

JUMOKE JOURNAL

The latest news and updates from Jumoke Academy

Advocating for Choice: Dr. Monroe Represents Connecticut Charter Schools on National Education Panel

Dr. Monroe recently participated in a national panel discussion on school choice, titled "Educators and Policy Stakeholders on Education Policy and 2024 Election Impact," co-hosted by the Center for Education Reform and Forbes at the National Press Club in Washington, D.C.

During the panel, Dr. Monroe shared insights into the successes and challenges faced by charter schools in Connecticut. He emphasized the importance of providing diverse educational options to meet the unique needs of students and highlighted the role of charter schools in fostering innovation and academic excellence.

The discussion also explored the broader implications of education policy on the 2024 election, with panelists examining how school choice initiatives can influence educational outcomes nationwide. Dr. Monroe's contributions provided valuable perspectives on the impact of charter schools within the educational landscape.

Dr. Monroe's participation underscores the significance of Connecticut's charter schools in the national conversation on education reform. By advocating for school choice, he continues to champion the mission of providing quality education tailored to the diverse needs of our students.

For those interested in viewing the full discussion, the event is available on C-SPAN's website.



Jumoke Academy High School Transition Series: How Jumoke Is Working For Your 8th Grade Scholar

By Tera Harris

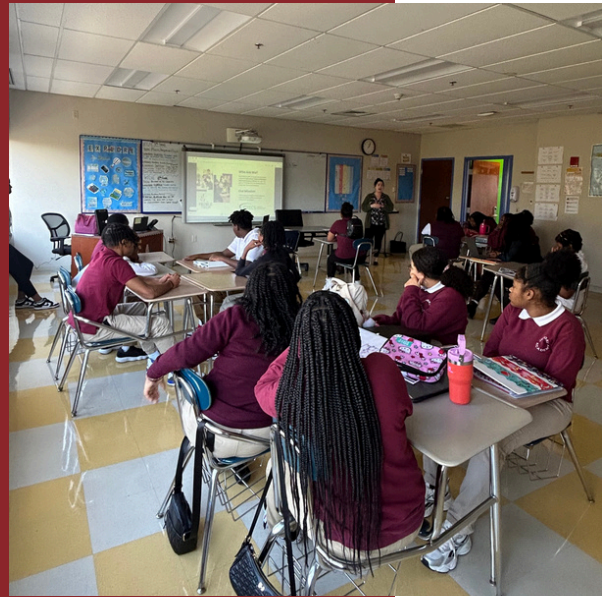
Jumoke Academy continues its commitment to matriculating 8th-grade scholars through the success of the Jumoke Academy High School Transition program. Each year, rising 8th-grade scholars are given a choice as to which high school they will attend. To support scholars and their families with this instrumental decision, Jumoke Academy offers an extensive high school transition program that introduces all available options to those attending the Academy. The program offers experiential on and off-campus opportunities where scholars can learn about and participate in majors and themes offered by various schools.

Jumoke Academy believes in providing opportunities to its scholars and, because of this, continues to partner with various private and independent high schools. The Academy offers scholars in-person, virtual, and off-campus opportunities with private schools to inform families' decisions when choosing a high school. Each year, scholars and families are met with individually, and supported with the complex private school applications.

During this time, scholars are scheduled with the assistance of Jumoke, for their private school interviews, and parents are supported with navigating financial aid paperwork. Jumoke assumes the responsibility of the entire application process as a commitment to the families and community we serve.

The High School Transition program does not stop at private schools. It is the introduction and experiential opportunities of Agriscience schools that pave the way for additional opportunities Jumoke scholars are awarded through this program. Agriscience high schools push into science classes and work with 8th-grade scholars yearly.

Jumoke again, assumes the responsibility for supporting scholars during the application and interview process associated with Connecticut Agriscience. During the second week of December, Jumoke 8th grade scholars will work with Bloomfield Agriscience as they are pushing into Science classes to show scholars the programming offered at Bloomfield High School Agriscience.



