

DRAFT MINUTES

Achievement First (AF) Hartford Academy
Board of Directors Special Meeting
Zoom: <https://achievementfirst.zoom.us/j/8959180848>
Thursday, June 23, 2022, 9:00 am

I. Call to Order

The meeting was called to order at 9:04am by Patsy Mundy.

The following board members constituting a quorum and AF staff, were in attendance:

Board members: Patsy Mundy, Erwin Hurst, Lisa Tanen-La Fontaine, Celina Whitmore, Alice Monroe, Francoise Deristel-Leger

AF Staff: Isabel Tañedo

Isabel Tañedo recorded the minutes.

II. Public Comment

There was no public comment.

III. Discussion and Business

A. Retaining legal services

Ms. Mundy explained that issues may arise that necessitate the Board consulting its own legal counsel. Accordingly, Ms. Mundy proposed that the Board retain the services of Pullman & Comely, LLC and authorize the Board Chair to sign an engagement letter on behalf of the Board.

Alice Turner raised a question on retainer fees. Ms. Mundy confirmed there are none.

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Directors retain the services of Pullman & Comley, LLC as the Board's legal counsel and that the Board Chair be authorized to execute an engagement agreement with Pullman & Comley on behalf of Achievement First Hartford Academy, Inc.

Motion by Erwin Hurst

Seconded by Alice Turner, with the above follow-up question on retainer fees.

All in favor.

**B. Achievement First Hartford Academy Inc - Jumoke Academy Inc
Cooperative Arrangement Agreement**

Ms. Mundy presented an overview of the arrangement between Hartford Academy and Jumoke Academy, which is set to expire on June 30, 2022. Ms. Mundy also noted that

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it had been some time since the terms of the arrangement were reviewed closely and recommended that the Board vote to extend the arrangement for 1 year. Ms. Mundy added that if the Board did not vote to extend the arrangement, it is unclear what the repercussions would be. Accordingly, Ms. Mundy also proposed that the Board take time in the upcoming school year to evaluate the purpose, necessity and benefits of renewing the agreement.

Board members sought clarity on the history and purpose of the arrangement and what has changed since then. Questions included: what is the relationship between both academies? How many Jumoke scholars enroll into Hartford High School? What kind of work is done to draw enrollment of Jumoke scholars to Hartford High School?

Ms. Deriste-Leger proposed shortening the extension period to six months, or looking to enter into a different kind of agreement. Mr. Hurst noted that the agreement specifically laid out 1-year extensions and not less than that, and that the Jumoke Board has, in principle, agreed to that extension as well. Mr. Hurst instead proposed that the Board, in the coming school year, evaluate the agreement with legal counsel before deciding how to move forward. Ms. Mundy, Ms. Tanen-LaFontaine and Ms. Turner expressed support for this recommendation.

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Achievement First Hartford Academy Board of Directors hereby agrees to enter into a 1-year extension of the Cooperative Arrangement Agreement between Achievement First Hartford Academy, Inc. and Jumoke Academy, Inc., and authorizes the Board Chair to execute such a 1-year extension Agreement on the Board's behalf subject to any necessary legal review.

Motion by Lisa Tanen-La Fontaine

Seconded by Alice Turner

In favor: Patsy Mundy, Erwin Hurst, Lisa Tanen-La Fontaine, Alice Turner, Celina Whitmore

In opposition: Francoise Deriste-Leger.

Resolution passed: 5-1.

IV. Adjourn

Before adjourning, Mr. Hurst noted that this meeting was Ms. Mundy's last one. He and Ms. Tanen-LaFontaine extended their gratitude to Ms. Mundy for her leadership.

There being no other business, Ms. Mundy entertained a motion to adjourn the meeting.

Motion by Erwin Hurst

Seconded by Francoise Deristel-Leger.

All in favor.