

Board of Directors Meeting

Minutes

Jumoke Academy

Date: Tuesday October 14, 2014

Time: 6:00PM

Location: 852 Asylum Avenue

Present:

James Michel, Chair

Thomas Smith, Community Representative

Sharon Gentles-Harris, Community Representative

Troy Monroe, Executive Director

Frank Williams, Finance Manager

Glenn Winfree, Community Representative

Todd Cooper, Community Representative

Melanie James, Treasurer & Teacher Representative

- I. Meeting called to order by James Michel at 6:11PM.
- II. **Public Comments:** There were no comments made
- III. **Approval of Minutes:** Minutes were approved with amendments. Moved by Mr. Winfree second by Mr. Smith.
- IV. **Technology Assessment Presentation:** Dr. Monroe introduced IT consultant J.P Lortie to the board. Mr. Lortie made a presentation of his assessment of the Jumoke Academy IT department and existing infrastructure in support of district operations. See attached powerpoint presented to the board inclusive of summary statements and recommendations for consideration by the district.

- V. **Executive Director Update:** Dr. Monroe highlighted the middle school program's Spring extended learning field trip to Washington D.C. A written proposal along with the itinerary was given to the board members concerning the trip to Washington DC on April 30th – May 2nd 2015. Board members were reassured that despite the appearance of the middle schools appearing to have separate itineraries that there would be opportunities for combined activities according to the needs of the students and school theme. Each principal and school dean were present to answer specific questions related to the Washington, D.C. Trip.

Achievement 1st Site Visit: Dr. Monroe commented on his recent visit to Achievement 1st along with Finance Director, Mr. Williams. Achievement 1st leadership expressed interest in working collaboratively with Jumoke Academy to promote their high school as a viable option for matriculating 8th graders. The academy will continue to explore ways in which to do so and will encourage the middle school leadership and high school transition coordinator to co plan future activities with Achievement First so that parents and scholars are informed when making decisions about high school. Possible suggestions may include:

- Hosting the families of the prospective students for a day
- Scheduling a Jumoke Board Meeting at Achievement First to include presentation from school leadership
- Have a shadowing day

Board members were reminded that students matriculating to Achievement 1st were considered a part of the Academy's enrollment per an established agreement and that there was an established per pupil allocation that Achievement 1st received as a result of scholars enrolling with them.

School Partnerships: Dr. Monroe commented on future school partnerships being sought after with some of the local Independent Schools. These partnerships will result in supporting the overall mission of the Academy and create additional opportunities and experiences for our scholars. As these partnerships develop, specifics will be shared at future board meetings.

Parent Education Series: November 6th is the tentative date for parent's education and workshop series titled: *Technology in the Curriculum*.

Grant Updates: Title I and Title 2 grant proposals were completed and submitted on October 10, 2014. Approximately \$279, 000.000 for Title I and \$30,000 for Title 2 are the amounts for each grant. Grant narratives in support of each grant were written by Dr. Monroe and Mr. Williams.

Extended Enrichment Activities: The Hartford Conservatory has been working with the Academy's schools particularly at the Elementary level to promote extended enrichment day experiences through music starting November 2014 through April

2015. Participating scholars will be expected to pay a minimal fee of approximately \$75.00. These experiences will also be available to community members and their children who don't attend the Academy.

Instructional Program Update: The implementation of Compass Learning Program has launched. This program provides support to scholars in the areas of all content areas and skill development consistent with the new standards. This program compliments the newly implemented NWEA MAP benchmark assessments which will provided teachers with data resulting in differentiation while also informing their instruction for individual and/or small groups of scholars. Data from these protocols will be used along with survey data to help teachers and principals develop their individual growth goals for this year.

Coffee Chats: In an effort to improve communication and support transparency, Mr. Dr. Monroe and Mr. Michel will be hosting coffee chats with parents which will start soon. They would be rotating between schools and they would take up to six parents per session to give them an opportunity to communicate with the school administration and for the school to be transparent. This will happen every Wednesday from 8:15 – 9:00 AM. Parents would have to sign up for the chats.

- VI. Financial Update:** Mr. Williams distributed a copy of the budget to the board and noted that it is also posted on the website. Board members were reminded that this budget is what was approved by the Jumoke board last July. He mentioned that the financial audit is being done by O'Connell & Page and that the completion will result in our having a clear picture of the where the last year ended.

Mr. Williams commented on the process for developing a revised budget for this school year. A revised budget will be necessary to address the new hires and recently retired/resigned positions. It's been a difficult process to get the budget into the system due to the numbers that were put in place by individuals that are no longer working with Jumoke. A revised budget will be presented to the board on what the number should be based on the new hires. It was noted that there are some positions that could be used in instruction and leadership but those are put on hold for the moment so that the scholar's needs are met first.

- VII. Building Committee:** Mr. Smith reported that the committee did not have the opportunity to meet but he along with Mr. Winfree, Mr. Williams and Beth will plan to meet prior to next board meeting. Mr. Smith commented on having received a report on the properties and their conditions which was sent out as an email to the other members of the committee for their review. They need to get together for further discussion so a recommendation could be presented to the board about what should be done with the different properties. The two big issues are: 325 Blue Hills Ave and 230 Scarborough Street.

Future subcommittee meetings will need to be posted for the public to attend. To date, there are our two interested parties acquiring one of the properties. Updates will be provided at the next meeting.

Mr. Michel suggested before the board can make any decisions on the property that legal counsel look at the history of the property to see if there is any liens or mortgage. Mr. Williams indicated that the property was not on any of the mortgages of Jumoke and that there is no mortgage on this property. The final decision will come from the board as to what will happen to this property.

VIII. Executive Session: A motion was made by Mr. Cooper and second by Mr. Winfree to go into executive session to discuss a personal matter. All were in favor.

IX. A motion was made by Mrs. Harris to come out of executive session and seconded by Mr. Winfrey. All were in favor

X. Adjournment: A motion was made by Mr. Winfrey to adjourn, and seconded by Mr. Cooper. All were in favor. Meeting adjourned at 8:30 p.m.