As a Hartford or Greater Hartford resident, the RSCO lottery is one of the most popular options. Jumoke Academy meets with families and scholars to ensure each scholar is enrolled in the lottery yearly, and parents are supported with technology to assist in this effort. Home visits to complete applications take place to meet the needs of families.

The success of Jumoke Academy and its High School Transition initiative is demonstrated by the 100% placement of scholars in high schools. Each year, all scholars will be registered and ready to begin their next chapter due to the yearlong preparation that takes place. Currently, the most popular schools sought after by scholars and families are Loomis Chaffee, Rosemary Choate, Kingswood Oxford, Suffield Academy, Ethel Walker, Glastonbury Agriscience, Bloomfield Agriscience, CREC Magnet, and Achievement First Hartford High School. These above-listed schools continue to partner with the Academy and actively support scholars' recruitment efforts.

Application Process: December 3rd the lottery opens for all of the Technical, CREC, and Open Choice High Schools. Families will be contacted prior to this date to schedule personalized meetings.

January 15th is the deadline for the private school and financial aid applications to be submitted.

BEHIND THE DESK:



MEET PRINCIPAL GIBSON: A NEW ERA FOR JAH-HC

by Kimberly Renton, Communications Manager

JAH-HC is thrilled to welcome Principal Gibson as the new leader of our school. With an extensive background in education and a passion for fostering a supportive learning environment, Principal Gibson brings a wealth of experience and a fresh vision for our community. We had the opportunity to sit down with him to discuss his background, goals, and personal insights. Here's what he had to share.

Q: How long have you been in education, and how did you start your career?

Principal Gibson: "I have been in education for 32 years starting as a one-on-one tutor."

Q: What excites you the most about being a principal at Jumoke Academy?

Principal Gibson: "The things that excite me most about Jumoke Academy are the exceptional scholars, supportive parents, and dedicated staff."

Q: Tell us something most people don't know about you. What are your hobbies or interests outside of education?

Principal Gibson: "I am a Connecticut State Representative and Deputy Speaker of the House of Representatives. My hobbies outside of education are politics, fishing, and working out."

Q: What was your favorite subject in school, and why?

Principal Gibson: "My favorite subject was Science, because Science inspired me to think inquisitively about our universe."

Q: What book are you currently reading or would recommend to students and parents?

Principal Gibson: "I am currently reading, Principles Of LEADERSHIP The Harvey Leadership Model, by William R. Harvey. I would recommend students and parents read The Autobiography of Malcolm X As Told by Alex Haley."

Q: What are you looking forward to most this school year?

Principal Gibson: "I am looking forward to increasing JAH-HC's presence in the State of Connecticut, increasing our enrollment, and seeing our scholars achieve growth."

Q: What is your favorite part of the school day?

Principal Gibson: "My favorite part of the school day is our morning meetings."

Q: What's a personal motto or favorite quote that motivates you?

Principal Gibson: "One of my favorite quotes is, 'Always have FAITH.'"

Q: In one sentence, how would you describe your leadership style?

Principal Gibson: "My leadership style is a structured TEAM approach."

With Principal Gibson at the helm, JAH-HC is excited about the positive changes and fresh ideas he brings. We look forward to the future and all that we'll accomplish under his leadership.



Empowering Voices: Announcing Jumoke Academy's New Student Council!

