



**DRAFT Minutes  
Amistad Academy  
Board of Directors Meeting**

Venue: Zoom

Zoom: <https://achievementfirst.zoom.us/j/7382361994>

Wednesday, December 7, 2022, 5:30-7:00 pm

**I. Call to Order**

The meeting was called to order by Ms. Lorraine Gibbons.

Attendees:

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

<b>Name</b>	<b>Present</b>	<b>Name</b>	<b>Present</b>
Patricia B. Sweet	Y	Shannelle Whyte	N
Lorraine Gibbons	Y	Yashira Agosto	N
Jennifer Alexander	N	Gayatri Mehta	Y
Ethan Tyminski	Y	Linda Darkwah	Y

The following AF Staff members were also in attendance: Lisa Margosian, Neil Shah, Karolyn Belcher, Xanthe Jory, John Sharkey, Beth Cocuzza, Rod Bowen, Brooke Williams, Lauren Raimondi, Rosie Basile, Sulafa Bashir, Ken Paul, Lashell Rountree, Nakia Hall

Sulafa Bashir recorded the minutes.

**II. Public Comment**

There was no public comment.

**III. Discussion with Achievement First**

**A. Principals' Reports**

Ms. Lauren Raimondi gave the elementary school Principal's report highlighting strong results for student culture surveys and classroom walkthroughs. She shared Beginning-of-Year (BOY) academic results in STEP reading and Math IA and described



some of the interventions being implemented to address student needs including guided reading and CGI.

Ms. Rosie Basille shared the middle school Principal's report, including similarly positive results as the elementary school for strong student culture and classroom walkthrough data. One outlier was the safety question which the school plans to hold a focus group with families to unpack some of the underlying concerns.

In sharing academic data, Ms. Basille highlighted the strong ELA results in 8th grade which was attributed to the teacher in that grade. She emphasized that the school is looking to capture best practices and share them with the other teachers to strengthen results in the other grades.

There was a discussion on school safety and general concerns around the country about safety as well as what resources could be accessed to strengthen this area.

#### **IV. Committee Reports**

##### **A. Amistad Joint HS Committee**

Mr. Rod Bowen gave a brief overview of Amistad high school's academic results and shared some of the challenges the school is having related to being understaffed, particularly in the areas of STEM and special education.

##### **B. Finance Committee**

Mr. Shah shared the Q1 financials as previously shared with the board in the pre-read materials.

#### **V. Board Discussion and Business**

##### **A. Approval of Previous meeting minutes and Interim Principal appointments**

Ms. Gibbons took the board members through a consent agenda which included the following resolutions:

It was:

RESOLVED, that the Amistad Academy Board of Directors hereby approves the meeting minutes from October 12, 2022.



Motion by Pat Sweet  
Second by Ethan Tyminski  
All in favor

It was:

RESOLVED, the **Amistad Academy** Board of Directors hereby approves the following individuals to serve as interim principals, as needed, based on the recommendations by Achievement First, between December 7, 2022 and June 30, 2023.

- Elementary School: Will Griffin
- Middle School: Jasmine Watts
- High School: AJ Lowe

Motion by Pat Sweet  
Second by Linda Darkwah  
All in favor

#### B. Update on CEO Search

Ms. Margosian shared that a CEO Search committee has been established and comprised board members, including parent reps, and AF staff. She stated that the committee has already vetted search firms and drafted the CEO job description. During the December/January break, potential candidates will be identified.

#### C. Other Business

Ms. Gibbons shared the calendar of upcoming board meetings in 2023.

## VI. Adjourn

The meeting was adjourned by Lorraine Gibbons at 6:40 pm

Motion by Pat Sweet  
Second by Linda Darkwah  
All in favor