

Amistad Academy
Joint High School Committee Meeting

May 16, 2017, 4:30 pm
495 Blake Street, New Haven

I. Call to Order & Attendance

The meeting was called to order at 4:34pm by Caroline Williams. The following board members and Achievement First Staff were in attendance:

Caroline Williams, Amistad Board - Yes	Chris Kunhardt, AFBA Board - Yes
Carolyn Greenspan, Amistad Board - Yes	Jim Bennett, AFBA Board - Yes
Reginald Simmons, Amistad Board - Yes (phone)	Dick Kalt - AFBA Board - Yes
Richard Ferguson, ECCP Board - Yes	Morgan Barth, Amistad High School Principal – Yes
Laura Saverin, ECCP Board - Yes	Ken Paul, AF Network Support - Yes
William Heins, ECCP Board - No	John Furniss, AF Network Support – Yes
	Jeff Sudmyer, AF Network Support - Yes

II. Open Session For Public Comment

There was no public comment.

III. School Report (Morgan Barth)

Morgan Barth shared that, for the eighth consecutive year, 100% of AF Amistad High's graduating seniors have been accepted to a four-year college. For the first time, AF Amistad High has more than 100 seniors in its graduating class, including 15 students who started with AF in kindergarten.

In the 2016-17 school year, approximately 50% of AF Amistad High's staff was new to the school. For 2017-18, the school is projecting 80-85% staff retention, and 30-40% of new hires are people of color. AF Amistad High is still in need of some hard-to-staff teachers, including STEM and SPED.

AF Amistad High is intentionally reducing the size of the incoming 9th-grade class for 2017-18 from approximately 200 students to 185 students. The school's building was intended to accommodate a student body of 550, but student enrollment currently exceeds 600. AF Amistad High will undergo some minor building renovations this summer to convert some non-instructional spaces into additional classrooms, but the school will need a longer term facility solution for 2018-19 and beyond.

Every senior at AF Amistad High is required to take at least one AP course (currently AP Language or AP Statistics or Calculus, with AP Writing to be added), and students complete AP exams last week.

AF Amistad High's priorities for 2017-18 include greater attentiveness to data with regard to analyzing

and responding to data more immediately, as well as excellent school culture systems and the development of students' college-ready habits and skills.

The Joint High School Committee voted to let AF Amistad High's New England Association of Schools and Colleges (NEASC) accreditation lapse due to the significant time and financial burden of maintaining the accreditation with little benefit to the school.

IV. Financial Report (Laura Saverin)

Laura Saverin gave a financial report.

V. Board Business

RESOLVED, the Amistad Academy High School Committee hereby approves the meeting minutes from January 25 and March 22, 2017.

Motion by Laura Saverin

Seconded by Dick Kalt

All in favor

RESOLVED, the Amistad Academy High School Committee hereby approves the financial report as presented.

Motion by Carolyn Greenspan

Seconded by Chris Kunhardt

All in favor

Adjourn

The meeting was adjourned at 5:32pm by Caroline Williams.