By Dean Pamela Barry

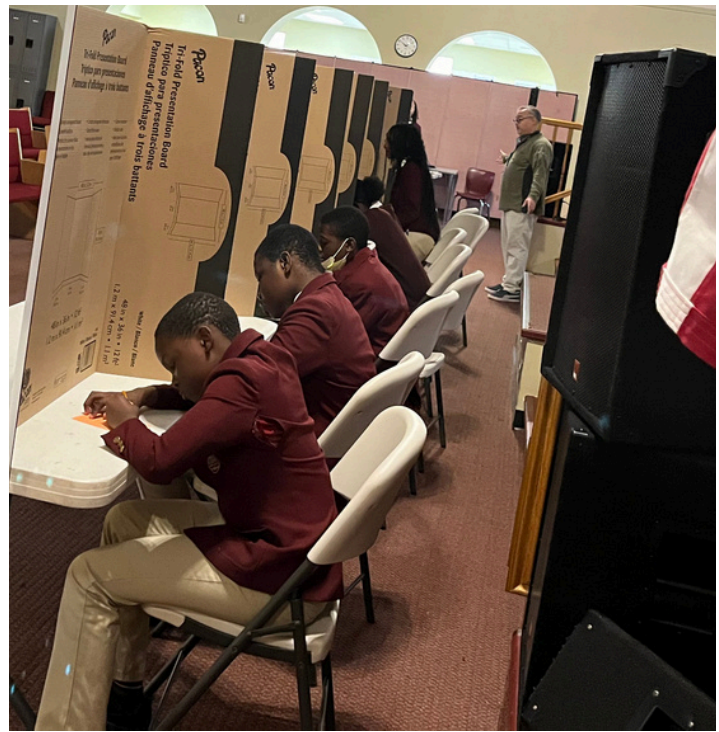
Jumoke Academy is thrilled to introduce the members of our first-ever Student Council! These scholars will play an essential role in promoting school spirit, enhancing parent engagement, and representing the student body. Congratulations to all our new council members, and thank you to everyone who participated in making this initiative a success!

The Election Process The journey to joining the student council began with each candidate's commitment to academic excellence, positive behavior, and leadership potential. Scholars applied by agreeing to specific campaign terms, including academic standards (grades of A, B, or C), teacher recommendations, and a track record of positive behavior. Candidates created posters, prepared speeches, and shared why they should represent their classmates in this important role.

Election day Scholars across 5th through 8th grades entered our voting poll station and voted for their chosen candidate. Each grade selected one "Chief Lieutenant" (most votes), a "Head Lieutenant" (second-most votes), and a "Council Member" (third-most votes). Eighth graders held elections for their President, Vice President, Secretary, and Treasurer positions.

Highlights from the Campaign This year's election process was filled with memorable moments. Scholars stepped up with heartfelt speeches, expressing their vision and desire to make a difference. Despite some nerves, candidates bravely presented their ideas to peers and campaigned to gain support.

Council Goals for the Year The Student Council will lead initiatives to boost school spirit, plan after-school activities, and enhance community engagement through events and fundraisers. Dean Barry shared, "Our goal is for council members to feel empowered to make a difference, developing leadership skills and building a stronger school community."



"Our scholars put so much heart and thought into their campaigns, and the election was a true demonstration of leadership in action. Watching them embrace the responsibilities of representing their peers was inspiring."

Congratulations to our new student leaders! We're excited to see the positive changes they'll bring this year.

2024-2025 Student Council Members

- **5th Grade:** Chief Lieutenant – Leah Henry, Head Lieutenant – Aryanna Carr, Council Member – Amir Hall
- **6th Grade:** Chief Lieutenant – Je'Zell Strickland, Head Lieutenant – Markayla Johnson, Council Member – Aysia-Monet Angus
- **7th Grade:** Chief Lieutenant – Kyle Ellis, Head Lieutenant – Milan Green, Council Member – Brooke Johnson
- **8th Grade:** President – Alana Rodriguez, Vice President – Jershanay Thompson, Secretary – Ewurama Obuobi, Treasurer – Jamaya Harris

JUMOKE ACADEMY DISTRICT NOW HAS AN APP!

Search for "Jumoke Academy
Charter School" in the App
Store or Google Play and
download for free today!



