
All in favor

RESOLVED, the AF Bridgeport Academy Board of Directors has discussed the performance of the AF Bridgeport Academy Principal intending to return for the 2022-23 school year and the compensation package as proposed by Achievement First, and hereby approves the renewal of the following Principal, with a final compensation package to be incorporated in the FY23 Budget, to be reviewed and approved in May 2022.

- Samantha Lucky, Principal, AF Bridgeport Academy Elementary

Motion by Raj Lakra
Seconded by Debra Hertz
All in favor

D. High School Committee Report

Dick Kalt summarized Principal Simon Obas's school report from the Amistad Academy Joint High School Committee Meeting, as recorded and published in the committee meeting minutes dated March 2, 2022.

E. Board Chair Report

There was no additional Board Chair Report.

V. Adjourn

The meeting was adjourned at 6:41 p.m. by Dick Kalt.

Motion by Debra Hertz

Seconded by Michael Strambler

All in favor