



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

Venue: Virtual Meeting

Zoom: <https://achievementfirst.zoom.us/j/8424626361>

Thursday, April 6, 2023, 4:00-5:00 pm

**I. Call to Order**

The meeting was called to order by Ms. Lorraine Gibbons at 4:08 pm.

Attendees:

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

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

**AF Staff:** Sulafa Bashir, Rod Bowen, Brooke Williams, Shannon Williams-Paden, Caleb Dolan

Guests: Ms. Barnetta Haywood

**II. Public Comment**

There was public comment by Ms. Barnetta Haywood who is an Amistad Academy parent.

Ms. Haywood stated a concern with bullying involving her daughter at the middle school.

Ms. Gibbons thanked Ms. Haywood for her comment and stated that the board would take the comments under consideration and respond at the following board meeting per the standard public comment protocol.

**III. Board Discussion**

[achievementfirst.org](http://achievementfirst.org)



- A. Proposed Executive Session: Personnel discussion regarding board approval of principal candidates and principal renewal offers for the 2023-24 school year

Ms. Gibbons took the board through a motion to go into Executive Session to discussed the principal renewals and appointments, inviting the AF staff to join.

Motion by Pat Sweet.  
Second by Yashira Zwisler  
All in favor.

The board entered into executive session at 4:12 pm and exited at 4:36 pm.

Ms. Gibbons took the board through the following two resolutions for principal renewals and appointments:

It was:

RESOLVED, the Amistad Academy Board of Directors hereby approves the renewal of the following principals, with a final compensation package to be incorporated in the FY24 Budget to be reviewed and approved in May 2023:

- a. Lauren Raimondi, Amistad Academy Elementary School
- b. Simon Obas, Amistad Academy High School

And further, it was:

RESOLVED, the Amistad Academy Board of Directors hereby appoints Jasmine Watts as principal of Amistad Academy Middle School effective July 1, 2023.

Motion by Pat Sweet.  
Second by Yashira Zwisler  
All in favor.

- B. Healthy Food Certification

Ms. Gibbons took the board through the following two resolutions for healthy food as required by the State.

It was:



- RESOLVED that, pursuant to C.G.S. Section 10-215f, the Amistad Academy Board of Directors certifies that all food items offered for sale to students in the schools under its jurisdiction, and not exempted from the Connecticut Nutrition Standards published by the Connecticut State Department of Education, will comply with the Connecticut Nutrition Standards during the period of July 1, 2023, through June 30, 2024. This certification shall include all food offered for sale to students separately from reimbursable meals at all times and from all sources, including but not limited to school stores, vending machines, school cafeterias, culinary programs, and any fundraising activities on school premises sponsored by the school or non-school organizations and groups.
- RESOLVED that, the Amistad Academy Board of Directors will allow the sale to students of food items that do not meet the Connecticut Nutrition Standards provided that the following conditions are met: 1) the sale is in connection with an event occurring after the end of the regular school day or on the weekend; 2) the sale is at the location of the event; and 3) the food items are not sold from a vending machine or school store. An “event” is an occurrence that involves more than just a regularly scheduled practice, meeting, or extracurricular activity. For example, soccer games, school plays, and interscholastic debates are events but soccer practices, play rehearsals, and debate team meetings are not. The “regular school day” is the period from midnight before to 30 minutes after the end of the official school day. “Location” means where the event is being held and must be the same place as the food sales.

Motion by Pat Sweet.  
Second by Yashira Zwisler  
All in favor.

#### **IV. Adjourn**

The meeting was adjourned by Ms. Lorraine Gibbons at 4:40 pm.

Motion by Pat Sweet.  
Second by Yashira Zwisler  
All in favor.