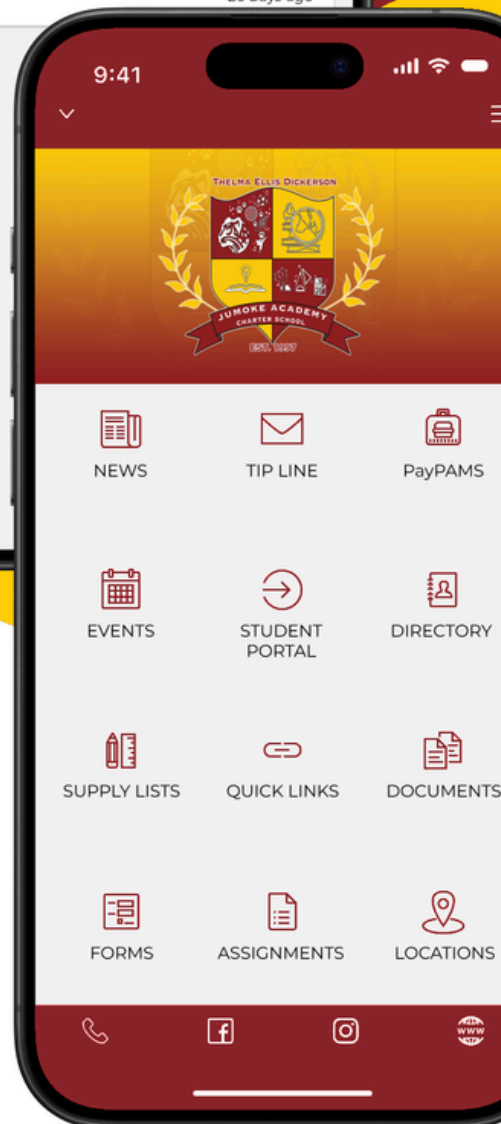
Get instant updates about
school news and events on your
mobile device!



**Access important information
and documents** on the go!



**Find forms, links, & resources for
your child** - right at your
fingertips!



MONTHLY MINUTES W/MONROE 2024

OCT 17

NOV 21

DEC 18

JAN 16

FEB 20

MAR 19

APR 10

MAY 15

A Monthly Zoom Chat with
our CEO / Superintendent,
Dr. Troy A. Monroe, for
Parents & Community
Members



Q&A SESSION
SPECIAL GUESTS
DISTRICT UPDATES

6-7 PM



FOR MORE INFORMATION VISIT JUMOKEACADEMY.ORG

Every month, we host a zoom meeting with our CEO / Superintendent, Dr. Monroe, so our parents get a chance to connect with him, ask questions, and learn about new initiatives and programs available to our scholars. This meeting is open to parents & community members to provide input and stay abreast of all that is taking place at Jumoke Academy. Join us for district updates, and Q&A sessions!

Save the Date

Join us for **A Night of Stars** at the annual **Heritage Gala** on **March 28, 2025**, at The Russell in Hartford, CT. This glamorous evening celebrates our incredible scholars, dedicated teachers, and inspiring staff, while raising essential funds to support Jumoke Academy's programs and initiatives.

Enjoy an elegant night filled with fine dining, entertainment, and opportunities to give back to our school community. Every dollar raised will go directly toward enhancing educational experiences, supporting student success, and empowering the next generation of leaders.

Location: 187 Allyn St, Hartford, CT 06103
Time: 7:00 PM - 11:00 PM

Mark your calendars and be part of this unforgettable celebration. Together, let's make a lasting impact!





Jumoke Academy Charter School | 2024-2025 Academic Calendar

| JULY '24 | | | | | | |
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| 14 | 15 | 16 | 17 | 18 | 19 | 20 |
| 21 | 22 | 23 | 24 | 25 | 26 | 27 |
| 28 | 29 | 30 | 31 | | | |

04 Independence Day

| JANUARY '25 | | | | | | |
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| 19 | 20 | 21 | 22 | 23 | 24 | 25 |
| 26 | 27 | 28 | 29 | 30 | 31 | |

Instructional Days: 19

1/2 - 1/3 Winter Recess – Schools Closed
14 Board of Directors Meeting
15 Early Dismissal/Staff PD
20 Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Day/Schools & District Offices Closed
28 Progress Reports Released
29 Early Dismissal/Staff PD

| AUGUST '24 | | | | | | |
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| 18 | 19 | 20 | 21 | 22 | 23 | 24 |
| 25 | 26 | 27 | 28 | 29 | 30 | 31 |

