



DRAFT Minutes
Achievement First Brooklyn
Board of Trustees Meeting

Venue: TFA, 25 Broadway, 12th floor - GC Room
Zoom: <https://achievementfirst.zoom.us/j/84342512506>
Wednesday, March 1, 2023, 6:00-7:00 pm

I. Call to Order

The meeting was called to order by Ms Romy Coquillette at 6:01 PM.

Attendees:

Trustees:

Name	Present	Name	Present
Romy Coquillette	Y	Desiree Dalton	Y
Christopher Lynch	Y	Akeem Frett	Y
Warren Young	Y	Anup Menon	N
Alison Richardson	Y	Kevin Miquelon	Y
Jon Atkeson	Y	Will Robalino	N
Rhonda Barros	N	Amy Arthur Samuels	Y
Tamika Bradley	Y	Josh Vidro	N
Paul Cabana	Y	Shawn Warner	N

AF Staff present: Lisa Margosian, Karolyn Belcher, Blakely Simoneau, Jesse Ballis-Harris, Rod Bowen, John Sharkey, Ken Paul, and Neil Shah

II. Public Comment

None.

III. Board Business: Vote on previous meeting minutes, Endeavor ES Interim Principal

Ms. CoQuillette noted that the meeting minutes from February 15, 2023 omitted the new number of trustees in the bylaws and will need to be amended.

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It was:

RESOLVED: Meeting minutes were approved for January 23, 2023 and February 16, 2023, with an amendment to February 16, 2023 to update the number of trustees.

Jesse Balis-Harris provided background on the need for an interim principal at Endeavor ES and information about the interim principal candidate.

Romy Coquillette called for a vote on the resolution to approve the interim principal candidate.

Motion by Amy Arthur Samuals
Second by Chris Lynch
All in favor.

It was:

RESOLVED: the AF Brooklyn Board of Trustees approved Mallory Bodhuin to serve as interim principal for Endeavor Elementary between March 1, 2023 and June 30, 2023, based on the recommendations by Achievement First.

IV. Board Discussion

A. Principal Mid-Year Reviews <Executive Session>

Romy Coquillette took the board through a motion to enter executive session to discuss principal reviews, inviting Lisa Margosian, Jesse Ballis-Harris, Karolyn Belcher, and Rod Bowen to join.

Motion by Jon Atkeson
Second by Desiree Dalton
All in favor

The board entered executive session at 6:09 PM and exited at 6:35 PM.

V. Discussion with Achievement First

A. Academic Progress and Curriculum Update

Ms. Coquillette invited Karolyn Belcher and John Sharkey to speak regarding academic progress and curriculum updates.



Ms. Belcher provided an update on the merger of East Brooklyn High School and Ujima High School. Ms. Belcher thanked Ms. Bradley and Ms. Dalton, who spoke with parents regarding the merger. Ms. Belcher provided an update on the candidate for the principal position at East Brooklyn High School for school year 2023-2024, who is still considering whether he will accept the position.

Karolyn Belcher and Rod Bowen described the ways Achievement First is supporting families, staff, and students during the merger of the two schools. There was a discussion about how parents were responding to the consolidation.

John Sharkey informed the board that Achievement First will be adopting an external curriculum in Kindergarten through 8th grade in Math, Science, and English Language Arts. The implementation will span several years and gains will likely be seen in the first year.

VI. Committee Reports

A. Finance Committee Report

Neil Shah shared the Finance Committee report. Mr. Shah offered a comparison of the balance sheets from June 2022 and December 2022. Mr. Shah also provided updates on net assets, which continue to be up year to year, and explained how declining enrollment has impacted the surplus. Mr. Shah noted that they still believe there will be a surplus. He also shared comparative data across other New York schools. He updated the board on the consolidation of bank accounts. Mr. Shah explained that there will be another finance committee meeting in March to discuss changes to the fiscal policies, and that the committee will update the board at the next board meeting.

Warren Young added that one of the strengths of their system is their financial position, and the results demonstrate that they continue to be in a strong position. Mr. Young noted that enrollment is impacting the surplus, but there will still be a surplus. He also noted that the trend of downwards enrollment is now stabilized. Mr. Young described the interest which they are receiving on their savings account, and thanked Mr. Shah for his work.

VII. Board Business

A. Proposed Consent Agenda: Previous meeting minutes, Endeavor ES Interim Principal

VIII. Adjourn (Followed by Board Training Session)

Ms. Coquilletta thanked Warren Young, Neil Shah, and Christopher Lynch for their work on the financial committee.



Ms. Coquillette suggested that other board members read through the updates on the Network Strategic Imperatives and thanked Ms. Margosian for providing the update in the preread.

The meeting was adjourned at 7:08 pm.

Motion by Jon Atkeson
Seconded by Kevin Miquelon
All in favor