

Approved:

**Achievement First Rhode Island, Inc.  
a/k/a Achievement First Mayoral Academies  
Board Meeting Minutes  
January 31, 2013**

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Macky McCleary chaired the January 31, 2013 meeting. Desiree Okunola recorded the minutes.

**Board Members in Attendance:** Macky McCleary, Reverend Jeffrey Williams

**Guests:** Betty Bernal, Jorge Elorza, Jacquelyn Mancini, Toby Shepherd, Drew Allsopp, and Desiree Okunola

**AF Staff:** Reshma Singh, Ben Smith, and Morgan Carter

**Achievement First Providence Mayoral Academy Board (AFPMA) Meeting**

- **Call to Order**

At 6:57pm, Mr. McCleary called the meeting to order.

- Selection and approval of new board members.

**RESOLUTION:**

Mr. McCleary moved to appoint Ms. Bernal and Judge Elorza to the board. The motion was seconded by Reverend Williams. The vote passed unanimously.

Mr. McCleary opened the board meeting for public comment. As no member of the public was present there were no public comments.

- **School Updates (AFPMA Dashboard)**

- Recruitment and Lottery Update

At this time, AFPMA has received over 350 applications. Applications from the Providence Public School Department are also forthcoming, which would undoubtedly increase the applicant pool.

- Hiring Update

There are currently six hires of which four are either Rhode Island natives or current residents. The eventual total will be 22-25 including operational staff. Ms. Bernal requested that additional information be provided about the other positions that would be filled as well as overall hiring progress.

- Fundraising/Development  
Achievement First has received philanthropic contributions from various parties. AFPMA is currently relying on AF's budget as the school is technically in Year zero of its operations. The school's fiscal year will start in July and additional details will bring to the board for review and subsequent approval.

At this time, AF has hired various parties in anticipation of the facilities work that will be done on the former Oliver Hazard Perry Middle School building (e.g. architect and several contractors). Environmental assessment work has also been completed. As soon as official ownership occurs after the Providence City Council vote, remediation will commence.

- **Board Business**

- Approval of the November 29, 2012 minutes  
Ms. Bernal moved to approve the minutes of the November 29, 2012 meeting. Judge Elorza seconded the motion. The vote passed unanimously.
- Morgan Carter Principal Interview  
Mr. McCleary moved the meeting into Executive Session pursuant to RI General Law 42-46-5. The motion was seconded by Judge Elorza.

**[EXECUTIVE SESSION]**

- **Deep Dive: Student Recruitment and Community Relations**

- Reaching *all* high-needs children in Providence, Cranston, Warwick and North Providence  
Mr. Smith provided the board with updates on student recruitment and community relations as follows:  
Outreach strategies. There have been several information sessions in various parts of the enrolling communities. Mayors have been consulted for community strategies. There have also been mailings and visits to day cares and community leaders. AF is in collaboration with Providence Public Schools District to add AFPMA to its citywide enrollment applications.  
Marketing strategies. The following strategies have been utilized: English & Spanish mailings, Print advertising, English and Spanish radio interviews, bus shelter and bus ads, Latino Public Radio PSAs and interviews, Facebook advertising. There are also upcoming interviews with Warwick Beacon, Cranston Herald and The Valley Breeze.  
Street Canvassing Strategies. Street teams canvassing will include the distribution of door hangers, info session flyers, and parent FAQs in English and Spanish,

English/Spanish posters. Banners will also be put on the school in order to increase local awareness once the lease is approved.

The lottery will make use of census tract information in order to weight the lottery towards students who live in communities with the highest poverty density.

- Perry site continuity

The City of Providence is working with the Multi-Service Center for All (MCA) to identify an alternate location as they still occupy the former Oliver Hazard Perry School.

- **Adjournment**

Judge Elorza moved to adjourn the meeting at 8:16pm. The motion was seconded by Reverend Williams.