

MINUTES

Achievement First (AF) Brooklyn Executive Committee Meeting

Wednesday, September 4, 2024, 12:00-1:00 pm

Zoom link: <https://achievementfirst.zoom.us/j/83670198228>

I. Call to Order

Ms. Coquilletto called the meeting to order at 12:04pm.

Attendees:

AF Brooklyn Trustees: Romy Coquilletto, Chris Lynch, Paul Cabana, Amy Arthur Samuels and Akeem Frett

AF Staff: Shannon Miller, Aaron Obrochta, and Min Kwon

II. Public Comment

No members of the public were present.

III. Approval of Minutes

Ms. Coquilletto asked for a motion to approve the minutes from the last meeting on 5/7/24. Chris Lynch motioned, Amy Arthur Samuels seconded. All in favor, none opposed or abstained.

IV. Committee Discussion

A. Remaining ESSR Funds

Aaron Obrochta provided an update on the American Rescue Plan's (ARP) Esser, commonly referred to as SR3, which started as small grants in March 2020 and grew significantly. The plan, aimed at keeping schools safe and addressing learning loss, is now nearing completion, with \$26 million set to be distributed across 11 charters by September 30th. Aaron highlighted challenges faced, such as storage issues for safety equipment and the need for projector installations in New York. Romy sought clarification on whether board approval was required for the items already included in the budget, to which Aaron clarified that while no board approval was needed, the board needed to be kept informed of the Esser's progress to fulfill the plan's requirements.

The team discussed the allocation of funds for the upcoming school year. Aaron explained that the funds, which could total up to \$980, were intended to cover specific needs for the current school year, not for future years. Romy clarified that the total amount was less than \$3 million, with some already allocated.

B. SUNY Renewal Interview Prep

Ms. Coquillette outlined the upcoming board interview with SUNY, Charter Institute. She mentioned that they had prepared talking points to ensure a productive discussion. Romy highlighted the importance of being prepared for the meeting by understanding SUNY's perspective and their specific questions.

Ms. Coquillette emphasized the importance of involving as many board members as possible to show the board's collective involvement. Mr. Cabana suggested setting clear expectations for each board member's role and the topics they would engage with. Ms. Coquillette agreed to this approach and also highlighted the need for specific preparation on potential topics like board development and finance. Amy shared her past experiences and expressed her support for the preparation of detailed documents.

V. Other business

Ms. Coquillette outlined the schedule of several events for the month, including a board meeting where academic test results would be discussed. She suggested that Akeem, as secretary, should keep track of follow-up items from meetings to ensure they are addressed in subsequent meetings.

VI. Adjourn

The meeting was adjourned at 12:58 pm.