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# JUMOKE ACADEMY CHARTER SCHOOLS

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## REGULAR BOARD MEETING AGENDA

**Zoom Only Session**

“HONORING THE PAST. PREPARING THE FUTURE.”

**Tuesday, May 10, 2022- 6:05 - 6:51 pm**

**Meeting ID: 813 7210 6591 - Passcode: HJ5GXY**

Board members present:

James Michel, Board Chair

Myron Stewart, Community Representative

Thomas Smith, Community Representative Secretary

Damien Pittola, Community Representative

Yolanda McDonald-Wesley, Parent Representative

Keisha Bailey-Acevedo, Parent Representative

Janelle Lester, Community Representative

Additional attendees: Dr. Troy Monroe, Mr. Hines, Dr. Gordon-Hall, Mrs. Fernandez, Mrs. Solomon-McCarthy, Mrs. Damaschi, Principal Johnson, Principal Reid, Dean DiGennaro, Dean Green, Ms. Williams, Ms. Whitter, Aleigha Hilton and family, Jillian Ventura and family.

The Board of Directors meeting was called to order at 6:05 pm by the Board Chair.

### **I. OPENING**

#### **Welcome & Public Comments**

There were no public comments.

### **II. BOARD CHAIR COMMENTS**

#### **Opening Remarks**

The Board Chair welcomed all attendees to the meeting and acknowledged the Jumoke Academy Leadership team.

### **III. EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT**

#### **PART A**

#### **April - Scholar of the Month Recognition**

*Aleigha Hylton, JA-TED*

*Jason Carabello-White, JAH-SMaRT*

*Jillian Ventura, JAH-HC*

The Board Chair recognized each scholar for the month of April and congratulated the scholars and their families on a job well done. He then turned the meeting over to the Executive Director who acknowledged the scholars for their hard work. The presentation for Aleigha Hylton was done by Dean DiGennaro. Jason Carabello-White was recognized by Principal Reid and Dean Green did the presentation for Jillian Ventura.

The members of the board congratulated all the honorees and wished them all the best in their educational pursuits. The Board Chair invited the families to stay for the remainder of the meeting if they wish to do so.



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## **PART B**

### **District Updates**

**Dr. Troy A. Monroe, Executive Director**

- **PCLB Update**
- **COVID-19 Update**
- **Jumoke and CT Relay Partnership**
- **Jumoke and CT Relay Partnership**

We received notification from PCLB that Jumoke Academy Charter Schools was approved for the grant that we applied for. We received \$500,000 this year. This will give us the opportunity to continue the work that we do for our scholars and school community.

- **COVID-19 Update**

We have seen an uptick in positive COVID-19 cases across our school community. Within the last month we have seen a total of 4 positive staff cases in our elementary school, with no impact to scholars. There was a 41% decrease in positive cases for scholars compared to the same timeframe in 2021.

At JAH-SMaRT there was a decrease in positive cases for both staff and scholars. JAH-HC on the other hand saw an increase in positive cases for both staff and scholars. A letter was sent home to families reminding them to take the necessary steps to reduce the spread of the virus by keeping their scholars exhibiting symptoms at home and utilizing at-home test kits where possible.

The Board Chair asked when an individual is required to be tested for the virus.

The Executive Director responded that all unvaccinated staff are required to be tested weekly for the virus.

The nurse also works with faculty/staff who test positive, instructing them on quarantine procedures and return to work protocols.

The Board Chair asked if there were additional questions, none were asked.

- **Jumoke and CT Relay Partnership**

Jumoke Academy has partnered with CT Relay to catapult our “grow your own” program in which Academic Assistants can gain teacher certification. CT Relay serves as an alternate route for teacher certification. CT Relay will assist us with the process to certify staff who qualify for the program. Human Resource and the Senior Leadership team will work with the individuals selected for the program.

## **PART C**

### **Academic Department Updates**

- **Curriculum and Instruction** **Dr. Gordon-Hall, Interim Academic Director**

- **Summer Academy Update**

A total of 70 scholars signed up for summer academy to date. Summer Academy is launched to strictly address learning loss. The program includes an accelerated Math program to enhance learning for our 7th and 8th grade scholars.

- **Curricula Initiatives**

We are still seeking a candidate for the World Language Coordinator position. We invited eight individuals from the pool of those who applied for the position for an interview and only two of the eight applicants showed up for the interview. This position is still not filled.

- **CT Invention Convention**

A total of eight teams from Jumoke Academy made it to the finals of the CT Invention Convention. We are excited for our scholars and are anticipating a successful finish. The Board Chair asked if there were any questions for the Academic Director, none were asked.



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## IV. CONSENT AGENDA

1. Approval of April Minutes
2. February Financial Statements

The Board Chair asked for a motion to approve the April Minutes and Financial Statements for the Consent Agenda. The motion was made by Mrs. Acevedo and seconded by Mr. Smith. There was no opposition nor abstention and the motion was carried unanimously.

## V. FINANCE DIRECTOR'S REPORT

### 1. 2022-2023 Proposed Budget

**Mr. Arnel Hines, Finance Director**

The Board Treasurer and an extended board met on Friday, May 6th to cover all items for the 2022-2023 proposed budget. Attendees included Myron Stewart, Damien Pittola, Arnel Hines and Maureen Damaschi. We have a balanced budget. Revenue covers all expenses. The \$61,00 had to be taken out of last year's reserve to cover the current budget year, but this year we will not have a need to touch anything in reserve. PCLB will deposit the grant money directly into the Jumoke Academy bank account. We are able to bill the other towns for SPED services rendered to scholars who do not reside in Hartford.

We have seen an increase in the cost of health coverage for our employees. Health and dental benefits have increased, there is also an increase in school based expenses. There has been a realignment of staffing resources for Student Support Services hence the reason for the slight reduction in cost. We have also seen an increase in the cost for advertising and marketing for recruitment of scholars.

The cost was added for maintaining the property at 325 Blue Hills Avenue once the property is renovated. We are anticipating an increase in mortgage expense by up to 10% for the 2022-2023 budget. The Board Chair asked if there were any questions for the Finance Director.

The Board Chair thanked Mr. Hines and his team on behalf of the Board of Directors on completing the 2022-2023 budget. The Finance Director expressed appreciation for the work that Mrs. Damaschi did in executing the budget completion. The Board Chair thanked everyone involved in the process.

The Board Chair asked for a motion to accept the proposal for the 2022-2023 budget. Ms. Lester made a motion to accept the proposed budget and this was seconded by Mr. Pittola. There was no discussion, opposition nor abstention and the motion was carried unanimously.

The Board Chair congratulated the Jumoke team for applying for the PCLB grant funds and successfully securing the grant.

## VI. SUB COMMITTEE REPORT

There were no sub-committee reports.

## VII. EXECUTIVE SESSION

There were no Executive sessions.

## VIII. ITEMS FOR FUTURE AGENDA

### 1. Curriculum and Instruction Update

The curriculum and instruction update will remain as a future agenda item for the end of the school year.



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**IX. ADJOURNMENT**

The Board Chair requested a motion to adjourn the Board of Directors meeting. Mrs. Acevedo made the motion and it was seconded by Mrs. McDonald-Wesley. There was no abstention and the motion was carried unanimously. The Board of Directors Meeting ended at 6:51 pm.