Instructional Days: 4

19 & 20 New Staff Orientation
21 & 22 Professional Development
23 Convocation
26 Professional Development
27 First Day of School

| FEBRUARY '25 | | | | | | |
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| 16 | 17 | 18 | 19 | 20 | 21 | 22 |
| 23 | 24 | 25 | 26 | 27 | 28 | |

Instructional Days: 18

05 Early Dismissal/Staff PD
12 Early Dismissal/Staff PD
11 Board of Directors Meeting
17 Presidents' Day/ Schools & District Offices Closed
18 Presidents' Day Break/No School

| SEPTEMBER '24 | | | | | | |
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| 22 | 23 | 24 | 25 | 26 | 27 | 28 |
| 29 | 30 | | | | | |

Instructional Days: 20

02 Labor Day – Schools & District Offices Closed
14 Board Retreat
11 Early Dismissal/Staff PD
25 Early Dismissal/Staff PD

| MARCH '25 | | | | | | |
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| 30 | 31 | | | | | |

Instructional Days: 20

04 End of Trimester 2 Marking Period
05 Early Dismissal/Staff PD
11 Board of Directors Meeting
19 Early Dismissal/Report Card Conferences
20 Report Card Evening Conferences
28 Full Day Staff PD/No School

| OCTOBER '24 | | | | | | |
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Instructional Days: 22

08 Board of Directors Meeting
09 Early Dismissal/Staff PD
10 Progress Reports Released
14 Full Day Staff PD/No School
23 Early Dismissal/Staff PD

| APRIL '25 | | | | | | |
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Instructional Days: 17

02 Early Dismissal/Staff PD
08 Board of Directors Meeting
14 - 18 Spring Recess – Schools Closed
23 Early Dismissal/Staff PD

| NOVEMBER '24 | | | | | | |
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Instructional Days: 17

06 Early Dismissal/Staff PD
11 Veterans Day – Schools & District Offices Closed
12 Board of Directors Meeting
19 End of Trimester 1 Marking Period
20 Early Dismissal/Staff PD
27 - 29 Thanksgiving Break – Schools & District Offices Closed

| MAY '25 | | | | | | |
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| 25 | 26 | 27 | 28 | 29 | 30 | 31 |

Instructional Days: 21

06 Progress Reports Released
07 Early Dismissal/Staff PD
13 Board of Directors Meeting
21 Early Dismissal/Staff PD
26 Memorial Day – Schools & District Offices Closed

| DECEMBER '24 | | | | | | |
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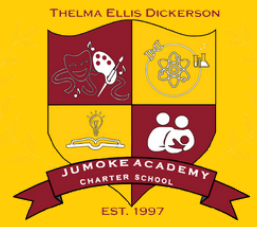
Instructional Days: 15

04 Early Dismissal/Staff PD
10 Board of Directors Meeting
11 Early Dismissal/Report Card Conferences
12 Report Card Evening Conferences
23 - 1/1 Winter Recess – Schools & District Offices Closed

| JUNE '25 | | | | | | |
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Instructional Days: 8

05 End of Trimester 3 Marking Period
10 Board of Directors Meeting
11 Last Day of School/Early Dismissal/Staff PD
19 Juneteenth – District Offices Closed



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YOUR IMPACT:

- Allows us to provide an enriched & dynamic learning environment.
- Enhances the availability of academic resources.
- Shapes the next generation of leaders.

LET'S CREATE A
BRIGHTER FUTURE
FOR THEM!



SCAN TO MAKE A DONATION TODAY!



THANK YOU FOR BELIEVING IN OUR SCHOLARS, FACULTY, AND STAFF AND THE WORK THAT WE DO ON BEHALF OF OUR COMMUNITY EVERY DAY. WE LOOK FORWARD TO YOUR CONTINUED SUPPORT AND MOST IMPORTANTLY MAINTAINING A LONG-STANDING RELATIONSHIP FOR YEARS TO COME!



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