

**Achievement First Rhode Island
Board of Directors Meeting**

January 23, 2017, 5:30 pm – 7:00 pm
370 Hartford Avenue, Providence

The following board members, constituting a quorum, and Achievement First Staff were in attendance:

I. Call to Order & Attendance

The meeting was called to order at 6:05pm by Mayor Jorge Elorza.

Jorge Elorza, AFRI Board - Yes	Ken Paul, AF Network Support - Yes
Brian Gallogly, AFRI Board - Yes	Sarah Blanton, AF Network Support - Yes
Macky McCleary, AFRI Board - Yes	Elizabeth Winangun, AF Network Support - Yes
Reshma Singh, AFRI Board - No	Gina Musumeci, AF Network Support - Yes
Norman McCulloch, AFRI Board - No	Morgan Carter, School Leadership - No
John Igliazzi, AFRI Board - No	Kevin Lohela, School Leadership - Yes
Soraida Morales, AFRI Board - Yes	Karla Villar, School Leadership - Yes
Ben Smith, AFRI Board - Yes	Andrea Summers, School Leadership - No

Public: Lindsay Niehoff, AF Illuminar Kindergarten teacher, Margaret Garcia, AF Illuminar Elementary Office Coordinator.

II. Open Session For Public Comment

There was no public comment.

III. Business

RESOLVED, the Achievement First Rhode Island Board of Directors hereby approves the meeting minutes from 11/09/16.

Moved by Macky McCleary
Seconded by Brian Gallogly
All in favor

RESOLVED, the Achievement First Rhode Island Board of Directors hereby elects Maryellen Butke to the Board of Directors with a term ending June 30, 2017.

Moved by Macky McCleary
Seconded by Ben Smith
All in favor

RESOLVED, the Achievement First Rhode Island Board of Directors hereby elects James Wiley to the Board of Directors with a term ending June 30, 2017.

Moved by Macky McCleary

Seconded by Ben Smith

All in favor

IV. Reports

A. Principal Reports (Morgan Carter and Kevin Lohela)

Kevin Lohela shared that academically, based on the weekly quizzes, AF Illuminar scholars are now consistently performing in the top half of the network in every grade and subject area AND 50% of the quiz results are consistently scoring in the top three out of all the NY/CT/RI schools.

Staff culture is a critical priority and Kevin is very proud of his organizational health results. The school grew by 50% this year but it has been very smooth. Staff attendance is 99.5%. Scholar attendance is 97.5%. He stressed that the kids are happy, the school is going well. Gina Musumeci has been a supportive regional sup.

Kevin closed by sharing his top priorities going forward - (1) sustaining a strong school culture, (2) achieving dramatic academic achievement (which he defined as top 3 in the AF network).

Karla Villar gave the report for Morgan Carter who is sick. The weekly quizzes have been consistently strong across the network. Karla shared that lots of kids have been sick lately with bugs going around. She shared that it is commonplace for parents to bring their children in to see the nurse at school in order to determine whether to stay in school or go back home. The school feels good about this as it shows that families want their kids in school and, in the face of ambiguity, they are coming to school. The school nurse has been consistently strong but she does not have the proper certification (certification includes both teaching and nursing in order to be a school nurse).

The board had a discussion about teacher certification and the challenges in Rhode Island especially around the issue of reciprocity. In Rhode Island, not only is reciprocity complicated and certification does not cover multiple grades within elementary school, as it does in CT.

Brian Gallogly asked about capacity as the school grows and the support received from the Network.

Karla closed by sharing the ways that they are working to ensure that kids feel school is still fun including funtastic Friday which was last week.

B. Regional Superintendent Report (Gina Musumeci)

The board entered into executive session at 6:48pm to discuss personnel. Moved by Macky McCleary. The board exited executive session at 7:28pm. Moved by Macky McCleary.

C. Community Outreach Report (Elizabeth Winangun)

Elizabeth thanked the board and especially Mayor Elorza for his leadership in support of the expansion.

D. Board Chair Report (Mayor Jorge Elorza)

Mayor Elorza complimented the board for the annual giving that has taken place thus far. To date 87.5% of the board has made their charitable gift for FY17. 100% is the expectation and Mayor Elorza stressed the importance that the size does not matter and that online process is very straightforward.

The board discussed School Leader Appreciation Week and what they might do to show support of the school leaders at AF Providence and AF Illuminar Elementary Schools.

Mayor Elorza also discussed the April 8th city-wide education summit bringing together all education stakeholders spending a day talking about education for the purpose of (1) sharing some of the great things going on in the education department (2) engage more people in the conversation and (3) work to inspire.

E. Treasurer Report (Macky McCleary)

AFRI got a clean audit except for Uniform Code of Accounts which AF is working to address. There needs to be additional investment especially around issues of process and compliance. The one question the board felt could be worth discussing is whether to communicate to AF leadership how important the additional investment in Rhode Island is especially given the planned expansion.

F. New Business

Ken Paul spoke about the Greenfield model and shared that the AF Rhode Island will have opportunities to learn more about Greenfield. AF will reach out to schedule visits for those board members interested and able to travel to New Haven to see Elm City College Prep Elementary School which houses grades K-6 under the Greenfield design.

V. Additional Board Business

RESOLVED, the Achievement First Rhode Island Board of Directors hereby approves the financial report as presented.

Moved by Brian Gallogly
Seconded by Macky McCleary
All in favor

RESOLVED, the Achievement First Rhode Island Board of Directors hereby accepts the report of the independent auditors CohnReznik prepared in relation to the fiscal year ended 6/30/16.

Moved by Macky McCleary
Seconded by Ben Smith
All in favor

IV. Adjourn

The meeting was adjourned at 7:38pm by Brian Gallogly. Motion by Macky McCleary .