

Approved: March 20, 2013



## **Achievement First Elm City College Preparatory**

### **Board of Directors Meeting**

January 23, 2013, 6:00-8:30 p.m.

#### ***Connecticut Boards Joint Session:***

**Achievement First Bridgeport Academy:** Cornelius Medas, Max Perez, Dick Kalt, Ed Raice, Chris Kunhardt, Melissa Ceriale, and Andy Boas.

**Achievement First Hartford Academy:** Jean LaVecchia, John Motley, Gretchen Unfried-English, Laura Estes, and James Morton.

**Elm City College Preparatory:** Dick Ferguson, William Heins, Patricia Pierce, Laura Saverin, Carolyn Greenspan, Joe Boskovski, and Deb Quinsee.

**Amistad Academy:** Jane Levin, Paul McCraven, Alexander Troy, Caroline Williams, Lisa Bonniefield, Sheri Gellman, Lorraine Gibbons, Michael D. Griffin, Melinda Hamilton, and Howard K. Hill.

#### ***Others in Attendance:***

Kelonda Maull, Lauren Miller, Reshma Singh, Tony Siddall, Ken Paul, Marc Michaelson, Laina Vlasnik Yip, Rhea Byer-Ettinger, Ken Paul, Bill Bouton, Theresa Neff-Webster, Candice Dormon, Sharon Richards, Amy Christie, Chris Bostock, Mary Ann Holland, Genna Weinstein, Amy Helbig, Candice Dormon, Pat Sweet, and Carolina Inciarte.

#### **Ms. Hamilton called the meeting to order at 6:06pm**

Ms. Hamilton welcomed everyone and asked for public comment. Hearing none, she asked Ms. Singh to give everyone an update on Advocacy and Facilities.

Ms. Singh gave an update on advocacy in Rhode Island, Connecticut and New York in 2013. She also discussed Student Recruitment and Expansion efforts for the year. Ms. Singh opened for questions and comments. Mr. Paul gave an update on philanthropy efforts for CT and opened for questions. Ms. Vlasnik Yip presented information on the Howard Fuller events in Hartford and Bridgeport, CT in early January.

Ms. Hamilton thanked Ms. Singh for all her work with the Achievement First Amistad High school project and then asked Mr. Bostock to present his Principal Report.

Mr. Bostock welcomed everyone and introduced himself. He spoke to the board regarding Amistad High's approach and key strategies for progress to college focusing on core academics, CAPT and SAT performance throughout the year. Mr. Bostock gave an update on student attendance this year. Furthermore, he discussed college readiness and the application process and where scholars are applying for college this year. Mr. Bostock gave the board an update on

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Alumni enrollment and graduation rates. He discussed his priorities for the year including planning, reading and homework and its importance. Mr. Bostock discussed some challenges this year and there continued focus on special education, increasing student leadership and student culture. He then opened for questions.

Ms. Holland spoke to the board regarding summer internships with Achievement First Amistad High for the year and gave examples of successes and how it helps with college readiness. She asked the board for internship opportunities and for their information. She opened for questions.

Ms. Hamilton then moved to discuss the Achievement First School Report Card and asked Ms. Inciarte to address the boards.

Ms. Inciarte gave background of the Achievement First report card and the performance measurement tool. She explained its importance for the organization and the meaning behind each schools score. Ms. Singh and Mr. Michaelson gave background to Achievement First standards and the high expectations for Achievement First and its internal use. Ms. Singh and Mr. Michaelson opened for questions.

Ms. Hamilton asked each board present to begin their separate board meetings hearing no other questions or comments.

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### *AF Elm City College Prep Individual Board Meeting:*

**Board members in attendance:** Dick Ferguson, William Heins, Patricia Pierce, Laura Saverin, Carolyn Greenspan, Joe Boskovski, Deb Quinsee.

**Others in attendance:** Sharon Richardson, Jenna Weinstein, March Michaelson, and Amy Helbig.

#### **Mr. Ferguson called the meeting to order at 7:57pm**

Mr. Ferguson asked if anyone had public comment, and there was none.

Mr. Michaelson, Regional Superintendent, spoke to the board regarding a book scholarship fund for scholars. Mr. Michaelson asked the board for participation in launching the 2013 campaign and if anyone is interested to contact him directly.

Mr. Ferguson gave an update on the Building Committee and the approval from the state regarding the abatement and demolition plans for Amistad High school. He spoke to the board concerning some challenges and opened for questions.

Mr. Ferguson asked the board to review the minutes. No changes were necessary.

Carolyn Greenspan moved to approve the November 28, 2012 Board Meeting Minutes.

Seconded: Will Heins

The Board voted unanimously to approve the minutes.

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Mr. Ferguson gave the board background on the Principal Professional Growth Plan (PGP) Committee and when the meetings will begin. Mr. Ferguson asked the board to approve the PGP Committee resolution.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the following board members of Achievement First Elm City Preparatory ("ECCP"), be and each hereby is, named to serve on the Principal Personal Growth Plan ("PGP") review committee of the board and shall serve a term of one year to review the PGP's for academic year 2012-2013, and shall serve consistent with the by-laws of the entity.

Name: Dick Ferguson,

Name: Carolyn Greenspan

Name: Will Heins

Name: Laura Saverin

Name: Patricia Peirce

Name: Deb Quinsee

Moved: Laura Saverin

Seconded: Will Heins

The Board voted unanimously to approve the PGP committee.

Mr. Ferguson asked the board to review and approve the Credit Card resolution.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that Achievement First is hereby authorized and directed to investigate and obtain a credit card in the account of this Corporation for **Shirley Harrell** and **Karin Gould**, Directors of School Operations, with a credit limit per Academy of \$30,000. Each Academy will have two cards, and each cardholder will have access to the full credit limit of that Academy to make reasonable and necessary purchases which are in the ordinary course of business of this Corporation and consistent with the Budget. The use of the card will be subject to the school's fiscal policies and procedures. They are hereby authorized and directed to serve as the primary contacts with the credit card company for all credit cards in the account of this Corporation. The use of the cards will be subject to the school's fiscal policies and procedures.

Moved: Will Heins

Seconded: Laura Saverin

The Board voted unanimously to approve the Credit Card resolution.

Ms. Saverin gave an update on the financials for Elm City College Prep. Ms. Saverin explained the DSO's share in budget cuts for the year. She spoke to the board concerning the Audit process and then opened for questions.

Mr. Ferguson asked the board to approve the Forecast Financials.

Will Heins moved to approve the January Financials.

Seconded: Patricia Pierce

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The Board voted unanimously to approve the January Financials.

Amy Helbig, Associate Director of Recruitment, gave an update to the board regarding teacher recruitment and gave background regarding the Teacher in Residence program and gave examples across the network. She then opened for questions.

Mr. Boskovski gave an update on Elm City College Prep and progress on interim assessments for the Middle School. He expressed they are preparing for CMTs and then opened for questions.

Mr. Ferguson spoke to the board regarding today's meeting and Amistad High. Mr. Heins feels it is very important to show Amistad High and its importance to the City of New Haven. Ms. Sweet spoke to the board and explained the high school is perfect for Visitor Days in the future.

**Mr Ferguson has no other business and adjourned the meeting at 8:29pm.**

Moved: Laura Saverin

Seconded: Patricia Pierce

The Board voted unanimously to adjourn.

Respectfully Submitted: \_\_\_\_\_