



AF Hartford Academy Board Meeting Minutes - Draft

Achievement First

Tuesday, June 9, 2026 at 5:30 PM to 7:00 PM EDT

Zoom: <https://achievementfirst.zoom.us/j/81056496007>

Attendees

Board Members: Erwin Hurst, Sr., Leonard Epps, Francoise Deristel-Leger

AF staff: Amy D'Angelo, Olivia Levey, Samantha Lucky, Ash Rodriguez, Ben Schanback, Sulafa Bashir

I. Call to Order

The meeting was called to order at 5:32 by Board Chair Erwin Hurst, Sr.

II. Public Comment

There were no members of the public present.

III. Welcome and Agenda Overview

CT Executive Director Amy D'Angelo welcomed the board members and AF staff and started the meeting with acknowledgements of the school year's end and gratitude to school leaders, highlighting AF Hartford Academy's three-year charter renewal and introducing the new Chief of Academic Programs Lavinia Mackall who joined AF earlier in the month.

IV. Mission Moment

Sam Lucky presented a mission moment highlighting the successful graduation at Hartford High and celebrated students moving on to great colleges. The Hartford Promise Scholarship was specially mentioned, noting significant representation from Achievement First students who received full scholarships. Principal Laneka Thomas was praised for her impactful speeches during graduation and senior signing day, underscoring her commitment and passion for K-12 work.

V. SY 26 Reflections and Looking Ahead to SY 27

Amy D'Angelo shared reflections focused on organizational priorities and lessons learned from the previous year. She highlighted the need to focus on outcomes rather than inputs, and a shift toward clarity of targets and goals, introducing shared metrics called "top line goals" to align network support teams and reduce the noise from multiple KPIs. The organization is pivoting to focus on key outcomes including enrollment, chronic absenteeism, daily attendance, and state test performance, with specific targets like 10% year-over-year gains on SBAC.

The board was informed of the appointment of Lavinia Mackall as the new Chief of Academic Program, expected to outline new academic priorities to be shared at the next meeting in the fall. Plans are underway to reinforce foundational math skills and implement strategic academic initiatives for anticipated improvements next year.

VI. Charter Renewal Update

Amy D'Angelo shared that charter renewal was granted for three years, with ongoing efforts to increase traditionally certified teachers. Board governance changes are planned to meet state requirements, including more meetings and teacher and parent representation. Continuous improvement will focus on special education and multi-language learners.

VII. Executive Session on EOY Principal Evaluations

Board Chair Erwin Hurst, Sr. stated that the board needed to go into executive session to discuss principal EOY evaluations. He requested a motion for the AF Hartford Academy Board to enter an Executive session to discuss this topic. The motion was made by Francoise Deristel-Leger and seconded by Erwin Hurst, Sr. All were in favor and the board entered the executive session at 5:57 pm and exited at 6:11 pm, following a motion by Erwin Hurst, Sr., seconded by Francoise Deristel-Leger.

VIII. Finance Committee Report

CFO Ben Schanback presented the FY26 results, showing an increase in revenue, partly due to having a few more students than budgeted. He walked the board through the proposed budget for FY 27, describing new state funding received that would be held in reserve for addressing long-term needs. He also introduced a capital budget, detailing investments in facilities improvements including auditorium renovations, and stated that some of these would be funded from ERC. He requested the board's approval on the \$18 million balanced budget for FY 27.

Operating Budget	FY 2027 <i>(\$ in millions)</i>	Capital Budget	FY 2027 <i>(\$ in millions)</i>
Revenue			
Per Pupil Revenue	\$13.1	Planned Cash Expenditures:	\$0.0
Employee Retention Credit Reserve	\$0.5	Planned ERC Expenditures:	\$0.6
Philanthropy	\$0.4	Planned Operating:	\$0.0
All Other	\$2.6	Planned Other Sources:	\$0.0
Total Revenue	\$18.1		
Expenses		Total Capital Expenditures:	\$0.6
Personnel	\$12.1		
Nonpersonnel	\$6.0		
Total Expenses	\$18.1		
Surplus/(Deficit):	\$0.0		

IX. Board Resolutions

Mr. Hurst, Sr. moved on to the approval of the board resolutions. He called for a motion to approve the resolutions through a consent agenda. The motion was made by Francoise Deristel-Leger and seconded by Erwin Hurst, Sr. All were in favor and the consent agenda passed.

Consent Agenda

1. BE IT RESOLVED, the AF Hartford Academy Board of Directors hereby approves the meeting minutes from April 28, 2026.
2. BE IT RESOLVED, that the AF Hartford Academy Board of Directors hereby approves the financial budget for the 2026-2027 fiscal year as presented.
3. BE IT RESOLVED that the AF Hartford Academy Prep Board of Directors hereby approves the following individuals to serve as interim principal as needed through October 31, 2026, for a period of time not to exceed sixteen weeks, based on the recommendations by Achievement First.

School	Interim Principal 1	Interim Principal 2
Elementary School	Jenn Arce	Reba Stanley
Middle School	Melissa Proano Keroack	Ashlie Alleyne
High School	Jahki Manley	Linda Darkwah

X. Adjourn

Prior to adjourning, Mr. Hurst, Sr. noted for the board members that the board meeting calendar dates had been set for next school year and shared with the board members. He added that calendar holds would be sent out during the month of July.

Mr. Hurst, Sr. also mentioned board member recruitment as a key focus area, and he mentioned ongoing efforts to recruit teacher and parent representatives in collaboration with the 3 school principals. He also encouraged board members to nominate potential board members with the goal of increasing the board size to 7 board members.

There being no other business, Mr. Hurst, Sr. called for a motion to adjourn the meeting. Francoise Deristel-Leger made the motion and was seconded by Erwin Hurst, Sr. All were in favor and the meeting adjourned at 6:20 pm.